

NAPLAN ONLINE — TECHNICAL ISSUES

**518. Hon SIMON O'BRIEN to the Minister for Education and Training:**

Can the minister advise us what went wrong with the NAPLAN testing earlier this week?

**Hon SUE ELLERY replied:**

I thank the member for the question. "Connectivity" is the word that was used most commonly to describe what happened. It meant that students were not able to connect and even when they were in the middle of progressing through NAPLAN Online, they would lose connectivity; essentially, there would be dropouts. I am advised as a result of a ring around of all the states today that the only two jurisdictions where there were not significant technical issues were Queensland and the Northern Territory. Therefore, every other state in Australia experienced difficulties. Western Australia had the highest proportion of its students impacted by those technical difficulties. The member will remember that the trials for NAPLAN Online began in 2016 in Western Australia, so I do not accept the notion that somehow we are still testing the system and transitioning or that they have not had a reasonable period to get this right.