

Empire State Screen:
Learning Needs Screen for Spanish-Speaking Adults

Instructions for use with Spanish-Speaking population:

1. *Determine linguistic dominance:*

For adults who speak Spanish and English, you will need to determine language dominance. Any combination of the following questions will help you in making the proper determination: What is your native language? In what language did you receive most of your formal schooling? What language is spoken at home? In what language are you likely to “think to yourself” in? In what language do you conduct most of your daily activities? In what language do you feel you read/write better in?

2. *In order to gather relevant background information, it is recommended that the interviewer ask the following questions on the front side of the screen.*

These questions are not “weighted” but provided anecdotal information that may be helpful in determining whether a full-scale psychological evaluation is necessary. Probing vague answers to these questions is encouraged. For example, if there is a reported history of substance abuse, the interviewer may wish to inquire as to a) what types of substances were used; b) for how long; and, c) is the client actively using or currently in remission)

3. *Survey portion of the screen.*

The questions on the back side of the screen require either a “yes” or “no” response. Record the response accordingly. On Question 7, the client is asked if “*they read a lot or only what they have to*”. If the client responds “**only what I have to**” (“**solo cuando tiene**”), record this as a “yes” response. At the bottom of the page, add all “yes” responses and all “no” responses separately; add these two totals and record on the line indicated; subtract 614 from this sum. If the final cut score is above 50, refer the client for a comprehensive diagnostic evaluation.