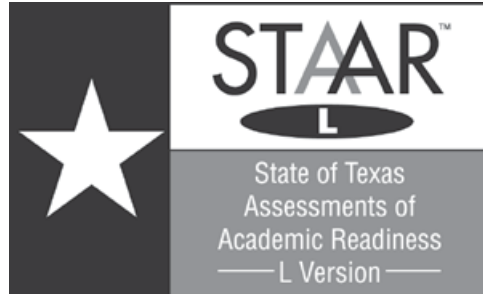


**For Training Purposes Only**



# **English Clarification Guide**

**SECURE**

**Biology**

**End-of-Course**

**NOTE: Actual ECGs are secure documents;  
this training version is not.**

# INSTRUCTIONS

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This secure reference guide is for test administrators to use while providing clarification of word meaning in English to STAAR L students for whom this accommodation has been predetermined by the LPAC.

- This guide contains only words that are **not** eligible for clarification.
- This guide is for test administrator use only. Do not issue it to students.

For each test item, you are permitted to clarify the meaning of words that do not appear in the Not Eligible list (column titled **Words Not Eligible for Clarification**). You may clarify the meaning of eligible words and phrases requested by the student (including answer choices) through the use of simpler words, gestures, and/or pictures.

- Clarifications must not provide any direct or indirect assistance or reinforcement that aids in the identification of the correct response to a test item.
- Clarification may be provided only at the request of the student.

Keep the following in mind:

- **Conveying exact meaning:** It is not always possible to make the exact meaning clear to ELLs in earlier stages of learning English. As you do in classroom instruction, determine on a case-by-case basis whether it is important for a student to understand a requested word and how important it is to convey nuances and finer shades of meaning. Focus on expediency.
- **Drawing:** In clarifying a word, do not draw or write in the student's test booklet. If necessary, you may write or draw on a separate sheet of paper, which should be destroyed immediately after the test session.
- **For students also using a bilingual dictionary as an accommodation:** Students may use a bilingual word/phrase translation dictionary to look up any word. No words are ineligible.
- **For students receiving both clarification and read-aloud accommodations:** At the request of the student, you may read aloud words, phrases, or occasional sentences in the test question or answer choices that the student is having difficulty reading.
  - When a student requests help with a word, first read it aloud. It may be that the student has difficulty decoding a word but will understand it when it is read aloud. No words are ineligible to be read aloud.
  - When reading aloud a phrase or sentence, you may read aloud numbers, symbols, or abbreviations if doing so does not invalidate what the item is measuring. For example, it would **not** be appropriate to read aloud a number in an item assessing the student's ability to express numbers in written form.
  - If the student does not understand the word when it is read aloud, you may clarify the meaning if the word isn't on the ineligible list.
- If a student asks for help with the meaning of a word that is on the Not Eligible list, your response will vary depending on whether the student is receiving other STAAR L accommodations. You may use the student's native language in these responses if desired.
  - **Clarification only:**  
Say, "I can't help you with that; just do the best you can."
  - **Clarification and Bilingual Dictionary:**  
Say, "You can look that up in your dictionary, but I can't help you with it."
  - **Clarification, Bilingual Dictionary, and Read-Aloud:**  
Read the requested word/phrase aloud and ask if the student understands. If not, say, "You can look this up in your dictionary, but I can't help you with the meaning."
- If a term consisting of multiple words is on the Not Eligible list, none of the individual words should be clarified. For example, if *states of matter* is on the list, the words *states* and *matter* should not be clarified.
- You are not permitted to clarify the meaning of mathematical or scientific symbols, numerical representations, or abbreviations that appear in test items or reference materials. Item-by-item occurrences of these are **not** specified in this guide.

For more detailed information and guidance, refer to the linguistic accommodation training slides available on the TEA website at <http://www.tea.state.tx.us/student.assessment/accommodations/>.

Test Item Number	Words Not Eligible for Clarification	Test Item Number	Words Not Eligible for Clarification
1 (Example)	plasma membrane, cell, molecules, selective permeability, exocytosis, plasmolysis, cellular respiration	28	
2		29	
3		30	
4		31	
5		32	
6		33	
7		34	
8		35	
9		36	
10		37	
11		38	
12		39	
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25		52	
26		53	
27		54	

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**STAAR L  
ENGLISH CLARIFICATION GUIDE  
BIOLOGY**