

Grades 6–8

Tier B/C



# ACCESS for ELLs®

## Sample Writing Tasks: Soil Testing

### Using this document

Review this sample item to gain a better understanding of the look, feel, and process of the ACCESS for ELLs Writing test. Use this item in any way that is helpful for you and your students. If practical for your classroom, WIDA strongly encourages you 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, set aside 45 minutes to explain the activity and allow students to answer the questions. Create materials for the mock administration by printing:

- One copy of page 1 for yourself.
- One copy of pages 2–3 for each student. (Print single sided)

### Introducing the sample item

Explain to your students that they are 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 English proficiency in writing, and this practice exercise will help them get ready for the test.

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

Ask the students to write their name at the top of the page.

### Monitoring the test

Monitor the students. Check to make sure everyone is following directions. When the students have finished writing, encourage them to check their work.

If students are working productively at the end of 20 minutes, say: ***Please finish what you are writing now.*** PAUSE.

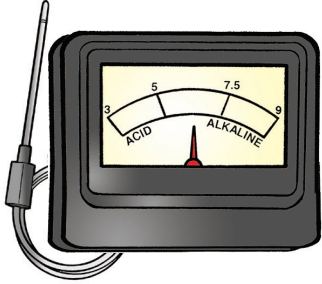
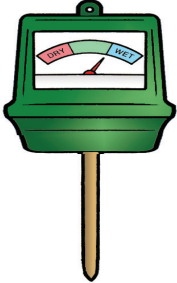
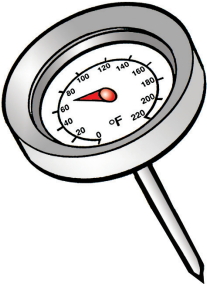
End the testing session by saying:

**Please put your pencil down, and I will collect your papers.**

## Part B: Soil Testing

Sandra needs to grow a vegetable garden at school for her science class. She wants to choose the place with the best soil for growing vegetables. To collect data, she pushed the pointed end of each tool into the soil at different locations around her school.

### Tools to Collect Data about Soil

Tool	What It Shows	Levels in Ideal Soil
<p>pH Meter</p> 	How acidic (or alkaline) the soil is	pH of 6.0–6.5 (slightly acidic)
<p>Moisture Meter</p> 	How wet or dry the soil is	Moist
<p>Soil Thermometer</p> 	How warm or cool the soil is	65°F– 70°F

### Data Collected by Sandra

Location	pH	Moisture	Temperature
West Side of School	5.5	Wet	63°F
East Side of School	7.5	Dry	65°F
South Side of School	6.5	Moist	70°F

#### Results

The Best Soil: South Side of School

