

# What is Language Testing?

**Language testing helps teachers understand whether students have the language skills they need to fully participate in the classroom.**

Students use listening, speaking, reading, and writing skills to learn academic content, share information, and discuss ideas. These are skills that all students work on throughout their education. Language testing measures a student's skills in all four of these areas.

Students identified as ELLs take an English language test every year.

- Schools, school districts, and states use test scores as they decide what English language support services to provide.
- Teachers use test scores as they decide what and how to teach their students.
- You can use test scores to track your child's progress in learning academic English and to advocate for your child at school.

Talk with your child's teacher about when you will receive test scores and how support changes as your child builds academic English language skills. Ask how your child's school decides when ELLs stop receiving language support. Talk with your child's teachers about how you can support your child's language learning at home.



## **ELL**

An English language learner, or ELL, is a student who has the opportunity to receive instruction in English, in addition to taking other classes. ELLs are tested every year to help teachers understand their language skills, but you have the right to accept or decline language support.