

Dictionary and Thesaurus Use on TAKS

The list below indicates when English-language dictionaries and thesauruses must be provided. Dictionaries are required for the TAKS exit level and grade 11 ELA reading and written composition sections. Dictionaries are not allowed for the revising and editing section. Students must be provided appropriate tools (e.g., dictionaries and thesauruses) during assessments so that their performance on the test is a more valid and reliable indicator of what they know and can do.

Note these policies regarding the use of dictionaries and thesauruses during testing:

- There must be at least one dictionary for every five students.
- It is recommended that there be one thesaurus for every five students, if possible.
- Students may also use a combination dictionary/thesaurus for these assessments.
- The use of foreign-language reference materials is NOT permitted unless the student is eligible to use such materials as described in the Accommodations Manual.
- An English as a second language (ESL) dictionary, which uses simple English and pictures to define words, may be provided for LEP students taking TAKS, including TAKS (Accommodated), or TAKS–M tests only when reference materials must be provided.
- Students taking a braille version of a test may use electronic dictionaries and thesauruses when reference materials must be provided.
- A sign language dictionary that is grade appropriate may be used in conjunction with the standard English dictionary/thesaurus only when reference materials must be provided.



For additional information about the use of dictionaries or other reference materials, refer to the *2010–2011 Accommodations Manual*.