What You Need to Know About English Learner (EL) Supports for the ACT® Test

The goal of providing EL supports is to ensure that the test scores achieved by English learners accurately reflect what they have learned in school.

Test scores earned using EL supports authorized in advance by ACT are college reportable.

English Learner Supports Include:

- Extended time testing
- Use of an approved word-to-word bilingual dictionary
- Testing in a small group

Translated written directions in these languages:

- Arabic
- Brazilian Portuguese
- Chinese (Simplified)
- Chinese (Traditional)
- French
- German
- Haitian Creole
- Hmong (White)
- Japanese
- Korean
- Navajo
- Russian
- Samoan
- Somali
- Spanish
- Tagalog
- Tongan
- Vietnamese

EL supports may be requested on their own or in conjunction with any ACT-authorized accommodation.

ACT mainly follows criteria identified in the Every Student Succeeds Act (ESSA) to verify EL status. To be eligible for supports, examinees must supply supporting documentation that proves they meet the criteria.

EL Supports DO NOT Include:

- Translated test questions
- Translated verbal instructions and/or use of an interpreter
- Translated pre-recorded audio
- Translated reader’s scripts
- Printed translations for languages outside of the ones that are offered
- Use of an electronic translation device

To request EL supports on the ACT test, examinees must work with their school official to submit a request for supports in the Test Accessibility and Accommodations System (TAA).

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