



Getting Ready

FOR

ACCESS

FOR ENGLISH LEARNERS

WHY TAKE THIS TEST?

- ACCESS is a test of Academic English, the language of school.
- Students qualify for additional support at school as their ACCESS scores show need.
- This test is taken by millions of students across the country.



4.7

4.7 is the overall score you need to show proficiency. Once you do, you won't have to take this assessment again. This is not easy, but you will get there with time. Academic language takes about 5 years to develop.





0.5

Try to increase your overall score by 0.5 this year. We have tips on how you can do your best.

LISTENING

Listen carefully to the passage, because it may have an answer to the question.

Look at the picture as you listen, because it will help you choose the right answer.

Listen to the question carefully, because the speaker will say it only one time.



[Click here for Sample Items](#)

READING

Use the pictures and graphs to help you understand the text.

After you read the question, look at the text again. The answer may be in the text.

Read the answer choices, then look at the text again. Find the answer that makes the most sense for the question.

You can often find the answers in the text, but they may be in more than one spot.

TAKE YOUR TIME!



[Click here for
sample items.](#)

SPEAKING

Listen to the model student Nina and the answers she gives to similar questions. She sets an example for you.

ALWAYS use complete sentences to answer questions.

Say as much as you can to answer the question.

The next slide will have a rubric that can show you HOW MUCH you need to say to achieve your goal and what TYPES of WORDS you need to use.



[Click here for](#)
[sample items.](#)

SPEAKING RUBRIC

I will **improve** my speaking **level** from _____ to _____.

Level 1	Level 2	Level 3	Level 4	Level 5
<p>I speak in a single word or memorized words.</p>	<p>I speak in phrases or short sentences.</p>	<p>I speak in simple complete sentences with some longer sentences that use the word because.</p>	<p>I speak in complete sentences with details.</p>	<p>I speak in complete sentences with many details.</p>
<p>I use the same words all the time!</p>	<p>I use little or no academic vocabulary.</p>	<p>I use some academic vocabulary.</p> <p>I may make some mistakes but my thoughts are understandable.</p>	<p>I use several types of sentences (short and long).</p> <p>I use details, but don't have 5 sentences.</p> <p>I use some academic vocabulary.</p> <p>I speak with some organization and transitions.</p>	<p>I use several types of sentences (short and long).</p> <p>I use 5 different sentences with an opening and closing.</p> <p>I use academic vocabulary.</p> <p>I speak clearly with organization and transitions.</p>

WRITING

Use scratch paper to plan your writing.

Use the word banks and example responses.

Complete every part, your score is based on your best writing for any part of the test.

Do your best with spelling and grammar.

Don't forget capitalization and punctuation.

When you are done writing, re-read your work and fix any errors.



[Click here for sample items.](#)

WRITING RUBRIC

I will **improve** my writing **level** from **level** _____ to _____.

Level 1	Level 2	Level 3	Level 4
Writing: I can write words	Writing: I can write sentences.	Writing: I can write a paragraph.	Writing: I can write multiple paragraphs with interesting details!
Errors: I have many errors OR I copy text.	Errors: I have some errors.	Errors: I have few errors.	Errors: I have very few errors.
Vocabulary: I use simple vocabulary words.	Vocabulary: I use few specific and academic vocabulary words.	Vocabulary: I use some specific and academic vocabulary words.	Vocabulary: I use many specific and academic vocabulary words.

IMAGINE

with all your mind.

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BELIEVE

with all your heart.

ACHIEVE

with all your might.

Credits: Beige Minimalist Neutral Company Presentation, Canva