



Quick guide to using this Beyond Words resource

Who will this Beyond Words story help?

- Anyone who finds words hard to read e.g. due to a learning disability/ language barrier/ low literacy.
- Anyone who finds verbal instructions difficult to process and who needs extra time.

What is a Beyond Words story?

- Pictures are used to provide information without the need for any words. The pictures explain how the test will be done, what the person having the test needs to do and what it might feel like.
- The story also reminds the tester about allowing time for the person to understand and consent to the procedure, and about the role of the person's supporter/ companion (if present).

Tips on how to take a successful test

1. Remember that by law you must make reasonable adjustments to enable a person with a learning disability to complete the test.
2. The supporter/ companion may need to guide the person being tested by asking them questions about the pictures to check they understand what is going to happen, e.g. "I wonder who that is?", "I wonder how he/ she is feeling?", "Are you ready to have the test now?", "Do you need a bit more time to get ready?"
3. You can show the supporter a quiet area for them to sit in their car so that they can read the leaflet without feeling any time pressure. Check in on them after 5 or 10 minutes.
4. Offer to test the supporter as well as this may make it easier for the person who has symptoms to engage with the procedure.
5. Make sure you have the mobile phone number of the supporter as well as the 'patient' and arrange for the result to be sent to both of them.