

## Preparing Students for ACCESS for ELLs Online

### Test Demo

Watch the test demo before you go through the sample items. The test demo takes about 15 minutes to introduce the features of the test platform and introduce the item types students will see. Item types include multiple choice, hotspot, and drag-and-drop. Review the demo at least once before showing it to students.

Students do not need to click or interact as the test demo plays, so you can have students watch the demos on their own or you can show the demo to a group of students all at once.

There are two modules of the test demo that don't play automatically. These modules cover handwriting responses to the Writing test and using test accommodations. When these topics are applicable to your students, select and play them from the menu on the left.

Allow students to re-watch the test demo as needed. Many schools schedule a time for students to watch the demo and then immediately try out what they've learned by completing the sample or practice items.

1. Go to [wbte.drctdirect.com/WIDA](http://wbte.drctdirect.com/WIDA).
2. Click Test Demo.



3. Select ACCESS for ELLs.



4. Select the demo appropriate to the grade level of your students.

### Student Support

Talk with all students about using universal tools during testing just as they do in the classroom. Tools that are built into the test platform for any student to use at any time include the following:




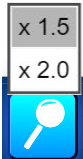

Opens the Color Contrast and Color Overlay menus from which students can change the color and contrast of the content in the test platform.



Allows the student to highlight the text of the test item. When the highlighter is active, the menu includes an Off option.



Places a horizontal line on the screen that the student drags up or down to help with tracking across lines of text.

 <p>Opens the Help Library, which includes information on tools, test directions, and other topics.</p>	 <p>Enlarges the test item to either one-and-a-half or two times the original size. When the magnifier is active, the menu includes an Off option. (Testing with an iPad? Use the pinch-to-zoom feature as usual!)</p>	 <p>Opens a window in which the student can type. Students can create multiple notes for each Writing task to track ideas and organize their thoughts before they type in the scored response area. The Sticky Note tool is available only in the Writing test.</p>
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Students with an active Individualized Education Program or 504 Plan may be able to use a variety of additional accommodations when testing. For example, you can give students the ability to manually play or replay audio that would otherwise play automatically and only once. All students need plenty of opportunity to become familiar with any accessibility support they'll use during testing.

Find details on allowed testing tools in the **Accessibility and Accommodations Manual**, available on [the Accessibility and Accommodations page of the WIDA website](#).

## Sample Items

Sample items are representative of the format and structure of actual test items and tasks. They are similar in difficulty and depth to the items and tasks students complete on testing day, and they are a helpful preparation tool even for students who have taken the test in prior years.

Sample items do not simulate a complete test experience. They do not cover the full range of content or performance level expectations students encounter on the test.

### **It is especially important that students understand and practice the Speaking test.**

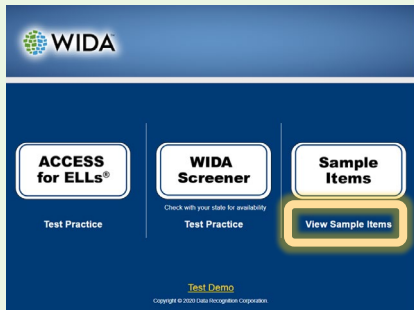
The Speaking domain test is a unique and, for some students, challenging test experience. To complete the Speaking tasks, students must record their voices using the recording tools built into the test platform.

The more opportunities students have to interact with the test platform and become familiar with speaking into a headset, the more comfortable they will be on testing day.

### **When students are completing sample items:**

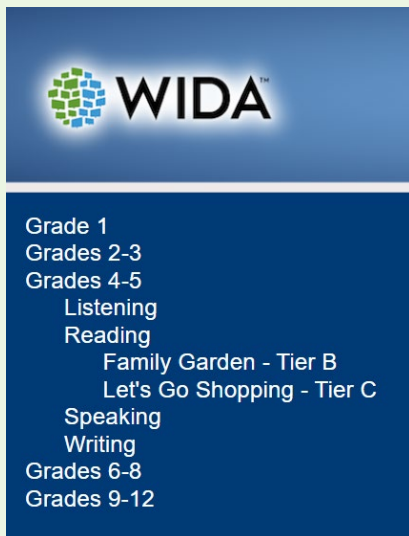
- Answer questions about test content, testing tools and procedures, and technology.
- Rephrase test directions. If allowed under your state's testing policy, it's okay to translate test directions into the student's home language.
- Help students log in, navigate, adjust volume, and adjust headphones and headsets.
- Help students use the recording tools in the Speaking test.
- Don't interrupt those who are working independently.
- Don't confirm or correct students' responses.

1. Go to [wbte.drctdirect.com/WIDA](http://wbte.drctdirect.com/WIDA).
2. Click View Sample Items.

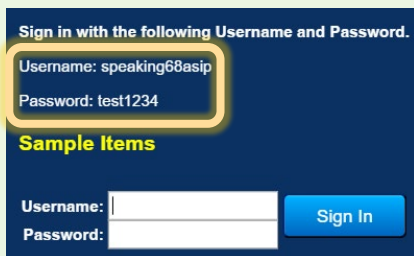


Students can also access the sample items from the DRC INSIGHT browser installed on their testing devices.

3. Select a grade-level cluster, domain, and item.



4. Enter the username and password shown on the Sign In screen.



5. Follow the on-screen directions to move through the introduction screens to the sample item.

**Review each sample item at least once before students complete it.**

Students need headphones for the Listening, and Writing items. They need headsets with microphones for the Speaking items.

**Use [sample scripting](#) to guide students through sample items and test platform features.**

Sample items do not have embedded test directions as the practice items do, so have students watch the test demo before going through the sample items.

# Test Practice

The Listening, Reading, and Speaking domain tests begin with an opportunity for students to practice responding.

Practice items are not necessarily representative of the difficulty of scored test items – they are simply a chance for students, particularly those new to testing, to become familiar with the structure of the test and try out the process of responding items and tasks.

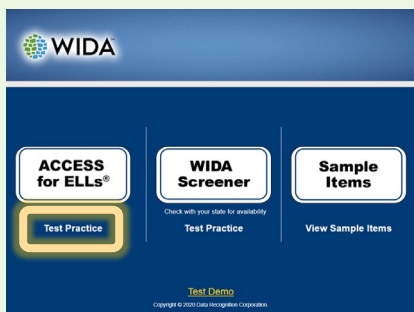
The test platform guides students through these practice items before presenting the scored items.

Completing the practice items prior to testing day can be helpful for students who are new to online testing.

The practice items are an ideal way, for example, to introduce grade 1 students to the test!

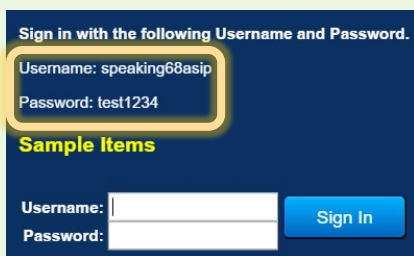
**However, the first thing students do when they take the real test is complete the exact same practice items that are available in advance.**

1. Go to [wbte.drcedirect.com/WIDA](http://wbte.drcedirect.com/WIDA).
2. Click Test Practice.



Students can also access the practice items from the DRC INSIGHT browser installed on their testing devices.

3. Select a domain, grade-level cluster, and tier.
4. Enter the username and password shown on the Sign In screen.



5. Follow the on-screen directions to move through the introduction screens to the practice item.