

The background of the slide is an aerial photograph of a city skyline, likely Austin, Texas, featuring a prominent river (the Colorado River) and various high-rise buildings under a clear sky. A white rectangular box is overlaid on the center of the image, containing the title text.

Technology Use Guidelines

2018-2019



Spelling Assistance Designated Support Policy

- **For a student who meets the eligibility criteria, this designated support may be used only on**
 - STAAR grades 4 and 7 writing, English I, English II, and English III (written composition ONLY)
 - STAAR Spanish grade 4 writing (written composition ONLY)

- **This designated support may include only**
 - visual sound cards
 - frequently misspelled word list (e.g., student-made, teacher-made, commercially produced)
 - spell-check function on a word processor or as an online embedded support on STAAR
 - pocket spell-checker
 - word-prediction software
 - text-to-speech software or devices
 - speech-to-text software, applications, or devices

Online Embedded Spelling Assistance Tool

The screenshot shows the STAAR 2018 Practice Test Grade 4 Writing All PNP interface. The main content area displays a writing prompt titled "WRITTEN COMPOSITION: Expository". The prompt asks the student to read a quotation by Margaret Thatcher: "I do not know of anyone who has gotten to the top without hard work." and to write about one type of hard work they do. A spelling assistance tool is overlaid on the text, showing a list of suggestions for the word "without": "wipeout", "without", "wideout", "missout", and "miscut". The tool also includes a "Review" button and a character count of 33/1750.

- When a word is not found in the dictionary source list, it will be flagged.
 - The tool provides up to five suggestions.
 - The tool evaluates the words independent of the context. It does not check for errors in grammar.
- The tool is available in a practice test in the STAAR Online Testing Platform.
- Not every student eligible for the spelling assistance designated support will use this PNP. Only students who routinely use a spell-check feature may benefit from this embedded support. Eligible students should practice using this support to determine if it meets their needs.
- Students may use any allowable examples or types of spelling assistance listed in the designated support policy document in lieu of or in addition to this online embedded support.

Spelling Assistance: Features NOT Allowed

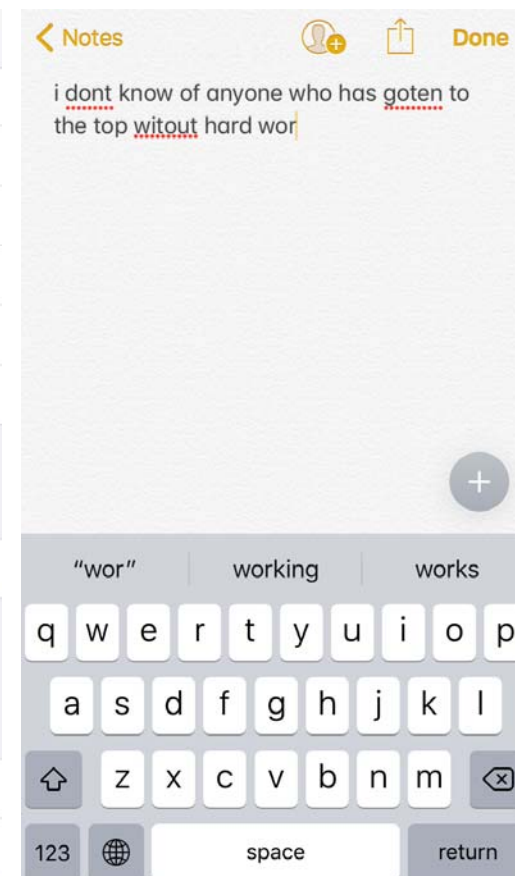
An eligible student may use spelling assistance technology (i.e., spell check, pocket spellchecker, word prediction, text-to-speech, speech-to-text) outside of the testing platform if he/she routinely uses this designated support in instruction. This may be in the form of an application on a tablet or software on a desktop or laptop. Features that must be disabled or made unavailable as outlined in the [Technology Guidelines](#) for eligible students receiving this designated support include:

- any feature that will edit or aid a student's response in areas other than spelling, such as automatic capitalization and punctuation, or grammar check;
- any feature that will save a typed response (if a spelling assistance software requires a student's response to be temporarily saved, the district must ensure the file is permanently deleted after the administration);
- any feature that will allow the ability to share/e-mail response;
- internet capabilities (if a spelling assistance software requires an internet connection to function, it should be set in a mode that prevents the student from accessing an internet browser or accessing any other aids beyond the allowed supports);
- translation services; and
- any feature that will allow the ability to access other programs/features not allowed on the device.

Spelling Assistance: Disabling Features that are NOT Allowed



- This is an example of a tablet's keyboard settings which allow you to disable features that are NOT allowed and 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 IT department or region service center's assistive technology representative.





Disclaimer

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