



Education
Services
Australia

 **improve**

User guide for students

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Background

This guide has been developed to help you to use the Improve interactive learning system. This guide provides:

- a simple hands-on approach
- screenshots to show you how to join classes, take tests and complete activities.

Improve was developed to assist Australian teachers and students to improve student learning and outcomes.

As a student you can join classes and access a number of learning resources. When you complete a test, Improve can give you access to activities that will aid your learning.

All students of licensed schools in Australia can access Improve. Access to Improve is managed by jurisdictions and various school bodies, not by Education Services Australia.

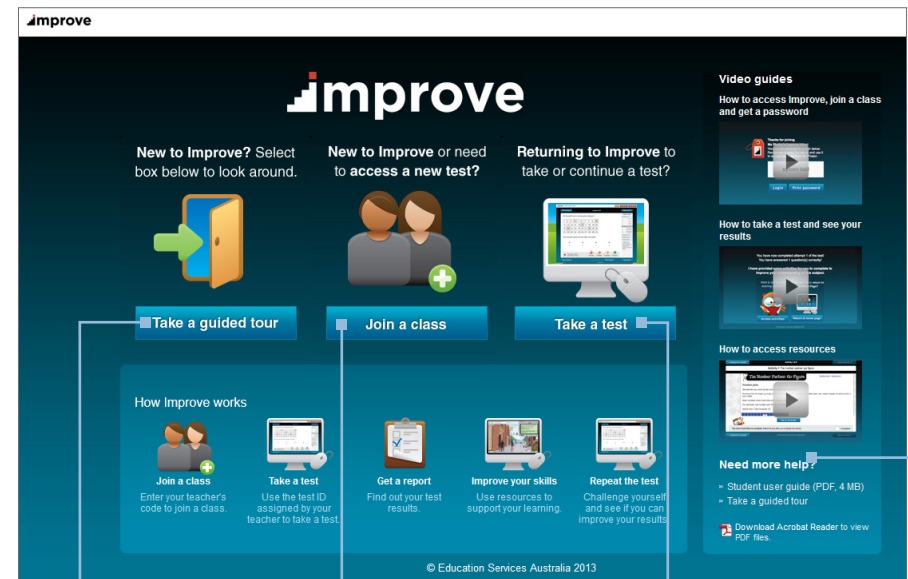


Access the Improve student dashboard

Enter **improve.edu.au** into the address bar of your web browser.



Select **Student** from the **Login** button at the top right of the screen.



Take a guided tour
Similar to this guide, the tour can help if you are not sure how to use Improve.

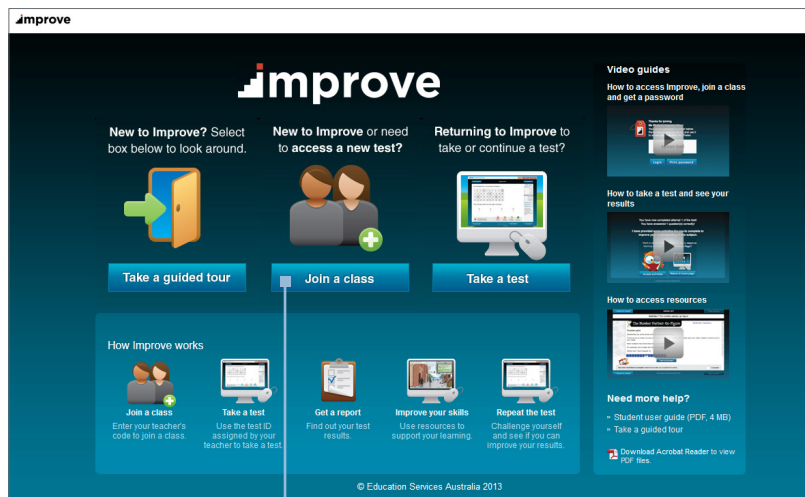
Join a class
Before you can take a test you must join your teacher's class.

Take a test
When you have joined a class select this button to take a test.

Use this link to download this guide.

Join a class

Before you can take a test you need to join your teacher's Improve class. You will then be able to access all tests and learning activities that your teacher assigns to you.



From the student dashboard select **Join a class**.

Enter the details into the relevant fields and select **Join class** to create your account. Your teacher will provide you with the teacher ID code to enter when you create your account.

The screenshot shows the 'Student registration / Enter your details' form. At the top, there's a navigation bar with the 'improve' logo and a 'Student home' button. Below it, there's a heading 'Joining an Improve class is easy!' with a subtext 'Enter your given name, family name and your teacher's ID code and I'll create a secret password you can use to access all tests from your teacher.' The form has three input fields: 'Your given name', 'Your family name', and 'Your teacher's ID code'. Below the fields are two buttons: 'Join class' and 'Cancel'. Lines from the text boxes point to the input fields and buttons.

Enter your given name into this field.

Enter your family name into this field.

Enter your teacher's ID code. If you do not remember the ID code ask your teacher for help.

Select the **Join class** button.
Note: If any details are not recognised, an error message will display advising which field is incomplete.

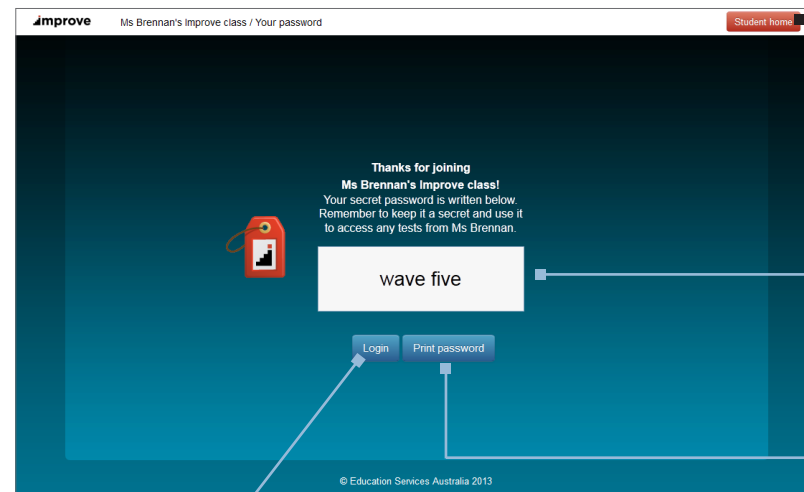
Select **Cancel** to return to the previous page.

Access your password

If you have successfully joined your teacher's class you will be given a password that enables you to log in to Improve to take tests.

Passwords consist of two words separated by a space and are not case sensitive, but you must include the space to log in.

If you do not see a screen similar to the one shown here ask your teacher for help.



Student home

Select this button to return to the student dashboard.

Your password

You will need to enter this password each time you log in to Improve.

This password is a secret so be careful not to share it with anyone. If you forget your password ask your teacher for help.

Print password

Select **Print password** to print a copy of your password if you think you may not remember it. Collect it from the printer straightaway and place it somewhere safe, making sure to remember where you put it.

Login

If you are ready to log in and take a test, or if you want to try a few practice questions, select **Login**.

Log in to take a test

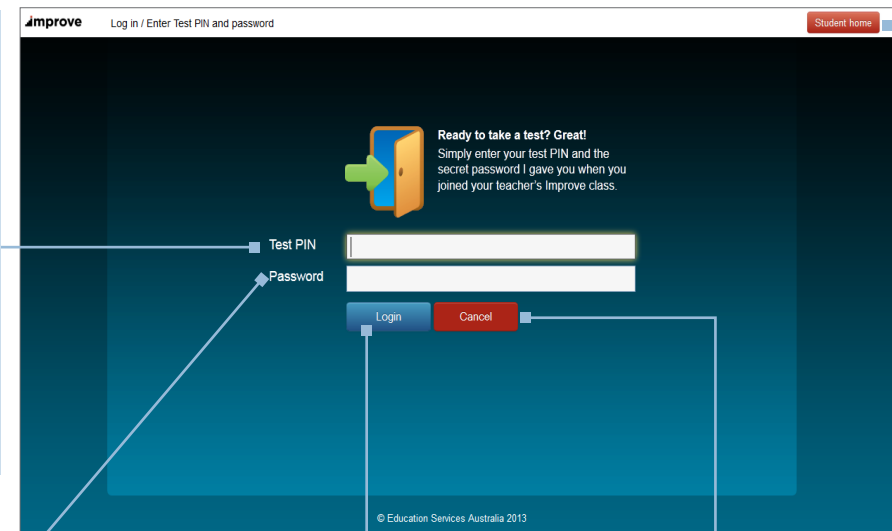
You will need your password and a test PIN to log in and access a test.



From the student dashboard select **Take a test**.

Test PIN

Enter the PIN your teacher gave you to access the test. It is not case sensitive. If you do not have the PIN or have forgotten it, ask your teacher for help.



Password

Enter the password you were given when you joined your teacher's Improve class. Your password is two words separated by a space and is not case sensitive. If you have forgotten your password, ask your teacher for help.

Login

Select **Login** to continue. Note: If any details are not recognised, an error message will display advising which field is incomplete.

Cancel

Select **Cancel** to return to the previous page.

Student home

Select this button to return to the student dashboard.

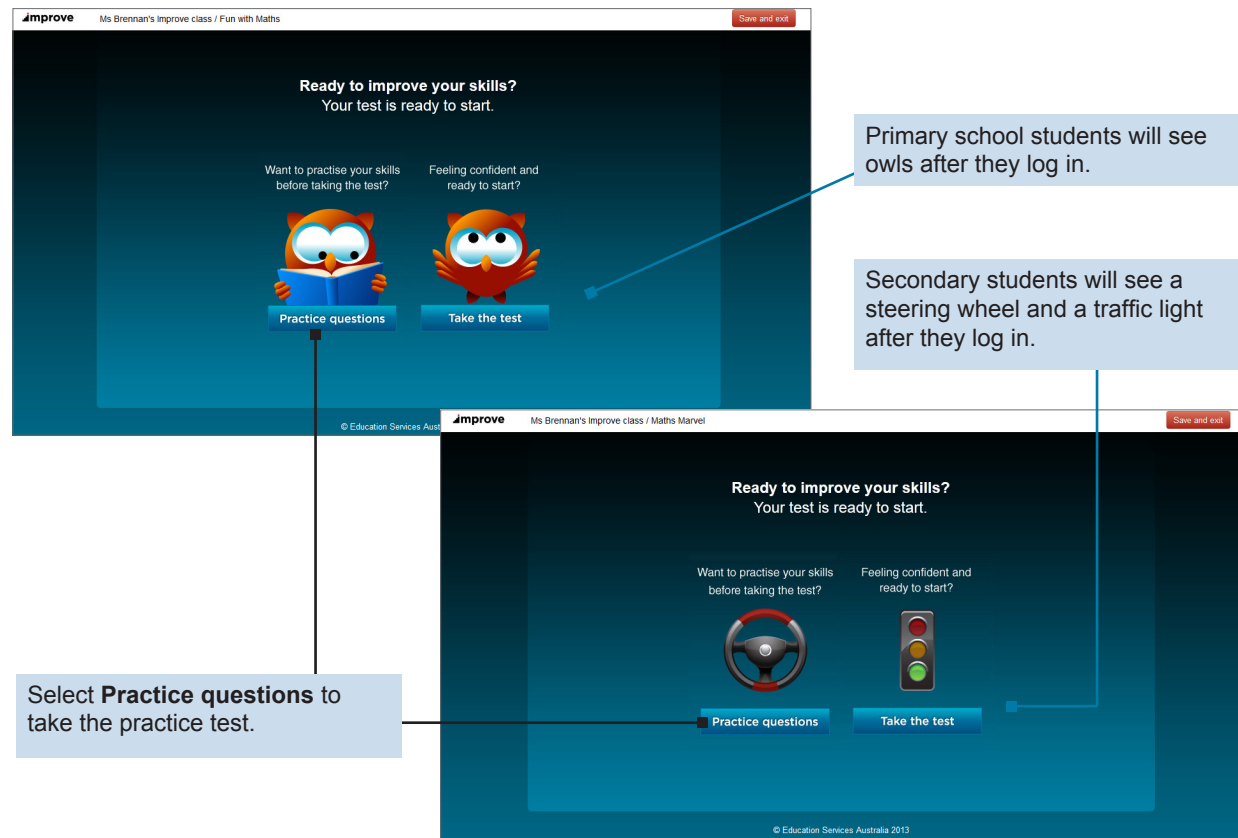
Access a practice test

A practice test consists of three questions and is designed to familiarise you with the layout of tests, how to navigate and the types of questions you may encounter in Improve.

Practice tests are not compulsory and the results are not recorded. There are generally fewer questions in a practice test than the actual test and there is no time limit.

You will only be able to access the practice questions prior to your first test attempt.

Buttons are presented with images that differ depending on whether you are a primary or secondary student.



View practice questions

Question types

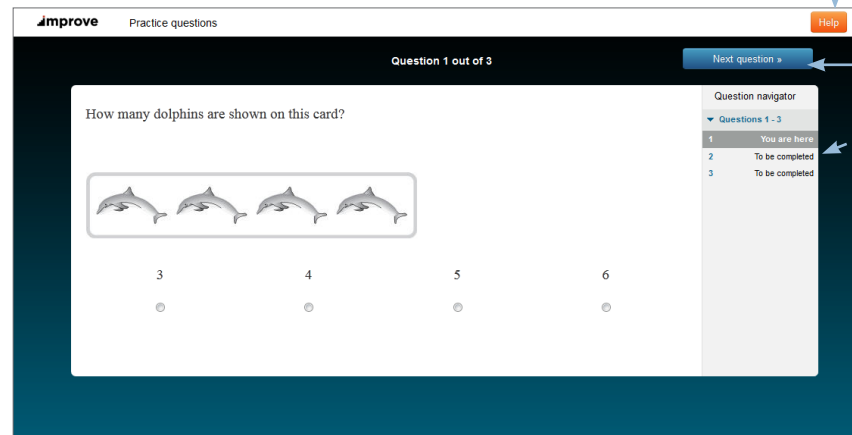
Practice questions will be either:

- multiple choice – select your answer from the options
- short response – enter your answer into the box displayed below the question.

Select the **Help** button if you need assistance with the practice questions page, or would like a detailed explanation of the screen elements.

The question navigator can be used to:

- see which questions have been answered
- see which question number is currently displayed on screen
- see which questions are yet to be completed
- move easily from one question to another by selecting the question number.



Next question/Finish

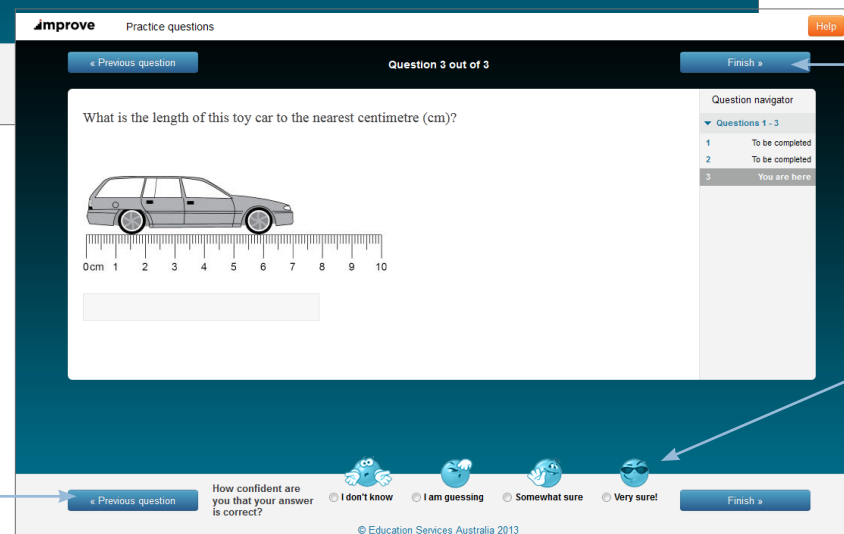
The **Next question** button takes you to the next question in the test.

Finish replaces **Next question** for the last question in a test.

Previous question

This button takes you to the previous question in a test.

This button will not appear with the first question in a test.



Confidence levels

If confidence levels appear at the bottom of a question you must select how confident you are that your answer is correct before you can move to the next question.

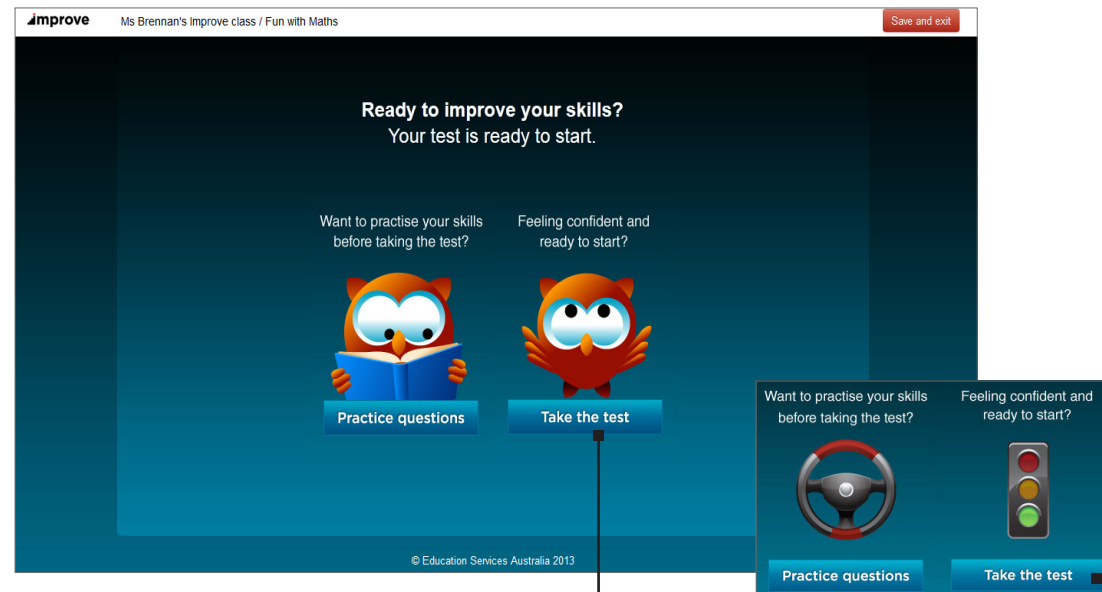
These may not appear if your teacher decided that they are not necessary.

Access a test

The test that your teacher has selected for you will help to determine your level of skill and knowledge in the relevant subject area.

You may have up to three attempts at the test, depending on what the teacher has chosen as appropriate.

When you have completed the test, associated learning activities will become available. These activities are designed to help you to further your knowledge. There are more details about learning activities later in this guide.



After you log in using the relevant test PIN and your password, select **Take the test** to begin.

If you are a secondary student you will see a steering wheel and a traffic light instead of owls.

View a test

The actual test is slightly different from the practice questions. There will probably be more questions, a timer may appear above the question navigator and you may be able to save the test and return later.

Test name and attempt number

The name of the test and the attempt number you are undertaking appears here. Depending on the type of test, you may be permitted to attempt it as many as three times.

Help

Select **Help** if you need assistance with the question page. You will see an overview of the page elements and an explanation of what you can do.

Finish test

The test ends when you select this button. The test will then be marked even if you didn't answer all the questions.

Save and exit

Select this button to save your answers and exit Improve without finishing the test. You can complete the test at a later time; however, if the test is timed, exiting will not stop the timer. In this case, any questions that are not completed when the time expires will be marked as incorrect.

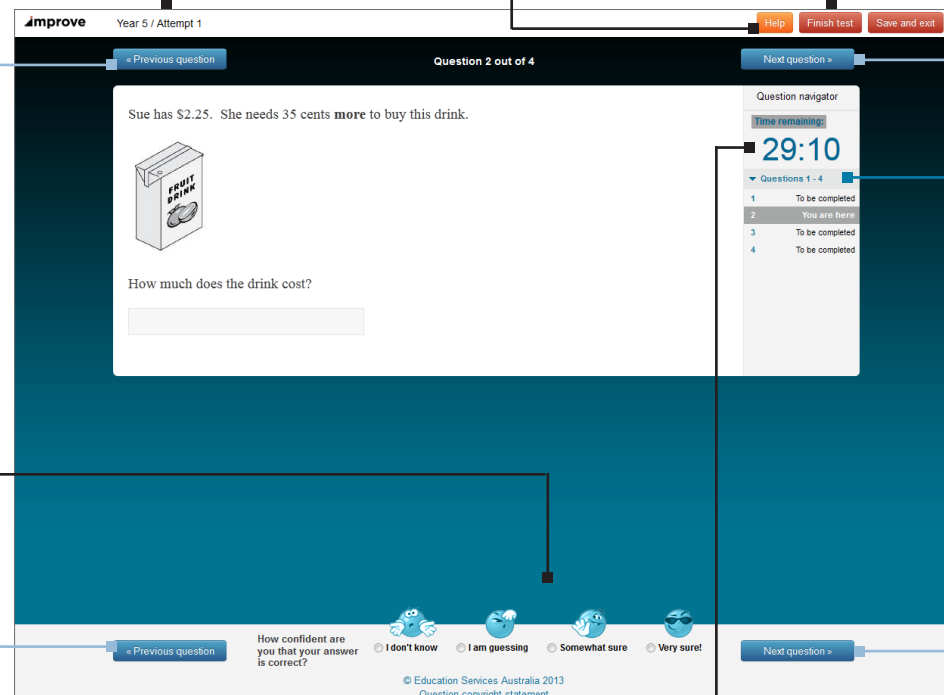
Previous question

This button takes you to the previous question. It is not displayed with the first question of a test.

Confidence levels

If confidence levels appear at the bottom of a question you must select how confident you are that your answer is correct before you can move to the next question.

There may be no confidence level indicators if your teacher decided that they are not necessary.



The question navigator can be used to:

- see which questions have been answered
- see which question number is currently displayed on screen
- see which questions are yet to be completed
- move easily from one question to another by selecting the question number.

Next question

This button takes you to the next question. This button is replaced with a **Finish** button for the last question of a test.

Time remaining

If a timer appears it will display exactly how long, in minutes and seconds, you have to complete the test.

Other question types

You may also see questions that require you to:

- choose more than one answer (multiple response)
- state the correct order of answers by numbering them from 1 to 4 (order phrase)

The screenshot shows a question titled "Question 1 out of 2". The question text is: "There are four hyphens used in this text. Which two uses are correct?" The text provided is: "The scream was ear-shattering. We ran in the direction of the scream and found a middle-aged woman sprawled-flat on the ground. She pointed down an alley and we saw a tall man squeezing between some broken-paling in a fence." Below the text are four checkboxes with labels: "broken-paling", "middle-aged", "sprawled-flat", and "ear-shattering". A "Next question >" button is at the top right. A "Question navigator" sidebar on the right shows "Questions 1 - 2", with "1" marked "You are here" and "2" marked "To be completed".

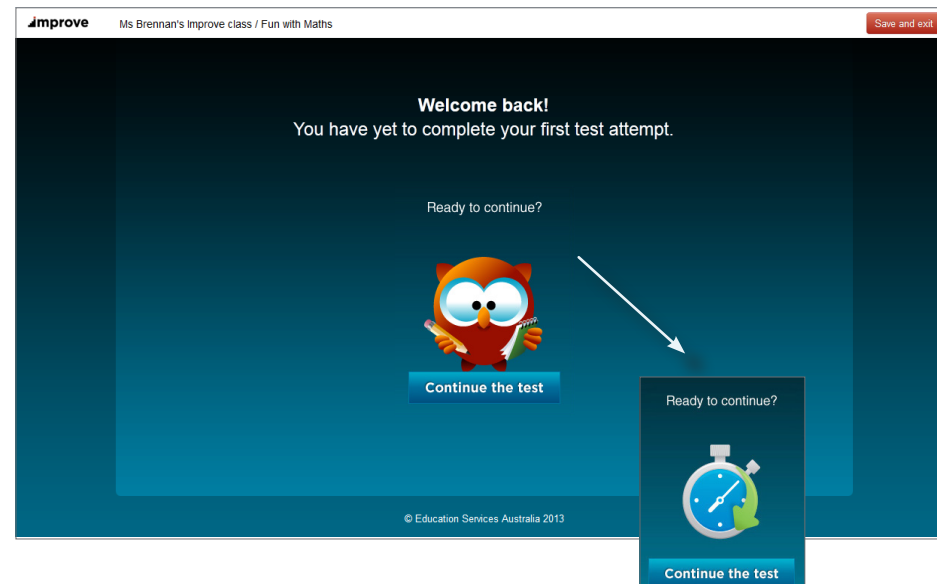
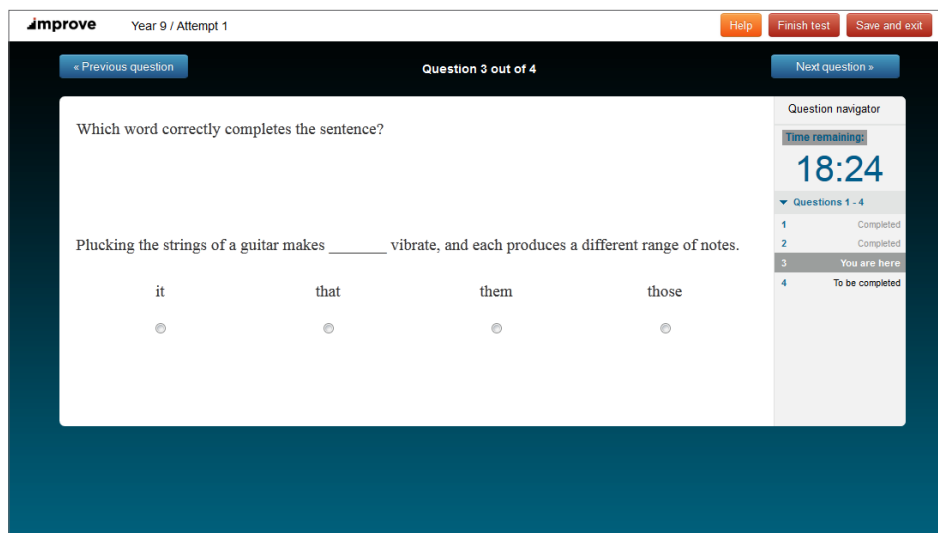
This is an example of a **multiple response** question. You can choose more than one answer.

Use your mouse to select the checkboxes for the answers you want to choose. Be careful when choosing more than one answer as they must all be right if the question is to be marked as correct.

The screenshot shows a question titled "Question 2 out of 2". The question text is: "A bird is walking across a beach. Write the numbers 1 to 4 to put the pictures in order." Below the text are four small images of a bird in different positions on a beach, each with a corresponding empty box for a number. Above the images is a bar that says "Calculator allowed; protractor allowed; ruler allowed; counters, blocks". A "Previous question" button is at the top left, and a "Finish" button is at the top right. A "Question navigator" sidebar on the right shows "Questions 1 - 2", with "1" marked "To be completed" and "2" marked "You are here". At the bottom, there is a confidence scale with four options: "I don't know", "I am guessing", "Somewhat sure", and "Very sure!".

This is an example of an **order phrase** question. You must state the correct order of the answers by entering the numbers 1 to 4 in each box. You must enter a number into each box.

Take a test



For each question, select or enter your answer and choose a confidence level (if available), then select the **Next question** button or use the question navigator to move to the next question. Questions can be completed in any order.

If a test is timed, the timer will display above the question navigator. When the timer runs out, any unanswered questions will be marked as incorrect.

When you have answered all the questions, select the **Finish** button on the page or the **Finish test** button in the menu bar to end the test.

Your test results will be available to you and your teacher straightaway.

If you need to exit Improve before you have finished the test select **Save and exit**. Your answers will be saved and you can return to the test at another time. However, if your test is timed, logging out will not stop the timer and any questions that are not answered when the time expires will be marked as incorrect.

To return to the test, log in using the same test PIN and password and select **Continue the test**.

The test will resume from the page that was open when you exited.

Primary students will see an owl and secondary students will see a stopwatch.

View test results

The test results page displays:

- the questions
- the answers chosen by you
- an indication of whether the answer is correct (tick or cross)
- the overall score for the test
- the test attempt number
- any questions requiring teacher response
- a **Print report** button.

Indicates that this is the first test attempt.

Select the **Save and exit** button to close the browser window and exit Improve.

When you have finished reviewing your results, select **Continue** to access learning activities, return to the dashboard or take the test again (if further attempts are available). All assigned activities must be completed before a test can be retaken.

Print report button.

The questions display with your answer and whether or not correct indicated by a tick or a cross. Select the question or the magnifying glass to enlarge the view.

Here are the results for your first test attempt.

Scroll down to see all your results, and select a question to see more detail.

Choose Print report to print your results.

The results page for the second test contains a link to previous test results.

The results page for the third test contains links to the results for both previous tests.

Awaiting teacher response

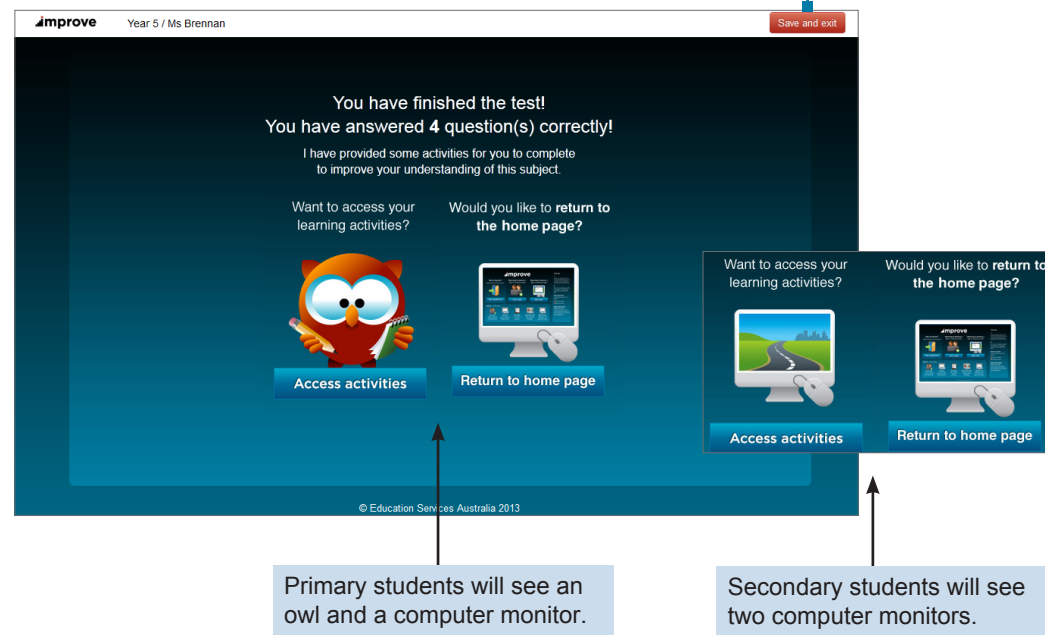
Some questions will need to be marked by your teacher. These will be listed separately and display the text 'Awaiting teacher response'.

Access post-test activities

All questions are created with at least one related learning resource. You will have an opportunity to complete these activities at the end of the test.

If all questions were answered correctly, you will see the screen below. You can choose to access the activities now, return to the dashboard or exit Improve.

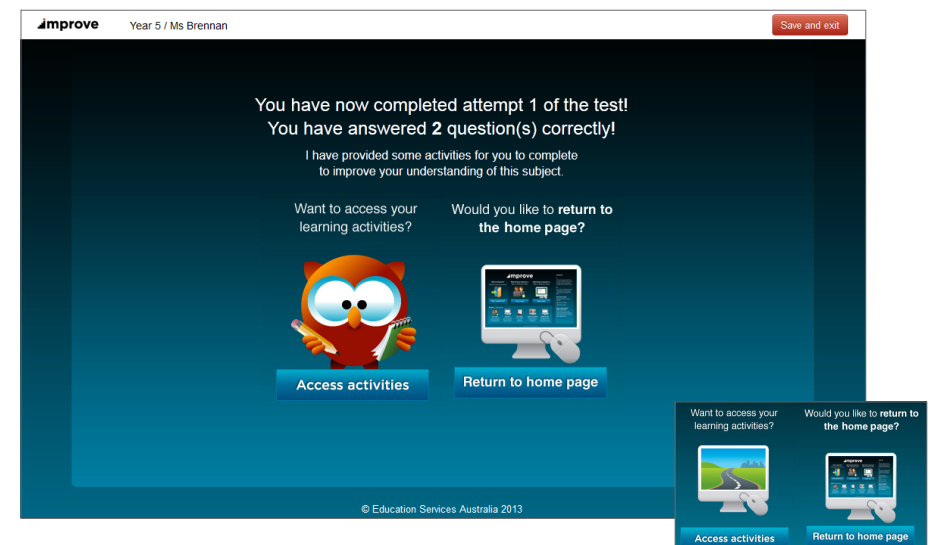
If you do not wish to undertake the activities at this time, select the **Save and exit** button. When you are ready, log in again using the same test PIN and password.



If some of your answers were incorrect, there may be an opportunity to take the test again as every test in Improve is created with either one, two or three attempts.

If further attempts of the test are available and you would like to take the test again straightaway, you can do so after completing the activity (or activities) associated with the incorrectly answered question(s).

In this case, you will need to select the **Access activities** button to continue.



Complete a learning activity

The page will open to the learning activity that relates to the incorrectly answered question.

In the example below, only one of the five activities needs to be completed to enable the second attempt of the test to be made available. The remaining four activities can be completed at any time.

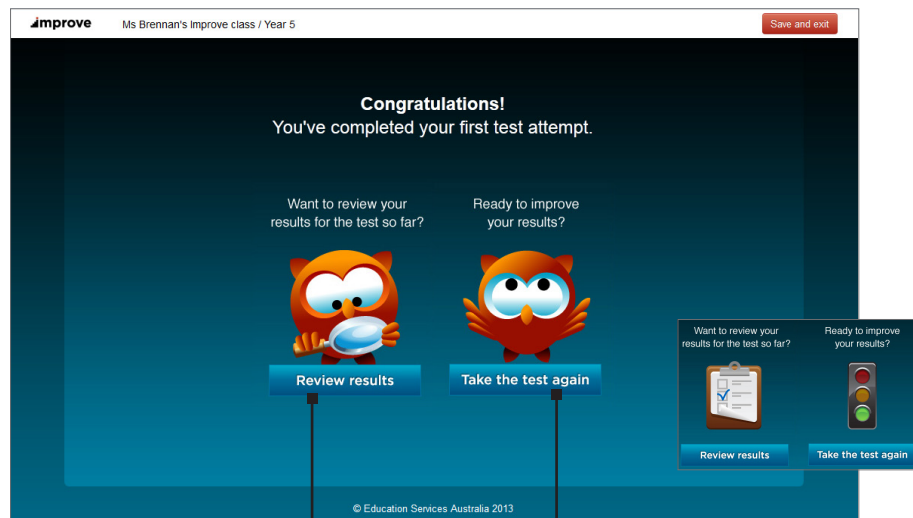
The screenshot shows the 'improve' website interface for 'Year 5 / Activities'. The main content area displays 'Activity 5 of 5' titled 'Meaning in context: literal and figurative'. The activity content includes a cartoon character and text explaining the difference between literal and figurative language. A 'Start' button is visible. At the bottom, there is a progress bar showing 'You have 1 activity to complete' and a 'Completed' checkbox. A 'View in full screen' button is also present. Callouts provide instructions for various elements:

- View here to see current activity number and total number of activities.** (Points to the 'Activity 5 of 5' header)
- Select this button to view other activities.** (Points to the '« Previous activity' button)
- Select this button to save completed activities and exit Improve.** (Points to the 'Save and exit' button)
- Follow the prompts to complete the activity.** (Points to the 'Start' button)
- Select this checkbox when the activity has been completed.** (Points to the 'Completed' checkbox)
- Select this button to enlarge the page.** (Points to the 'View in full screen' button)
- Check here to see how many activities need to be completed to enable access to the next test attempt.** (Points to the 'You have 1 activity to complete' progress bar)

Retake a test

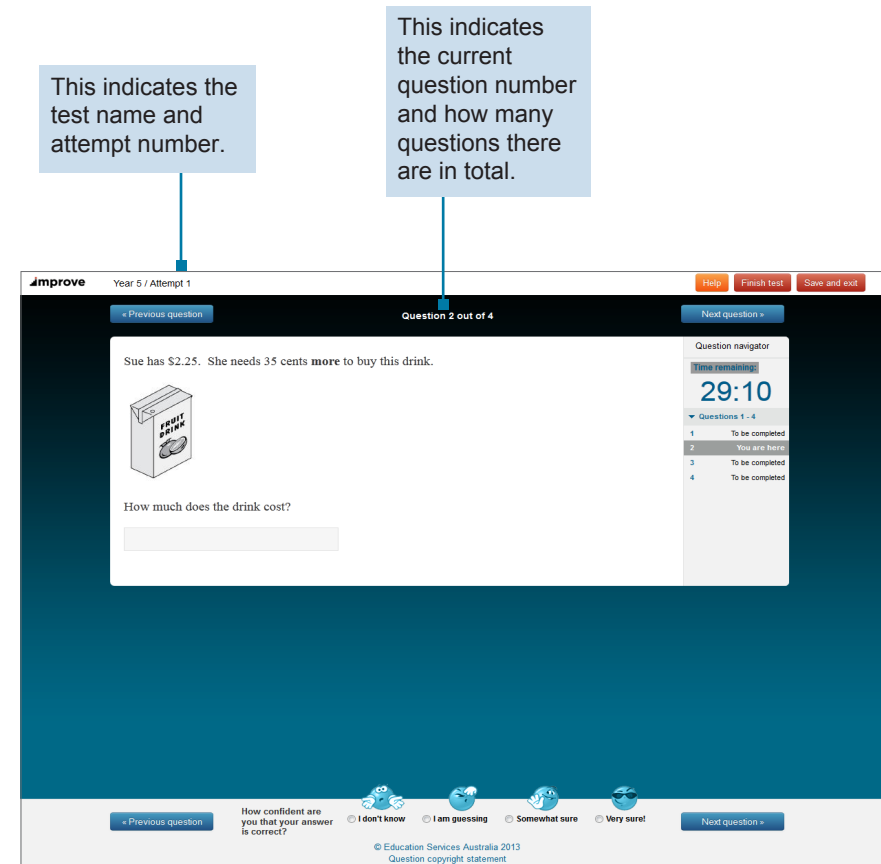
You can retake the test straightaway, or exit and return at a later time.

You have the opportunity to review your results for the previous attempt before retaking the test, if desired.



Review results of previous test attempt(s).

Retake the test.



This indicates the test name and attempt number.

This indicates the current question number and how many questions there are in total.

If the test is timed, the timer will restart with each test attempt.

If it is the second of only two possible test attempts, all test questions will be available but will be presented in a different order.

If three attempts of the test are available, each subsequent test will contain only incorrectly answered questions.

When you complete the test, you can select either the **Finish** button or **Finish Test** button to submit your answer(s) and view your results.

View all learning activities

There are two ways to view learning activities:

- by selecting the **Continue** button after reviewing test results
- by selecting the **Access activities** button from the dashboard.

The type and length of activities varies. Each activity will relate to the subject area covered in the test.

If at any point you are unsure about what to do, ask your teacher for help.

You can select the **Return to results** button to review the questions and their answers.

After you complete your first activity, the **Return to results** button changes to **'Previous activity'**.

You can use this button to return to any activity that you have completed.

Secondary students will see a red flag instead of an owl.

This indicator shows you how many activities you have to complete.

Select **View in full screen** to enlarge the activity.

When you finish the activity, select the **Completed** checkbox.

The **Next activity** button remains inactive until the current activity is marked as **Completed**.

When the final activity is completed, this button changes to **'Finish'** and you will need to select this button to continue.

If you need to exit before finishing all activities, select the **Save and exit** button and return at a later time. Any unfinished activities will recommence from the beginning.

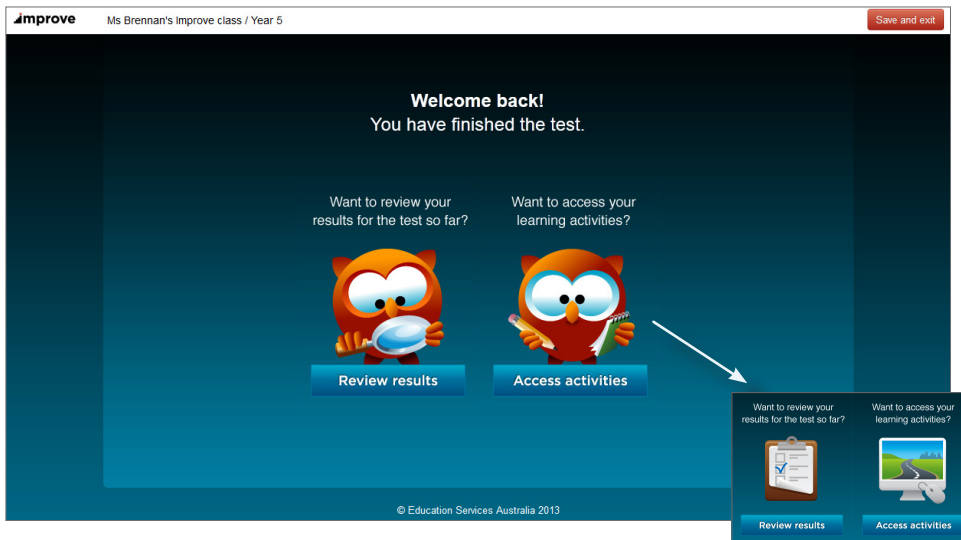


Review results – test completed

You can view your test results at any stage by logging in using the test PIN and your student password. The screen view will differ, depending on:

- whether or not a test was completed with 100% accuracy
- whether or not all activities were completed
- whether or not a test can be retaken.

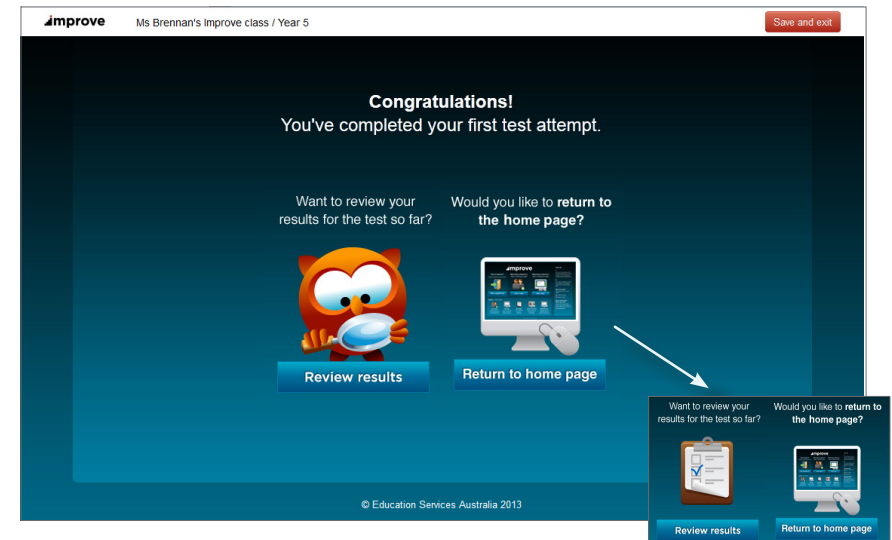
Each option is presented with its own image. Primary students will see either an owl or a computer monitor and secondary students will see a clipboard, a computer monitor or a traffic light.



You will see this view if:

- you completed the test with 100% accuracy
- you did not complete the learning activities.

Select either **Review results** or **Access activities**.

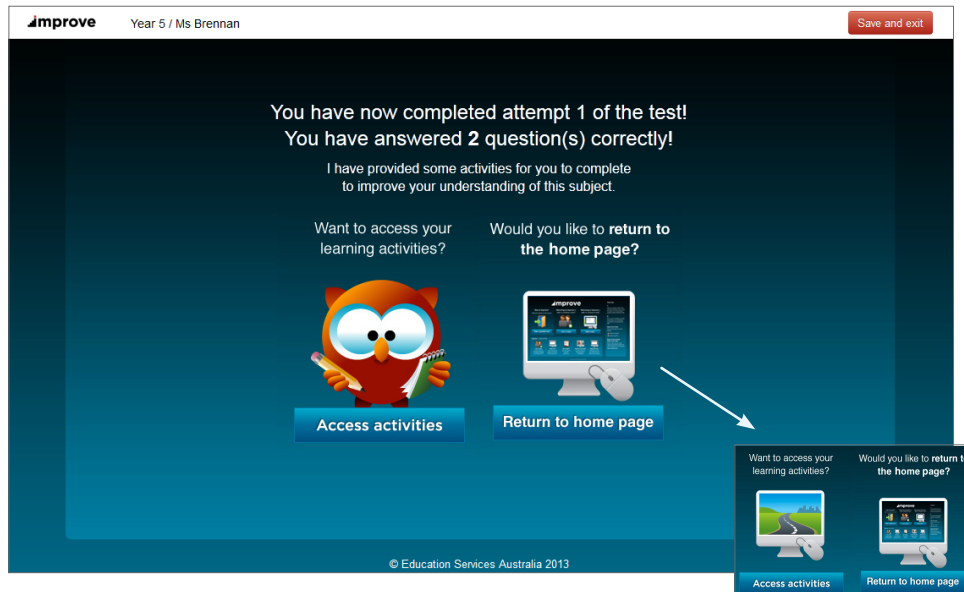


You will see this view if:

- you completed the test with 100% accuracy
- you completed all learning activities.

Select either **Review results** or **Return to dashboard**.

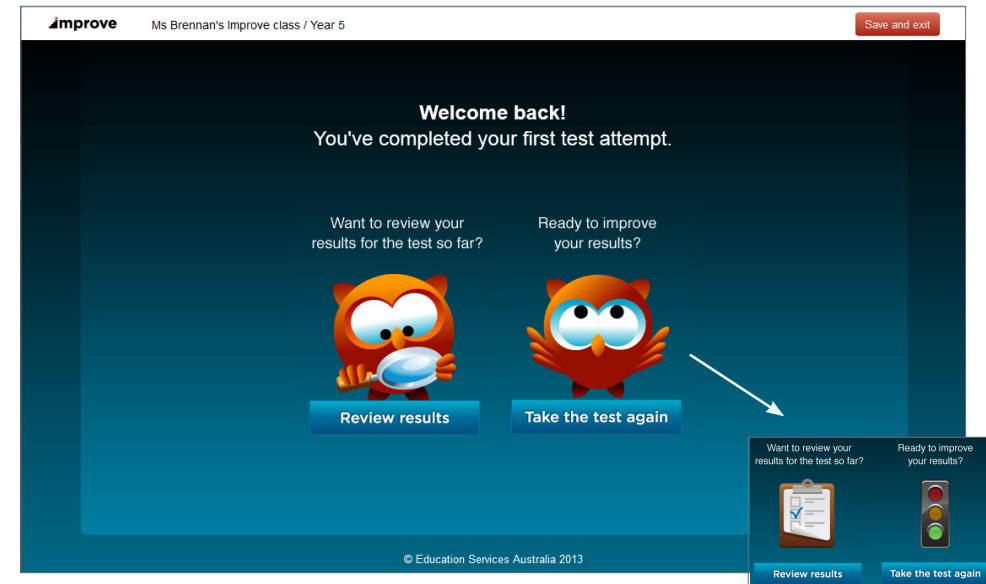
Review results – test and learning activities completed



You will see this view if:

- you answered some questions incorrectly
- the test can be retaken
- you did not complete the learning activities.

Select either **Access activities** or **Return to dashboard**.



You will see this view if:

- you answered some questions incorrectly
- the test can be retaken
- you completed all the learning activities.

Select either **Review results** or **Take the test again**.