



Recommendations for Scheduling ISASP Writing Test

Research on the ISASP Writing test at the University of Iowa focused on student scores and the amount of time spent on the Writing test. This research study consisted of over 255,000 students in Grades 3-11 who were enrolled in Iowa schools in 2018-2019. Based on the analysis of the 2019 Writing test results, it appears that after 75 minutes additional time is not helpful in increasing student scores.

Key findings include:

Students scored better when they spent at least 20 minutes on the task. Approximately 45% of Iowa students spent less than 20 minutes on the task. Students scores tended to be higher when they spent at least 20 minutes on the task.

Student scores tend to peak when time spent on the task was between 50 and 75 minutes. Students tended to have the highest scores when they spent between 50 and 75 minutes on the Writing test. This pattern held true across grades and for students identified as English Learners.

More than 97% of students completed the Writing test within 75 minutes. Students tended to complete the Writing test in less than an hour and the vast majority completed it within 75 minutes. This finding was true across grades and the percentages increased across grades. The same pattern was also found for students identified as English Learners (EL), though there was greater variability in response time for these students.

Percentage of Students who Completed the Writing Test Within 75 Minutes

Students	Grades 3-5	Grades 6-8	Grades 9-11
All	95%	98%	99%
English Learners	94%	98%	99%
Non English Learners	95%	98%	99%