Illinois Science Assessment Tutorial
Teacher Information

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Illinois Science Assessment (ISA) Tutorial Teacher Information

This year there will be a tutorial for the Illinois Science Assessment (ISA) available for students and educators. The tutorial can be accessed from the ISBE website at: https://www.isbe.net/Pages/Illinois-Science-Assessment.aspx starting mid-February, 2019 through the end of the test window.

Taking the tutorial will acquaint students with the operation of the software and the structure of the assessment. They will see screenshots of the login process, available accessibility tools, and the proper way to submit their tests. The tutorial includes a sample of each item type students could see within the ISA: multiple choice, multiple select, inline choice, matching, extended text entry and passage-based items. The student tools available in the ISA, Text to Speech and Line Reader, are also available for students to explore during the tutorial. Note: The ISA Tutorial will not acquaint students with the device-specific secure exam browsers that are required to complete the assessment.

On the following pages, you will find screenshots of the tutorial so that you can acquaint yourself with the content and purpose.

From the ISA website (https://www.isbe.net/Pages/Illinois-Science-Assessment.aspx), students will be taken to the ISA platform in ISBE Teach where they will choose to take the tutorial by selecting the Start Tutorial button, as shown below. At the end of the tutorial they will return to this page. They can return to ISBE.net or close their browser to exit.
This is the first screen the students see after starting the tutorial. Students should read the instructions and then press the **Start Test** button.
After starting the tutorial, the students will see a series of informational screens that explain the start-up screens on the ISA. Students should be encouraged to read these pages, or the teacher may read them aloud to students, so students are familiar with the text prior to taking the ISA.

The second screen of the tutorial is an example of the ISA Welcome screen. The students will need to select the **Click Here to Go On** button to advance to the next screen.
The third screen of the tutorial is an example of the ISA login process. This screen explains that an Access Code is required to take the ISA. Access Codes are generated in the ISBE Teach platform by an educator and are supplied to the person proctoring the exam. This may be the students’ teacher or another test administrator. For the ISA, the test administrator will provide the access code to each student, who will enter the Access Code into the Login screen and click Submit.

The tutorial does not require an access code.
The forth screen of the tutorial is an example of the rest of the ISA login process. In the ISA, the students will need to confirm their name and grade. The grade is confirmed as part of the test name, for instance, *Illinois Science Assessment – Grade 5*. The student must inform the test administrator if any information is NOT correct. The test administrator then contacts the test coordinator – who may resolve the problem or contact ISBE to resolve the issue.

The tutorial does not require name and grade verifications.
The fifth screen of the tutorial shows the buttons for and describes the student tools: Text to Speech and Line Reader. This screen also explains that the Text to Speech screen reader requires headphones or a special room to use. Students must adjust the volume on the test device prior to launching the assessment. The secure exam browsers will not allow the volume to be adjusted after the test is launched.

Students who might take advantage of these tools during the ISA should be encouraged to try the tools during the tutorial.
The sixth screen of the tutorial explains the **Pause & Logout** button that will be in the ISA but which does not appear in the tutorial. Students cannot pause and resume the tutorial. They can exit the tutorial or let the tutorial stay open on their computer to take a break and return to later if needed.

During the ISA, the Pause & Logout button should only be used in those circumstances where a student has a legitimate need to take a break. This screen explains that teacher permission is required to pause the ISA. Sometimes students use this button in error after they complete their test. Rather, students must use the **Submit** button at the end of the test to allow results to be scored. While the **Pause & Logout** button does save the student responses, it does not move the test to submitted status, thus requiring ISBE to suppress the score. Students should be instructed to use the **Submit** button on the last screen when they have finished their test.

Students should not be concerned about scores on the tutorial. The tutorial is for instructional purposes only and is not scored.
The seventh screen of the tutorial starts the section with the sample items. Students must use their mouse or computer trackpad, or tap on an iPad to select their answer(s). They may click or tap anywhere in the text of the response to select an answer.

The first sample item is a single-select multiple choice item. Single-select multiple choice items are found on all ISA Tests. Single-select answer choices are indicated by a circle selector (red rectangle).

Note that the navigation buttons are different on the screens with items. Instead of the Click Here to Go On button as seen on the informational screens, item screens use arrows to navigate forward and back. There is an instruction to use the Right Arrow to go to the next question in the tutorial.
The second sample item is a multiple select item. The screen explains the difference between single and multiple-select items. Students are told about the visual cue – boxes instead of circles that indicate multiple answers are possible. They are also told that there is typically an instruction to select more than one answer, which is modeled after the phrasing on the ISA. Multiple-select items are found in the Grade 5 ISA.
The third sample item is an Inline drop-down item. The ISA contains items where the student must select a response by using drop-down menus. Students should click or tap the down arrow to view the possible responses for each menu. Inline drop-down items are found in the Grade 5 ISA.

This is an example of a Drop-down question.

The answer choices are listed in a drop-down menu. After reading the question, use the drop-down menus to fill in the blanks.

Chicago is a city in select a ch... and is often called select a ch... .
The fourth sample item is a Matching item. This is an example of a matching item in which students must choose which response column is the correct category for the prompt in the first column. Students will need to select one answer for each row. Matching items are found on all ISA tests.
The fifth sample item is an Extended Text item. Students are asked to demonstrate their understanding of the information provided in the item by typing their response. There is a limit of 1500 characters, or approximately 250 words, for each response. The platform will prohibit students from entering more than 1500 characters, but they are able to delete words or phrases by using the delete key on their device to edit the response. The student’s typed response is saved when they navigate to the next item. Multiple Extended Text items are found on all ISA tests.
The sixth sample item contains an image. Several ISA items contain images. There is sometimes a delay while loading the images. The delay is related to the bandwidth of the internet connection in your school and the number of students taking the ISA or otherwise using the internet simultaneously. The purpose of this tutorial item is to explain that there is sometimes a slight delay, which should not be interpreted as a broader system problem.
The seventh sample item contains a passage. There are several passage-based items in the ISA, spanning all grades. In the ISA, there are also items with or without passages that require scrolling to see all the text and/or image. This tutorial item reinforces the need to scroll down when a scroll bar is present to see all the information in an item.

This is an example of a question with a Passage.

The passage or question may have a scroll bar if it is long. If you see a scroll bar, make sure to scroll down to read the entire passage and question.

After reading this passage, use the scroll bar on the right-hand side of the screen to see the question that follows.

Please use the scenario below to answer the following question.

Abraham Lincoln was the 16th president of the United States of America. He was born in a log cabin in Hodgenville, Kentucky. His family lived in Kentucky and Indiana before moving to Illinois. He did not like living on a farm or the work that was required. He preferred to read books.

When he was in his twenties, he moved by himself to New Salem, Illinois where he ran a store, was the postmaster and ran for the Illinois General Assembly. He studied law and became a lawyer when he was admitted to the bar in 1836. He moved to Springfield, Illinois where he practiced law. He was elected to the Illinois House of Representatives four times. He was then elected to the U.S. House of Representatives. In 1860, Abraham Lincoln ran to become President of the United States of America and won the election.

Abraham Lincoln was 6 feet and 4 inches tall. He was married to Mary Todd and had four children named Robert, Edward, Willie, and Tad.
The last two screens of the tutorial show the process for submitting a test for scoring.

When students have reached the end of the ISA questions, they will have the opportunity to go back and review their answers. This functionality is included in the tutorial so that students and educators can see how it works. **It is important for students who reach this screen to eventually proceed to the final screen to submit their test.** Even students who have *not finished* the test questions **must** go to the final screen to properly submit their responses. Teachers or test proctors must reinforce this information and ensure students submit their responses for scoring.
The final screen of the tutorial shows the final submit test button.

The final screen contains the instruction to click the button to submit the test. Students must NOT use the **Pause & Logout** button on the ISA. Again, teachers or proctors must reinforce that students need to select the “Click Here to Submit Test and Exit” button located in the middle of the screen to properly submit their answers.

If you have any questions about this tutorial, please contact your District Test Coordinator (DTC). Your DTC may contact ISBE if questions are unresolved.