



Response to the Texas Resource Review Committee Findings



Istation appreciates the Texas Education Agency’s thorough and insightful review of our Spanish K-5 reading program. Istation wants educators to explore the report by the Texas Resource Review committee and the evidence that is provided within this response. It is important to note that the review, while extensive, focused mainly on our print materials, which are only a small portion of our resources available to students.

Driven by the results of Istation’s Indicators of Progress (ISIP™) assessments and guided by research and frequent skills-based measurements, Istation Español seamlessly places students into high-interest, interactive, online instruction. Designed to supplement classroom instruction, Istation Español provides students with intervention, additional practice, and extension activities. Engaging instruction is delivered on a needs-based path for students in pre-K through fifth grade to ensure that each student’s individual needs are met.

Section 2

Istation provides well-crafted, publishable texts that cover a range of student interests. The review also highlights the following:

- In kindergarten through second grade, the materials include a variety of text types and genres across content that meet the requirements of the Texas Essential Knowledge and Skills (TEKS), such as realistic fiction, fantasy, short stories, and expository texts.
- In second grade, students have opportunities to use texts with captions or labels, diagrams, headings, bold words, labels, charts, or glossaries.
- In grades 3-5, some of the texts include a wide array of print and graphic features, and they are connected to science and social studies. The materials include multimodal and digital texts.



Each Istation Español cycle provides appropriate texts for students' abilities, as measured by the ISIP Español assessment. The Istation Español interactive reading curriculum uses books and passages to support reading instruction for each teaching cycle. Istation Español's instructional texts have the readability measure that represents each text's difficulty determined by the The Lexile® Framework for Reading en español.

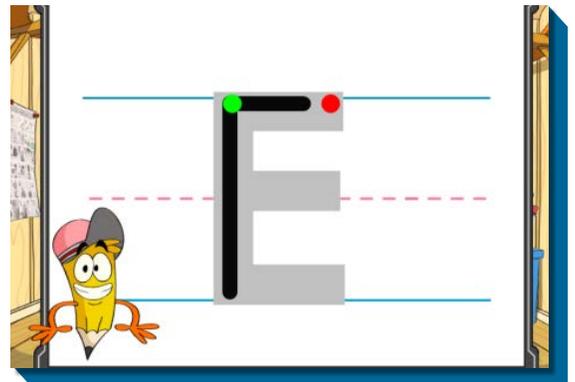
Sections 3 and 4

In the fall of 2021, Istation will release a suite of new phonological awareness activities for kindergarten and first grade that encompass rhyming words and counting and segmenting syllables.

In the area of phonics, a new decodable book for the letter U will be released. And in the area of reading comprehension, the book *El Dorado*, a legend for second and third graders, will be released. All of these books will include an interactive vocabulary pop-up window and glossary.

As the reviewers state, most questions and tasks build conceptual knowledge, are text-specific/dependent, target some complex elements of the texts, and integrate multiple TEKS. Questions and tasks provide some opportunities for students to make connections to personal experiences, other texts, and the world around them and to identify and discuss important big ideas, themes, and details. The review also highlights the following:

- The materials support students' listening and speaking about the texts. The materials offer speaking and listening opportunities for students to demonstrate comprehension.
- In kindergarten through second grade, over the course of the year, students have opportunities to apply grade-level standard Spanish conventions to their writing. The materials provide opportunities for the practice and application of the conventions of academic language when speaking and writing.
- Students have opportunities to write literary texts for multiple purposes and audiences, such as personal narratives that convey their thoughts and feelings about an experience. In addition, students have opportunities to write informational texts, including reports and procedural texts.
- The materials provide opportunities for students to listen actively and to ask questions to understand information. Students have consistent opportunities to engage in



discussions that require them to share information and ideas and to discuss their work and opinions with their classmates.

- The materials contain interconnected tasks that build student knowledge and provide opportunities for increased independence. Activities within the lessons follow a gradual release model; questions and tasks are designed for students to build and apply knowledge and skills in reading, writing, speaking, listening, thinking, and language. Most lessons contain text-dependent questions and tasks integrating ideas and knowledge across multiple texts. The tasks within the materials, which include some components of vocabulary and fluency, provide increased independence.
- The materials include a diagnostic tool and provide opportunities to assess student mastery, in and out of context, at regular intervals for teachers to make instructional adjustments. Through the use of the diagnostic tool, teachers assess students' growth in, and mastery of, foundational skills. There is guidance and direction to respond to students' individual literacy needs.
- The materials support teachers in working with students to self-monitor, use context to confirm or self-correct understanding, and employ rereading when appropriate.
- The materials provide systematic instruction and practice in most foundational skills, including opportunities for phonics and word-analysis skills. The materials systematically develop knowledge of grade-level phonics patterns and word-analysis skills as delineated by the TEKS. Also, students receive adequate grade-level foundational skills instruction and opportunities to achieve grade-level mastery.



Istation provides students with multiple opportunities to engage with the text through digital and teacher-directed lessons. Teachers are given support and lessons that provide the best literacy practices.

Sections 5 and 6

Istation provides support for all learners and implementation for teachers through sections 5 and 6. The review highlights the following:

- The materials include support for students who perform below grade level to ensure they meet the grade-level standards.

- The materials include developmentally appropriate diagnostic tools (e.g., formative and summative progress monitoring) and guidance for teachers, students, and administrators to monitor progress. The materials include a variety of diagnostic tools (e.g., observational and formal) that are developmentally appropriate and provide guidance to ensure consistent and accurate administration of diagnostic tools. The materials include tools for students to track their own progress and growth. The materials include diagnostic tools to measure all content and process skills for Spanish Language Arts and Reading (SLAR), as outlined in the SLAR TEKS.
- Materials include guidance for teachers and administrators to analyze and respond to data from the diagnostic tools. The materials support teachers with guidance and direction to respond to individual students' needs in all domains, based on measures of student progress appropriate to developmental level. The diagnostic tools yield meaningful information for teachers to use when planning instruction and differentiation.
- The materials include guidance, scaffolds, support, and extensions that maximize students' learning potential. Materials provide recommended targeted instruction and activities for students who have not yet mastered the content.
- The materials provide a variety of instructional methods that appeal to a variety of learning interests and needs. A variety of instructional approaches engage students in the mastery of the content and support some developmentally appropriate multimodal instructional strategies (visuals). The materials support multiple types of practices and provide guidance and structures to achieve effective implementation.

From intervention to enrichment, Istation Español gives students the instruction they need when they need it. Istation Español provides purposeful instruction, layered scaffolding, interactive lessons, explicit and direct instruction, and responsive reteaching.