Using this document: Review this sample item to gain a better understanding of the look, feel, and process of the ACESS for ELLs Writing test. Use this item in any way that is helpful for you and your students: for example, you might assign this item as homework, as an in-class exercise, or as a group activity. If practical for your classroom, WIDA strongly encourages you to use the sample test administrator script to do a full mock administration of this sample item, as a realistic administration can help prepare your students for the real test.

If you do plan a mock administration, read through this document and set aside 30 minutes to explain the activity and allow students to write their responses. Create materials for the mock administration by printing:

- One copy of pages 2 and 3 for each student.
- One copy of pages 5 and 6 for yourself.
  *You can print this as a double-sided single sheet.*

Explain to your students what they will do, and then read the script provided to administer the sample item.
What do you see in the picture?

1. clock
2. _____________________________
3. _____________________________
4. _____________________________
What is happening in the picture?

5 The teacher gives a ball to the girl.

6

7

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How to Read the Script

The script includes text that is read aloud during test administration as well as directions for the test administrator.

- Read aloud all **bold** text. Instructions students hear are **black and bold**. Test items are **blue and bold**.
- Do NOT read unbolded text aloud. Unbolded text gives direction to the test administrator.

Introducing the Sample Item

Explain to your students that they’re about to complete a writing exercise. This exercise is similar to a test they will take in the future. The test will be their opportunity to demonstrate their writing skills in English, and this practice exercise will help them get ready for the test.

When the students are ready and understand what they’re going to do, pass out the test materials. Each student needs a complete copy of the sample test item.

Read the script below to guide students through the writing task.
Look at the page with the picture.
Scan the room and make sure all students are in the right place.

This picture shows students playing indoors.

Let’s read the question under the picture. It says,

“What do you see in the picture?”

Look at the picture again. Find the clock and point to it.
Scan the room to make sure all students are in the right place.

Now find number 1. Number 1 says “clock.”

Now point to something else in the picture. Write that word next to number 2.
Pause while students answer number 2. Monitor students for signs that they understand the task. Answer questions.

Next to number 3 and number 4, write the names of two more things that you see in the picture. Spell the best you can. When you finish number 4 and get to the stop sign, put your pencil down and look at me.

Do you have any questions?
Answer questions.

You may begin.
Monitor the students. Check to make sure everyone is following directions. If any student is struggling, point to the boy, girl, teacher, ball, goal, net, jump rope, cloud, or rain, and say: What is this? Wait for the student’s response, and then say: Now write that on the line.

Allow a reasonable amount of time for everyone to attempt to write something. Go to the next part when all students have finished writing or about 5 minutes have passed.

If some students are still writing, say: Please finish what you are writing now. PAUSE 15 SECONDS.

Now look at the top of the next page.
This question at the top of the page says, “What is happening in the picture?”

Scan the room and make sure all students are in the right place.

In this part, you will write about what the class is doing. Number 5 is done for you. Let’s read this sentence together. Put your finger on each word as we read.

Make sure students are pointing to the first word in the sentence before reading aloud.

“The teacher gives a ball to the girl.”

Look back at the picture. Find the teacher giving a ball to a girl. PAUSE.

Scan the room and make sure all students are in the right place.

What else is happening in the picture?

Allow time for student response.

Now write two sentences about what you see happening in the picture. Write one sentence next to number 6 and one sentence next to number 7. Spell the best you can.

Do you have any questions?

Answer questions.

When you finish and get to the stop sign, put your pencil down and look at me.

You may begin.

Monitor the students. Check to make sure everyone is following directions. Encourage any struggling students by pointing to one of the groups in the picture and saying: Look at these students. What are they doing? Wait for the student’s response. Then point to number 6 and say: Now write that next to number 6.

Allow a reasonable amount of time for everyone to attempt to write something. End the test when all students have finished writing or about 10 minutes have passed.

If some students are still writing, say: Please finish what you are writing now. PAUSE 15 SECONDS.

End the testing session by saying:

Please put down your pencils, and I will come around to collect your writing.