1) Why was the ABA reformatted as a stand-alone test? (Why was the Bible part of the test removed from the standardized test? We are concerned since this will increase the time and finances needed to add the Bible part to the newly purchased standardized test. We would also need separate orders and scoring from the standardized test which will raise the price beyond our budget.)

The ACSI Bible Assessment (ABA) was reformatted as a stand-alone, online test with paper/pencil option. It is the same test that was included in the TerraNova 3, ACSI Edition in the past. ACSI made the decision to offer the ABA as a stand-alone online test for several reasons:

1. A stand-alone test can be made available to a wider audience that may utilize other forms of standardized testing at their schools, not just what ACSI offers, i.e., TerraNova 3, ACSI Edition.
2. Customizing the Iowa Assessments Complete Battery to include the ABA was not an option for Riverside Insights, the publisher of the Iowa Assessments.
3. An online test is more cost-effective for schools, as there is no continuing requirement to purchase materials, and additional separate scoring costs.

Regarding added costs to schools, the Iowa Assessments materials are similarly priced to TerraNova 3; however, schools will realize scoring savings with the Iowa Assessments compared to TerraNova 3, savings of $2.41 for grades K-3 and $3.51 for grades 4-12.

2) How was the ABA developed and normed? (How was the test normed and what was the date/year of norming?)

The ACSI Bible Assessment (ABA) was published in 2002 and developed for every level of the test by a team of 100 Christian school educators, who were trained to write test items by a team of Harcourt Educational Measurement (HEM) test development specialists. These item writers represented all the different grade levels and a variety of Christian schools, utilizing the most commonly used Bible textbooks and series among Christian Schools.

Test development was a three-year process that included:

- Development of the test blueprint (scope and sequence)
- Writing of over 1,500 possible items
- Trial testing- Over 15,000 students participated. The results from the trial tests were collated and then a team of Christian school educators reviewed the questions and the trial results. The item review focused on question validity and age appropriateness. From those reviews the final test for each level was developed.
- Administration and validation of test items for the standardization process
Utilizing statistical methods, HEM converted raw scores to standardized scale scores.

A task force of Bible teachers with the guidance of HEM staff then determined cut scores on the scale score continuum and assigned performance levels: Below Basic, Basic, Proficient, and Advanced.

The ABA does not provide norm-referenced (comparison) scores such as percentiles and stanines. Precise norm-referenced scores could lend themselves to invalid comparisons and misinterpretations, and they were therefore intentionally avoided. Performance standards give a reasonably clear picture of what the student knows or does not know or understand. It was decided that this kind of scoring would be more helpful for the student, the parent, and the school.

3) How long does the online test take? How long should the paper/pencil version take? (Is the test timed? How much time is recommended for the testing? How many questions are there on each grade level of the ACSI Bible Assessment?)

Each grade level test contains 40 closed response (multiple choice) items. Both online and paper/pencil administrations will take about 40 minutes to complete. The ABA is not a timed test.

4) Can students sign into the testing platform with their Google for Education login?

While the EdPower site does not integrate with a Single Sign On, schools can use the same Google for education usernames and passwords for the ABA.

5) Is there an online practice test?

Each test level has 1-2 sample items at the beginning of the test.

6) Is this the same test that was used with Terra Nova years ago, or just similar?

The content of the ABA is the same as the Bible Assessment Subtest that was included in the TerraNova 3, ACSI Edition. During the reformatting process, some graphics were updated.

7) Does the teacher have to enter all answers for the paper pencil version in third grade?

For the paper/pencil option the teacher will transfer answers from test booklets to the online testing portal for grades K-2. For grades 3-12, students will answer questions using a bubble sheet. The bubble sheet will then be scanned and uploaded through a secure site for scoring.

8) Are the same test questions used from grade to grade, or does each grade have unique questions?
Each grade level has a unique set of items. Items are not duplicated across grade levels.

9) Could this test be used to evaluate prospective students to determine which Bible class to place them in?

The ABA could possibly be used for this purpose.

10) What type of scanner do you need for younger students answer sheets?

Schools can use a production copier to send files directly to an SFTP site, or a standard scanner to scan documents into a single file that is then uploaded through the same SFTP site. Specialized equipment is not required.

11) Are there questions regarding the development of a biblical world view and are there questions around apologetics?

Some comprehension/understanding items will reflect biblical worldview and apologetics topics. A complete list of content clusters, subclusters, and instructional objectives can be found in the ABA Scope and Sequence.