

An aerial photograph of a city skyline, likely Austin, Texas, featuring several tall skyscrapers and a river in the foreground. The sky is a mix of blue and orange, suggesting a sunset or sunrise. The city buildings are illuminated with warm lights, and the river reflects the sky and the surrounding greenery.

# Technology Use Guidelines

2018-2019

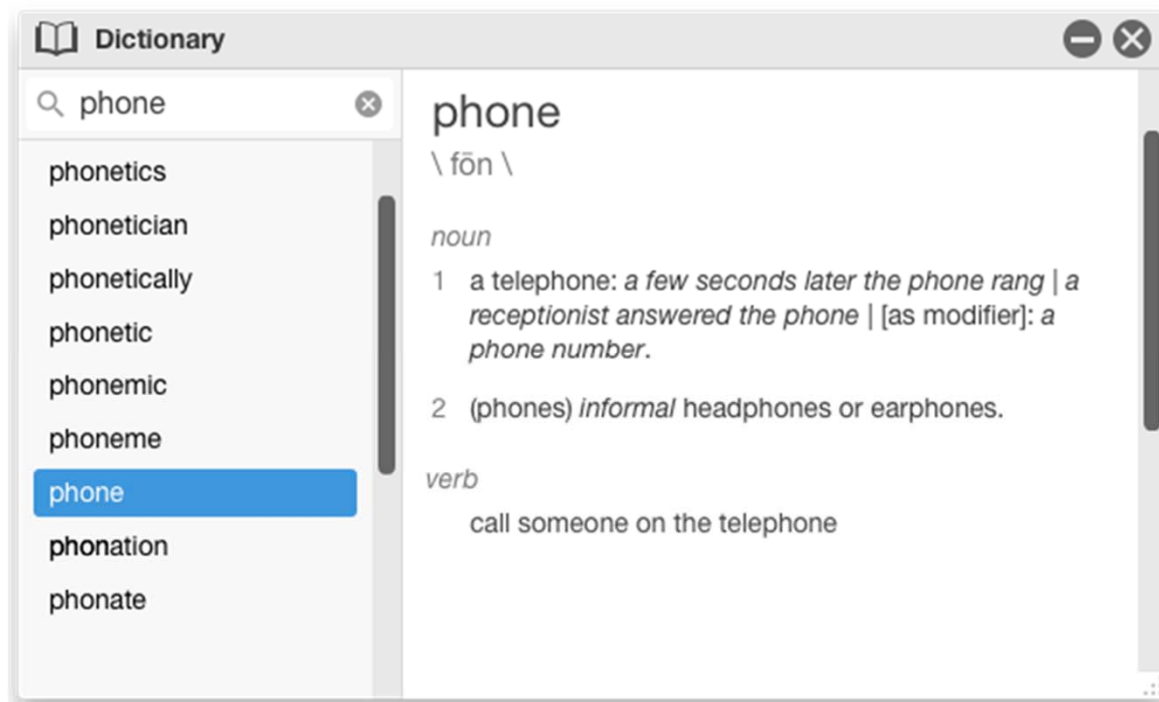


# STAAR Dictionary Policy

- **Districts must ensure that dictionaries are available to ALL students taking**
  - STAAR grades 3–8 reading;
  - STAAR Spanish grades 3–5 reading;
  - STAAR grades 4 and 7 writing;
  - STAAR Spanish grade 4 writing; and
  - STAAR English I, English II, and English III.
  
- **Allowable Dictionaries**
  - Standard monolingual dictionaries in English or the language most appropriate for the student
  - Dictionary/thesaurus combinations
  - Bilingual dictionaries (word-to-word translations; no definitions or examples)
  - ESL dictionaries (definition of an English word using simplified English)
  - Sign language dictionaries
  - Picture dictionaries

# STAAR Dictionary Policy: STAAR Online Dictionary Tool

- **NEW** for 2019: a dictionary tool will be available on all STAAR online reading and writing tests as required by the STAAR Dictionary Policy.
  - English=Merriam-Webster
  - Spanish=Larousse





# STAAR Dictionary Policy: Electronic Dictionaries and Dictionary Applications

- **NEW for 2019: Dictionary applications on a tablet, laptop, or desktop are allowable under the STAAR Dictionary Policy.**
  - Features that are not allowable must be disabled or the application may not be used.
  - Bilingual dictionary applications may NOT be used as an [accessibility feature](#) on STAAR mathematics, science, or social studies assessments.
  
- **For electronic dictionaries that are handheld devices, test administrators must ensure that any features that allow image capture, note taking, or uploading of files have been cleared of their contents before and after the test administration.**

## Dictionary Applications: Features NOT Allowed

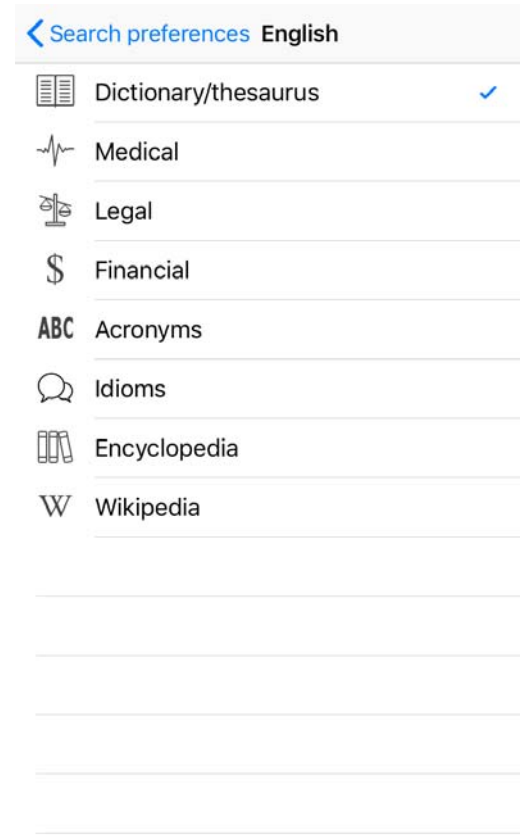
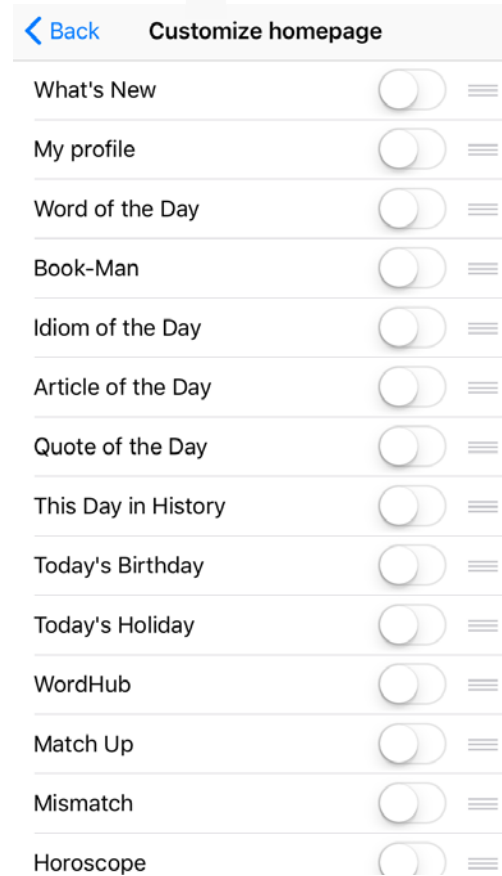
**For all dictionary applications, these features/functions must be disabled as outlined in the technology guidelines.**

- Internet-browsing
- Identify location of student or search by location
- Videos, animations, or extensive text to expand upon a definition
- E-mail, text, social media
- Games, quizzes, anagrams
- Image capture/camera
- Upgrades and/or syncing on day of test
- Subject-specific or “slang” dictionaries
- Access to offline favorites or recent searches, including customized definitions/glossary
- Highlight words on a webpage to look up

# Dictionary Applications: Disabling Features that are NOT Allowed



- These are examples of a dictionary application’s settings screen which allow you to disable features that are NOT allowed or to select the features that ARE allowed.
- For assistance on how to disable features on your specific application, perform a web search or contact your district’s information technology (IT) department or region service center’s assistive technology representative.





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