



WIDATM

ACCESS for ELLs 2.0

Paper

Grades 1 -12

Sample Items

User Guide

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Introduction

The purpose of this document is to introduce the features of the paper-based form of ACCESS for ELLs 2.0. This User Guide explains how to access and use the downloadable PDF test materials and the associated audio files for the Listening and Speaking Tests. While the security of test items in WIDA assessments is a top priority, it is also extremely important that educators have good, freely available sample items that provide a strong sense for them, their students, parents, and the general public of what taking the ACCESS for ELLs 2.0 English language proficiency assessment entails.

About the ACCESS for ELLs 2.0 Suite of Assessment

The ACCESS for ELLs 2.0 suite of assessments are secure large-scale English language proficiency assessments administered to students in Kindergarten through Grade 12 who have been identified as English language learners (ELLs). The assessments are given annually in the WIDA Consortium member states to monitor students' progress in acquiring academic English, and include Kindergarten ACCESS for ELLs, ACCESS for ELLs 2.0 online and paper-based, and Alternate ACCESS for ELLs.

Each assessment measures students' English language proficiency, which incorporates language students use in interaction with peers, teachers in school, and language encountered across instructional settings. ACCESS for ELLs 2.0 scores can be used to:

- Monitor student progress on an annual basis
- Establish when ELLs have attained English language proficiency according to state criteria
- Inform classroom instruction and assessment
- Aid in programmatic decision-making

About this User Guide

In this guide, you will find the following information:

- Details about the four language domains assessed by ACCESS for ELLs 2.0 Paper
- Recommendations on the use of the paper-based sample items
- Instructions on how to access the sample items online

ACCESS for ELLs 2.0 Paper Test Overview

In this section of the User Guide, you will find an overview of ACCESS for ELLs 2.0 Paper. The descriptions of ACCESS for ELLs 2.0 will allow users of this guide to become familiar with the design and layout of the assessment. Also provided in this section is a discussion of the ways in which ACCESS for ELLs 2.0 aligns with the WIDA English Language Development (ELD) Standards.

Grade Clusters and Tiers

ACCESS for ELLs 2.0 Paper test forms are divided into the following grade-level clusters: Kindergarten, 1, 2, 3, 4–5, 6–8, and 9–12.

Within each grade cluster, with the exception of Kindergarten, the test is further divided into two tiers: A (Beginning) and B/C (Intermediate to Advanced). The five proficiency levels align with these tiers of the test form.

Tier Placement

Level 1 Entering	Level 2 Beginning	Level 3 Developing	Level 4 Expanding	Level 5 Bridging	Level 6 - Reaching
<p>TIER A is most appropriate for English language learners who</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • have arrived in the U.S. or entered school in the U.S. within this academic school year without previous instruction in English, OR • currently receive literacy instruction ONLY in their native language, OR • have recently tested at the lowest level of English language proficiency 		<p>TIER B/C is most appropriate for English language learners who</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • have social language proficiency and are beginning to approach or have acquired academic language proficiency in English, OR • have acquired some literacy in English or are approaching grade level literacy in English, OR • will likely meet the state's exit criteria for support services by the end of the academic year 			

Test administrators are provided guidance so that students take the most appropriate form based on his or her language proficiency. A student will take the same Tier for all four domains (Listening, Speaking, Reading, and Writing).

Domain Test Overview

ACCESS for ELLs 2.0 provides tests in each of four language domains (Listening, Reading, Writing, and Speaking). The Listening test and the Reading test consist of thematic folders, each containing three multiple-choice questions surrounding a particular theme. The Writing test and the Speaking test are made up of performance tasks scored according to specific scoring criteria. The paper-based test allows group administration of the Listening, Reading, and Writing tests, but the Speaking test must be given individually. More specific information about each domain test is outlined below.

Listening Test

- The test is group-administered.
- A student will take either the Tier A or B/C test form.
- The Listening test is media-delivered, meaning that the test items are delivered via CD.
- Students complete a few practice items before beginning the Listening test.
- Students only hear the item one time.
- The Listening test takes up to approximately 40 minutes to complete.

Reading Test

- The test is group-administered.
- A student will take either the Tier A or B/C test form.
- Students complete a few practice items before beginning the Reading test.
- The Reading test takes up to approximately 45 minutes to complete.

Writing Test

- The test is group-administered.
- A student will take either the Tier A or B/C test form.
- There are three tasks on each tiered form for all grade levels, except for Grade 1, Tier A, which contains four tasks.
- The test administrator guides the test-takers as a group through the Writing instructions and a sample writing task.
- The Writing test takes up to approximately 65 minutes to complete; test length is tied to the different tiers of the Writing test.

Speaking Test

- The test must be administered individually.
- A student will take either the Tier A or Tier B/C form.
- The Speaking test is media-delivered, meaning the test items are delivered via CD.
- The Speaking test is multi-modal. The student hears audio input and also sees the input as text in their Speaking Test Booklet.
- Students will be independently guided through the test by a virtual test administrator.
- Each Speaking test task also includes a Model Student response, which demonstrates for the student the language use expected at that task level.
- The Speaking test takes up to approximately 30 minutes to complete.

For additional information regarding ACCESS for ELLs 2.0 Paper, please refer to Section 5.1 in the *ACCESS for ELLs 2.0 Test Administrator Manual*.

Using the Sample Items

This section of the User Guide provides recommendations on how to use and with whom to use the sample items.

- The primary audience for the sample items is teachers, students, or anyone who would like to see what test items look like and to understand the language demands that may be found on the operational ACCESS for ELLs 2.0 assessment.
- Sample items are only available for the Listening and Speaking items.
- The sample items include PDF booklets of test items, organized by grade cluster. WIDA recommends that users print the PDF, double sided, so that the items are presented as they would be in a testing situation.
- In addition to the PDF, there are audio files for the Speaking and Listening items. WIDA has organized the audio files into a playlist by folder, in order to better replicate the real testing experience. The audio playlist will include appropriate pause times to mirror what students experience in live test items.
- Visit the Student Preparation page of the WIDA website to view the student booklets and listen to audio files for the following grade-level clusters:
 - Grade 1: Speaking Tier A and Speaking Tier B/C
 - Grades 2 & 3: Listening Tier B/C
 - Grades 4–5: Listening Tier B/C, Speaking Tier A, and Speaking Tier B/C
 - Grades 9–12: Listening Tier B/C, Speaking Tier A, and Speaking Tier B/C