

WIDA ACCESS for ELLs

ACCESS for ELLs is administered annually to students in K-12 who have been identified as English language learners. It is given to monitor progress in acquiring academic English in four domains: Reading, writing, listening and speaking.

ACCESS for ELLs is not a test students need to study for, but they should be prepared. Students should be encouraged to focus on doing their best. It is expected that testers will be familiar with the assessment.

Information and navigation instructions for the sample items and pre-test practice can be found at: [WIDA Sample Items and Test Practice](#)

The test demo takes about 15 mins to watch. The sample items and practice items each take 5-10 mins to review.

Kindergarten ACCESS

Semi-adaptive format using stories, games and activities

Administered 1:1

In-seat testing time is 45 mins

Administered in three parts: Listening & speaking; writing; reading

Tests scored locally then returned to DRC for calculating scale scores and domain levels

Online ACCESS grades 1-12

Administered by grade and domain

Testing duration schedules, including set-up, instructions, etc. (approximations as these are not timed tests):

- Listening 65 mins
- Reading 70 mins
- Writing 40-90 mins
- Speaking 50 mins

Listening and reading test items are adaptive

Speaking responses are recorded

Listening and reading are auto-scored. Writing and speaking are scored centrally by WIDA

Reading test –

Students view test items and select responses on screen. Test directions are received by listening to audio embedded in the online platform.

- In-seat timing estimate is 45-50 mins
- Cannot go back and change answers
- Test is adaptive

Writing test –

Students view test items on screen and type responses online

- Grades 1-3: Paper test completed in a booklet
- Grades 4-12: Online test except for students whose 504/IEP requires handwritten testing

- In-seat timing estimate is 25-75 mins

Listening test–

Students listen to audio through headphones and select responses on screen

- Audio cannot be replayed
- In-seat timing estimate is 20-50 mins
- Cannot go back and change answers
- Cannot skip an answer. An answer has to be selected in order to move forward
- Test is adaptive

Speaking test –

Students participate in an exchange between a virtual test administrator and a model student

- Students listen to audio through a headset
- After clicking a record button, the response is spoken into a headset microphone
- In-seat timing estimate is 15-35 mins
- **Pre-test practice is critical for those new to the test and unfamiliar with headsets and recording**