“Introducing EdReady English” Webinar Q&A  
November 16, 2017

Can we receive access to familiarize ourselves with EdReady English?  
As a member we encourage you to reach out to your implementation consultant to get started with a scope workbook (unsure who that is? Please reach out to Nicole at nmccabe@nroc.org). Non-members can navigate here and contact NROC for a preview: http://nroc.org/what-we-offer/edready/

**Topic: EdReady English**

At our community college, we use Edready for Accuplacer Math prep with good success. Is this new NROC English also Accuplacer specific test prep?  
We are currently creating an EdReady Accuplacer scope to help students study for the Reading Comprehension and Sentence Skills. We also have a pilot site that will begin using EdReady for this purpose this month.

Would the scope and sequence of the course used in the demo work for a 16-week course? Are all of the available units shown here, or are there more available?  
There are 10 units of material available. Yes, it would work for a 16-week course. You can select what material is most appropriate for your students and your schedule/available time to study. Look here to access the scope & sequence: http://nroc.org/resource/onesheet-edready-english/

When will users be able to access and begin building EdReady? I'd like to have access well before Spring 2018 begins.  
EdReady English will be available on January 2nd. However, you can set up an appointment with your implementation consultant now in order to begin designing your scope so it is ready on January 2nd. (unsure who that is? Please reach out to Nicole at nmccabe@nroc.org)
Are there any extrinsic motivational strategies for students and if not, what did teachers do to motivate students to actually want to use EdReady English?

Like all learning technologies, EdReady is not a silver bullet. We have found that students respond positively and effectively to messaging and protocols that empower students to put themselves in the best position to succeed. Instead of “evaluating” or “placing” students, we are giving students both the information and the means to address gaps, accelerate readiness, and excel in their chosen programs of study. EdReady effectively supports these improved practices, but truly effective practice must go beyond EdReady and include external motivations and supports, coherent and consistent advising, and so on.

Do you believe that all of the language in the 10 categories is accessible to ELL students?

The materials were not necessarily designed for ELL students, but we did have an ELL Subject Matter Expert participate during development. We have some members piloting it with ELL students and they are finding that at least the early units would be appropriate for some ELL students.

How does this measure writing ability/skill? How do we provide feedback to students on writing?

Currently the underlying writing concepts are covered, but EdReady does not include a way to submit writing samples. This is something we will explore in 2018.

So, Writing section in each unit in Edready is more multiple choice based in terms of mastery?
At this time, yes.

Can you incorporate graded writing assignments in EdReady?
At this time students do not have the ability to submit writing. We will explore the possibility of adding this capability in 2018.

In the LMS installation, who grades the writing?
The instructor does. (Or whoever you set up with access -- could be a tutor, TA, etc.)
It seems like the English course is mostly focused on reading skills. What writing skills are covered?

The course covers reading, writing, and grammar. There is a topic on each in all 10 units.

You mentioned that the writing is not included, but there is writing listed there. What is that writing portion shown there on the demo?

The writing in EdReady covers the concepts a student needs to understand to write effectively.

I understand the reading level starts at 9.0 but how far does it advance? What is the highest reading level of the materials?

In the full NROC English course (that you can install in an LMS), the readings range from 9th grade all the way to first year college-level reading. The reading level for the majority of the materials in EdReady is closer to 9th-11th grade.

Are you considering creating something that meets students at a lower reading level?

We have plenty of requests for such things, but such pursuits are dependent on acquiring grant funding or other sources of support. We are always seeking help from our members!

How much time (days?) does it take a student to work through an EdReady English course?

It's hugely variable. It depends on the overall length of the scope (which you customize), student expectations, etc. EdReady is fundamentally a competency-based platform, so some students will move quickly and others will need more time.

The course seems to organized using traditional developmental reading structure, or by discrete skills. Where in this program is critical thinking enhanced?

The NROC English materials we designed using an integrated approach, so that reading and writing are considered to be taught as two sides of the same coin.
If this is something that is implemented in an LMS, then if students are working at their own pace, is this something that has proven to be a semester long class?

EdReady English is not implemented in an LMS. It is a web application. If you use the full scope, yes, this can be a full semester long class.

**What is the average reading level of the students using the pilot program?**

The beginning reading level of the materials is 9th grade and as students move through the materials that reading level will increase. In the pilots we have a range of students using the materials.

**What is the minimum reading level, and are the materials suitable for an ELL student?**

The minimum reading level is 9th grade. We had an ELL instructor participate during development, and we have had a few ELL students participate in the pilot and have success. However, this will depend on the level of the ELL student.

**What is the grade level or lexile number for the reading utilized in the pre-test?**

The materials start at a 9th grade reading level and increase as they move through the units.

**What Lexile level is needed for a student to use this?**

The beginning reading level for Unit 1 is approximately 9th grade. The levels increase from there as students move through the units.

**What did you use to determine the reading levels? Lexiles? Flesch?**

We looked at both.

**What standards were these courses based on?**

We do not base the materials on a specific set of standards. We spent months researching the current curricular offerings, various states’ positions, standards (various state standards, CCSS, etc.), and we conducted many focus groups across the country. We also include Subject Matter experts from our member schools. This helps us create the most broadly useful set of materials to be used across the country by all of our NROC
members. Most published standards align to a subset of the course coverage here, and since the scope and sequence in EdReady English is customizable, you can arrange things so that you achieve broad alignment to nearly any standard.

**Topic: General EdReady**

**Can individual instructors also set goal, or is the goal just set overall by the whole college?**

Instructors can set the goal for their specific class.

**Can you create a class?**

Yes - we use "Goals" in EdReady to group students into different classes

**Can you explain in a bit more detail how it is determined if a student has reached her target score? For a 90, does that mean 90% mastery on each topic or 90% mastery overall? or something completely different?**

The target score is based on the total percentage of learning objectives mastered against the total scope. So, to your question, a target of 90 means 90% mastery overall.

**Data tracking: can we go back two semesters and see how a student performed here, and what he or she did while using the tool (what they read, what lessons they studied, etc.)?**

Yes. The data are all stored for you to review. You'll want to be thoughtful when you set up the groups of students (classes) when you start using EdReady so you can clearly review those groups of students. NROC implementation consultants will help you to ensure you have the best set up.

**Can you open individual units so that students can't complete numerous units at a time?**

By default, EdReady will allow students to access all material in their Study Path. If you want to control pacing, you can split the material into separate Scope of Expectations.
Must a student master each individual component, or does he/she only need to master the unit test to attain "mastery"?

You can choose what you prefer! It's an option.

Do you know of institutions that are using EdReady for placement?

Yes. We advocate for a "low-stakes" approach. Early evidence for English has been very promising.

How do we pick and chose units?

The process is quite simple in EdReady. If you need advice on which units/topics to include or exclude, you should contact us or discuss with your colleagues!

I noticed that after a student spends some time in the "learn" area they can then test to see if they hit the cut score....if they did not, it appears it locks them out of the test button until they go "learn" more...which is good...how long do they have

There is no specific amount of time required to "reset" the access to the test. However, students who employ a quick "reset" strategy are fully aware they are subverting the way the platform is trying to help them master these skills. We continue to add information to the reports so that instructors can easily detect which students are using EdReady ineffectively.

Is it always 100 for mastery? or can school set their own mastery score?

Schools can set their own mastery score.

Is the diagnostic test on all units, once?

The diagnostic is customizable by the teacher or admin. It can include whatever subset of the overall scope you believe is most useful for diagnostic purposes.

Even though time varies for completion of the course, what is the maximum time if a student had to do complete every study resource to master and even a few times for each?

EdReady is a competency-based platform. So the "maximum" time depends on how long it takes a given student to achieve competency across every included objective. As a result, it is very difficult to estimate what amount of time a student "should" take. That said, it is
our belief that most students who need to review most of the material should plan to take at least an hour per topic (for both study and review). There are three topics per unit, and a total of ten units, so that would suggest that 30 hours of time is reasonable and probably sufficient in many cases.

Is there an option for students to have the text on the screen read to them, or would that need to be accomplished via another installed app on the computer?
   We recommend ChromeVox for screen reading technology.

Are all the text passages accessible? Are all the videos captioned?
   Yes.

Typically, if target scores are determined by individual instructors/schools, how have the pilots gone about determining what's a good score to reach? What's the criteria?
   The NROC implementation consultants can make a recommendation based on the use case you are setting up.

So in other words they can tailor it to a certain set of standards or goals that the overall school/instructor/etc might have? the target score I mean.
   Yes

What are the acceptable character types and lengths can be used for goal keys?
   Details about the specific characters allowed can be found in the Help Center: https://support.nrocnetwork.org/hc/en-us/articles/212015438

**Topic: EdReady Reporting**

Will students have to take the diagnostic in a proctored environment?
   That is up to you, and how you set up your student cohort. Many of our members do not require a proctored environment--they allow their students to take it independently.
How long does reporting data stay in the system?

Until we get a request for deletion (from the student or an authorized administrator) or according to any local laws and policies. We never delete data without reason.

Can you discuss a bit more about the difference between the yellow (needs review) units and red units?

The same status' are shown throughout EdReady, for Students and in the reports, and are calculated based on the number of underlying Learning Objectives that have been mastered. The different statuses are:

- <50% = Not Ready (Red)
- 50-99% = Needs Review (Yellow)
- 100% = Mastered (Green)

Can you export these reports to Excel?

Yes! Just click the envelope icon you see above any table in EdReady to have the information sent to you in an Excel file.

Are you able to view student's log in and log off time by days or is it only available as an overall amount of time worked?

Every student has a log file for every session.

Does the reporting include hours/minutes studied? Is there an option to sign in as in class or out of class for hour tracking in the Adult Basic Ed world to designate whether it is class use or distance ed use?

Yes, it includes hours/minutes studied. You cannot sign in/out a whole class at once. If you want, you could manually activate/deactivate classes at specific times, which would effectively prevent students from pursuing that study path except in designated times.

Can we see content as opposed to reports?

Can you clarify? All of the content students see is freely available (e.g., from Hippocampus). We provide quick-links from within the application too.
Approximately how long will this diagnostic test take?

It will depend on how much information you choose to test them on in the diagnostic. It is very customizable.

Do all student have to take the diagnostic test in order to work on EdReady content, or can content be assigned/customized to students without the diagnostic?

You can "skip" the diagnostic if you want to - it's an option. Please reach out to your implementation consultant for more guidance on options.

Do the videos meet the accommodation guidelines (closed captioning, etc.)?

Yes they all include Closed Captioning

Can students see what questions they missed?

No. Only teachers have access to those data. You can sit down and review with a student if you want.

Does the portal log out the student after X amount of inactivity?

Yes - 30 minutes. You can find more details in the Help Center here: https://support.nrocnetwork.org/hc/en-us/articles/226588107