

# **ESL READINGS<sup>SMART</sup>**

## **FURR HIGH SCHOOL PROGRAM EVALUATION 2009 - 2010**

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**ESL ReadingSmart Program Evaluation  
Houston Independent School District  
Furr High School 2009 - 2010**

**Houston Independent School District and Multilingual Department Program Background**

The Houston Independent School District is the largest public school system in Texas and the seventh-largest in the United States. Its schools are dedicated to giving every student the best possible education through an intensive core curriculum and specialized, challenging instructional and career programs. HISD is working hard to become Houstonians' K–12 school system of choice, by constantly improving instruction and management to be as effective, productive, and economical as possible.

The multilingual/multicultural department serves students by providing programs and services which give those students an equal chance to learn. Instructional programs are only as effective as the people who implement them. The Department of Multilingual Programs is committed to providing all staff members with the training, support, and resources to teach students effectively.

<p><b>Furr High School ESL ReadingSmart Program Findings</b></p>	<p><b>School Profile</b> <b>2009-2010</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 30 ELLs who received ESL ReadingSmart Program.</li> </ul>
<p>During the 2009-2010 school years, Furr High School partnered with Alloy Multimedia to improve English reading performance for English Language Learners (ELLs) in grades 9–12. The <b>ESL ReadingSmart</b> Program was implemented to focus improvement in English reading as measured by the ESL ReadingSmart Pre-Post Test. Students participated in the program during their ESL classes and the program was implemented as a supplemental reading program.</p>	<p><b>ESL ReadingSmart Implementation</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Supplemental Reading Program</li> <li>• Web-based</li> <li>• Supports classroom instruction</li> <li>• Supports State adopted objectives</li> <li>• Materials for all ESL levels</li> </ul>
<p>The program offers a Newcomers' Program (Level 0) and a Reading Program (Levels 1, 2, 3, and 4). Levels are defined in terms of the semantic and syntactic structure of the instructional material. Level 1, 2, 3, and 4 are also aligned to The Lexile® Framework for Reading. Students' placement test (Pre-Test) results give teachers an indication of the students' reading ability and their entry level in ESL ReadingSmart. The Individual Progress Report offers a summative evaluation of each student for a given period of time and is used as measured of the level students have reached (Post-Test).</p>	<p><b>Research Instrument</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• ESL ReadingSmart Pre-Post Lexile Scores (Minimum and Maximum)</li> </ul>
<p>School administrators can decide either to individualize instruction using ESL RedingSmart placement test results or to select one of ESL ReadingSmart levels for a whole class. Based on these decisions, the ESL ReadingSmart system will provide the instructional path for the students to follow.</p>	<p><b>Research Time Frame</b></p>
<p><b>ESL ReadingSmart Progress: Matched Students 2009-2010</b></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• September 2009 – May 201</li> </ul>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Of the 30 ESL ReadingSmart students, 43% or (n=13) increased two sublevels.</li> <li>• Results indicate that 83% or 25 of the 30 ESL students increased at least one level from 2009 to 2010.</li> <li>• The mean Lexile text gain from pre to post-test was 420.1.</li> </ul>	<p><b>About the Placement Test</b></p> <p>The objective of ESL ReadingSmart's placement test is to place students in one of the program's levels:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Newcomers: Level 0</li> <li>2. Beginner: Level 1 Level 1.1 (200L - 290L) Level 1.2 (300L - 390L) Level 1.3 (400L - 490L),</li> <li>3. Intermediate: Level 2 Level 2.1 (500L - 560L) Level 2.2 (570L - 630L) Level 2.3 (640L - 690L),</li> <li>4. Early Advanced: Level 3 Level 3.1(700L - 790L) Level 3.2 (800L - 890L) Level 3.3 (900L - 1040L),</li> <li>5. Advanced: Level 4 Level 4.1 (1050L-1160L) Level 4.2 (1170L-1300L)</li> </ol>

**What number and percent of ESL ReadingSmart students scored at each Lexile text level?**

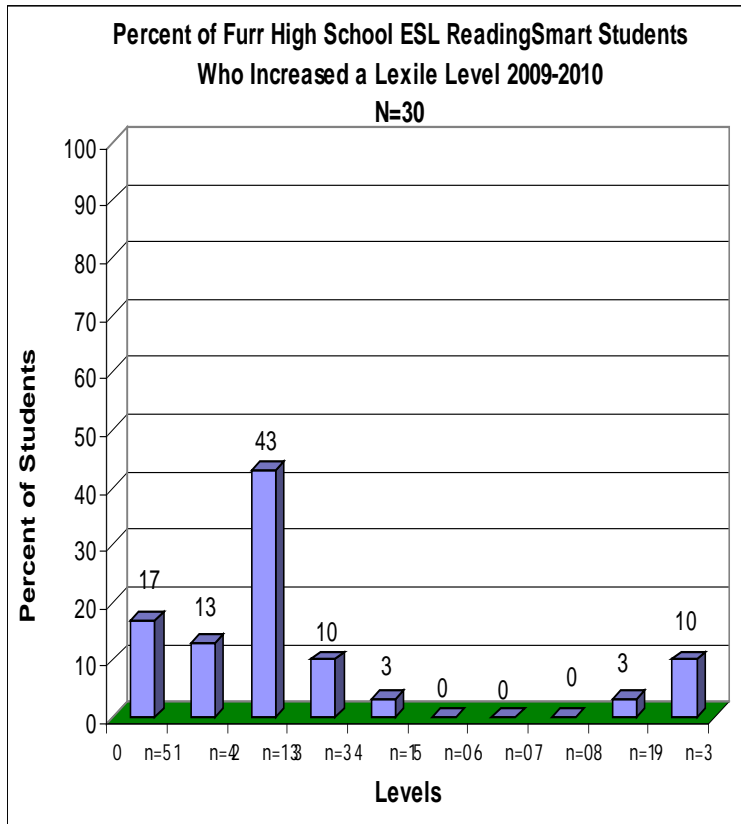
**Cohort of 68 ESL Students**

- The majority 93% of Furr High School ESL students in the ESL class were placed at Lexile text range 0 - 290 L when they were administered the pre-test in 2009.
- The majority 60% of Furr High School ESL students who participated in the ESL Reading Smart program were working at the Lexile text range 400-690 at the end of the school year.

Grade Level	Lexiled Levels	Pre-Test Minimum Lexile Text 2009		Post-Test Maximum Lexile Text 2010	
		Number	Percent	Number	Percent
Pre-Reader	200 & Below	22	73%	2	7%
1	200-290	6	20%	3	10%
1	300-390	0	0%	1	3%
2	400-490	0	0%	10	33%
3	500-600	1	3%	5	17%
4	610-690	1	3%	3	10%
5	700-790			2	7%
6	800-890			0	0%
7-8	900-1040			0	0%
9-10	1050-1150			1	3%
11-12	1160-1300			3	10%
<b>Total</b>		<b>30</b>	<b>100%</b>	<b>30</b>	<b>100%</b>

**What number and percent of the 30 Furr High School ESL Reading Smart students increased a Lexile text level?**

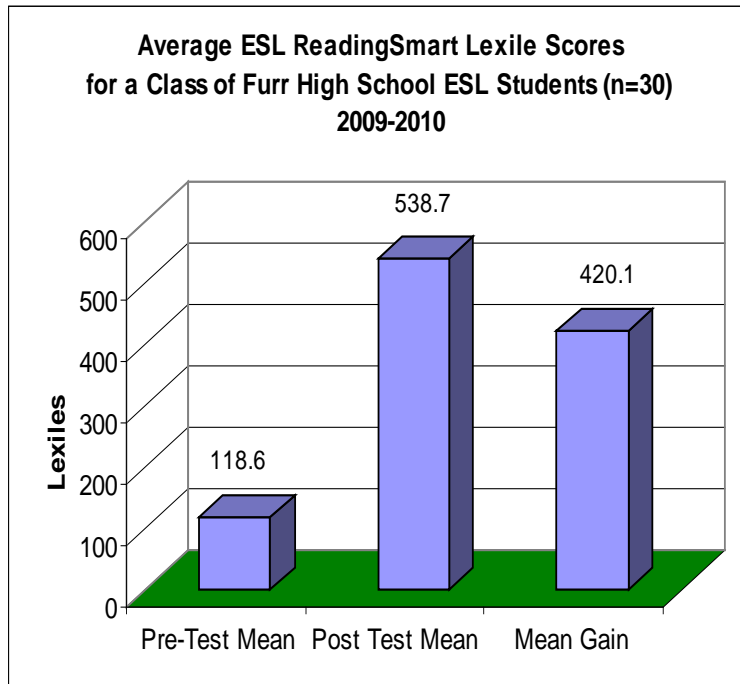
- Of the 30 ESL ReadingSmart students, 43% or (n=13) increased two Lexile text levels.
- 83% or 25 of the 30 ESL students increased at least one Lexile text level from 2009 to 2010.



**What were the mean pre and post test scores for ESL ReadingSmart ESL students instructed with the program during 2009-2010?**

**Matched Students 2008-2009**

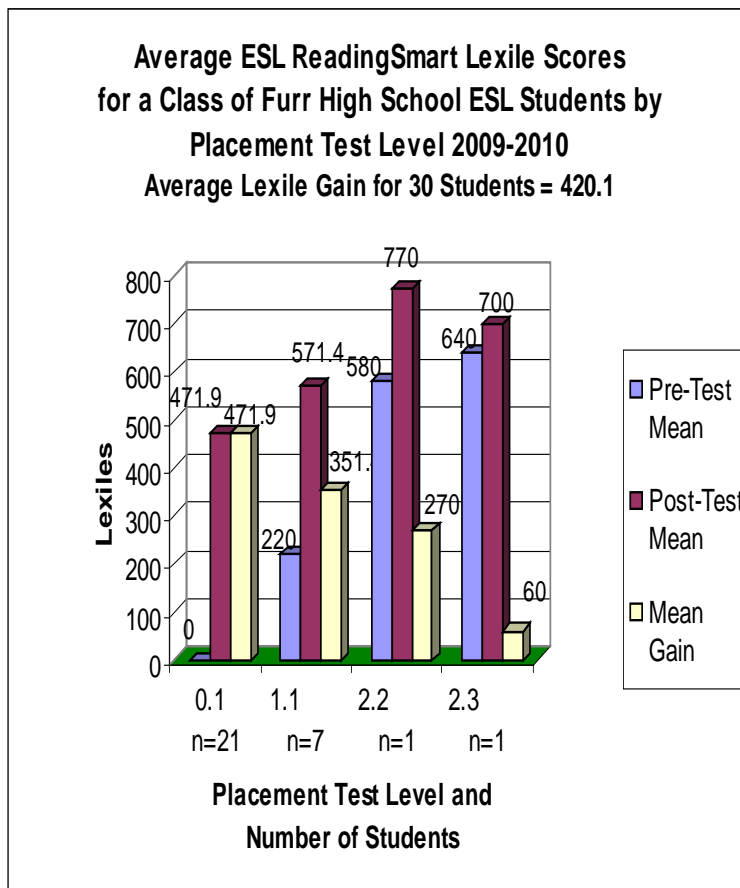
- The pre-mean test minimum Lexile text measure for the 30 ESL students was 118.6L.
- The post-mean test maximum Lexile text measure was 538.7L.
- The mean Lexile text gain from pre to post-test was 420.1L.



**What was the average Lexile text gain for Furr High School ESL students by initial placement test level?**

**Matched Students 2008-2009**

- The average Lexile text gain for ESL students at placement level 0.1 was 471.9.
- The average Lexile text gain for ESL students at placement level 1.1 was 351.4.
- The average Lexile text gain for ESL students at placement level 2.2 was 270.
- The average Lexile text gain for ESL students at placement level 2.3 was 60.
- Average Lexile post-test scores increase as placement level increases. Lexile text gain decreases as placement level increases as the reading passages become more difficult at the higher levels.



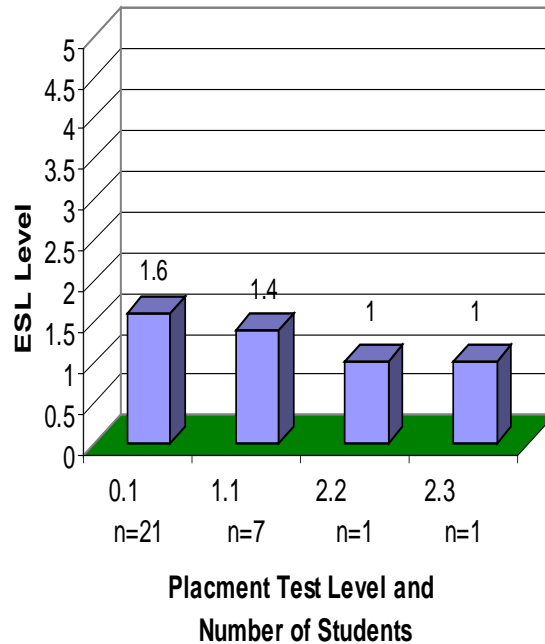
**What was the average level gain for Furr High School ESL students by initial placement test level?**

**Matched Students 2009-2010**

- ESL ReadingSmart students at initial placement level of 0.1 made a 1.6 level gain.
- ESL ReadingSmart students at initial placement level of 1.1 made a 1.4 level gain.
- ESL ReadingSmart students at initial placement level of 2.2 made a 1.0 level gain.
- ESL ReadingSmart students at initial placement level of 2.3 made a 1.0 level gain.
- ESL ReadingSmart level growth reveals that students at the initial placement level made the most gain. Students at the other placement levels averaged about a 1 level gain.

**ESL ReadingSmart Average Level Gain by Placement Test Level for a Class of Furr High School Students 2009-2010**

Average ESL Level Gain for 30 Students = 1.6



**Summary**

Based on increased performance on the ESL ReadingSmart program made by English Language Learners, Furr High School plans to continue use of ESL ReadingSmart Program in 2010-2011 to ensure success of ESL students.