SUHSD uses the **highest** of three different tests in order to place students accurately into 9th grade English. The three tests used are 7th Grade English Language Arts Smarter Balanced (SBAC) test, the Gates-MacGinitie Reading Test (GMRT), and the Let’s Go Learn Diagnostic Online Reading Assessment (DORA). The GMRT assesses reading comprehension and vocabulary. DORA assesses reading comprehension, vocabulary, high-frequency words, phonics, and word recognition.

**All Incoming 9th graders MUST take the Gates-MacGinitie Reading Test (GMRT).** Students scoring a **7.6** grade-level equivalent or higher have the option to take English I, AS English I, or ICAP English I. In addition, students at this level are **NOT REQUIRED** to take the Let’s Go Learn Diagnostic Online Reading Assessment (DORA).

Students scoring a “Not Met” on SBAC **AND** a **5.4** grade-equivalent or lower on GMRT **MUST** take the Let's Go Learn DORA assessment in order to determine accurate placement.

### 9th Grade ELA Placement Based on the Highest Test Score

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>7th Grade SBAC</th>
<th>GMRT</th>
<th>DORA</th>
<th>2017-18 9th Grade English Placement</th>
<th>2017-18 Support Class</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Met /Exceeded 2552 to 2745</td>
<td>7.6 &amp; Above</td>
<td>Comprehension ≥ 9.6 and Vocabulary Any Score</td>
<td>English I</td>
<td>None</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Nearly Met 2479 to 2551</td>
<td>7.5 to 5.5</td>
<td>Comprehension ≥ 6.5 and Vocabulary Any Score</td>
<td>English I</td>
<td>English I Support</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Not Met 2258 to 2478</td>
<td><strong>5.4 &amp; Below</strong> Must take DORA</td>
<td>HFW = 3.83, PH = 4.83 &amp; WR &gt; 7 * and Comprehension &lt; 6.5</td>
<td>English I Intensive (See Below)</td>
<td>Intervention ELA Support</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

* HFW = High Frequency Words, PH = Phonics, & WR = Word Recognition.

**English Learners** who 1) place into Intervention ELA, 2) have a CELDT Overall Proficiency Level of Intermediate, Early Intermediate, or Beginning and 3) have been in the U.S. fewer than 4 years will be placed in ELD Level 1, 2, & 3 with Support.

### Advanced Standing (AS)/ICAP (Honors) Placement Criteria and Guidelines:
- Student recognition of increased workload (including reading material above grade level, up to 30 pages of reading per night, and two-three page independent writing assignments) and willingness to engage in a more rigorous curriculum
- Teacher recommendation may be a factor for higher placement but is not the sole determinant
- Parents can recommend a higher placement for a student, even if the student does not meet the above criteria.
- Students must be aware that they may remain in an advanced course for the entire first semester.

**English I Intensive** earns graduation credit, not A-G credit.

**Intervention ELA** earns elective credit and NOT English Credit. Students who eventually pass a grade-level English class will earn graduation English I credit, retroactively (not A-G).

For more information on placement, see [www.seq.org](http://www.seq.org)