English Language Proficiency Standards

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Introduction

The Council of Chief State School Officers has utilized the services of WestEd and the Understanding Language Initiative at Stanford University to develop a new set of English Language Proficiency Standards. The English Language Proficiency Standards, developed for grades K, 1, 2-3, 4-5, 6-8, and 9-12 highlight and amplify the critical language, knowledge about language, and skills using language that are in college- and career-ready standards and that are necessary for English language learners to be successful in schools.

The 10 standards highlight a set of language functions (what students do with language to accomplish content-specific tasks) and language forms (vocabulary, grammar, and discourse specific to a particular content area or discipline) that are needed by English language learners as they develop competence in English language arts and literacy, mathematics, and science (Bunch, Kiber, & Pimentel, 2013; CCSSO, 2012; Lee, Quinn, & Valdez, 2013; Moschkovich, 2012; van Lier & Walqui, 2012). The five English language proficiency levels for each of the standards address the question, “What might an English language learner’s language use look like at each English language proficiency level as he or she progresses toward independent participation in grade-appropriate activities?”

HOW TO NAVIGATE THIS DOCUMENT

The English Language Proficiency Standards and supporting tools in this document are arranged in layers, with more detail added in each new layer. Use the hyperlinks in the bookmarks to the left of each page to navigate to the level of detail needed. The bookmark feature [in PDFs] and the navigation pane or Document Map [in Word documents] can be activated using the document tool bar. The English Language Proficiency Standards with correspondences are labeled using the dot notation system (e.g., English Language Proficiency Kindergarten Standard 3 = ELP K.3.).

GUIDING PRINCIPLES

1. POTENTIAL

English language learners have the same potential as native speakers of English to engage in cognitively complex tasks. Regardless of English language proficiency level, all English language learners need access to challenging, grade-appropriate curriculum, instruction, and assessment and benefit from activities requiring them to create linguistic output (Ellis, 2008a; 2008b). Even though English language learners will produce language that includes features that distinguish them from their native English-speaking peers, “it is possible [for English language learners] to achieve the standards for college- and career-readiness” (NGA Center & CCSSO, 2010b, p. 1).

2. FUNDS OF KNOWLEDGE

English language learners’ primary languages and other social, cultural, and linguistic background knowledge and resources (i.e., their “funds of knowledge” [Moll, Amanti, Neff, & Gonzalez, 1992]) are useful tools to help them navigate back and forth among their schools’ and their communities’ valuable resources as they develop the social, cultural, and linguistic competencies required for effective communication in English. In particular, an awareness of culture should be embedded within curriculum, instruction, and assessment provided to English language learners since “the more one knows about the other language and culture, the greater the chances of creating the appropriate cultural interpretation of a written or spoken text” (National Standards in Foreign Language Education Project, 2006, p. 37).

3. DIVERSITY IN ENGLISH LANGUAGE LEARNER PROGRESS

IN ACQUIRING ENGLISH LANGUAGE PROFICIENCY

A student’s ability to demonstrate proficiency at a particular English language proficiency level will depend on context, content-area focus, and developmental factors. Thus, a student’s designated English language
proficiency level represents a typical current performance level, not a fixed status. An English language proficiency level does not identify a student (e.g., “Level 1 student”), but rather identifies what a student knows and can do at a particular stage of English language development, for example, “a student at Level 1” or “a student whose listening performance is at Level 1.” Progress in acquiring English may vary depending upon program type, age at which the student entered the program, initial English proficiency level, native language literacy, and other factors (Bailey & Heritage, 2010; Byrnes & Canale, 1987; Lowe & Stansfield, 1988). Within these English Language Proficiency Standards, we assume simultaneous development of language and content-area knowledge, skills, and abilities. English language learners do not need to wait until their English language proficiency is sufficiently developed to participate in content area instruction and assessment. “Research has shown that English language learners can develop literacy in English even as their oral proficiency in English develops” (Bunch, Kibler, & Pimentel, 2013, p. 15).

4. SCAFFOLDING

English language learners at all levels of English language proficiency should be provided with scaffolding in order to reach the next reasonable proficiency level as they develop grade-appropriate language capacities, particularly those that involve content-specific vocabulary and registers. The type and intensity of the scaffolding provided will depend on each student’s ability to undertake the particular task independently while continuing to uphold appropriate complexity for the student.

5. STUDENTS WITH LIMITED OR INTERRUPTED FORMAL EDUCATION

English language learners with limited or interrupted formal education must be provided access to targeted supports that allow them to develop foundational literacy skills in an accelerated time frame (DeCapua & Marshall, 2011). Educators can refer to “Reading Standards: Foundational Skills” in Ohio’s Learning Standards for English Language Arts for this purpose.

6. SPECIAL NEEDS

English language learners with disabilities can benefit from English language development services (and it is recommended that language development goals be part of their individualized education programs [IEPs]). Educators should be aware that these students may take slightly different paths toward English language proficiency.

7. ACCESS SUPPORTS AND ACCOMMODATIONS

Based on their individual needs, all English language learners, including English language learners with disabilities, should be provided access supports and accommodations for assessments, so that their assessment results are valid and reflect what they know and can do. Educators should be aware that these access supports and accommodations can be used in classroom instruction and assessment to ensure that students have access to instruction and assessment based on the English Language Proficiency Standards. When identifying the access supports and accommodations that should be considered for English language learners and English language learners with IEPs or 504 plans during classroom instruction and assessment, it is particularly useful to consider English language learner needs in relation to receptive and productive modalities. (See footnote in Table 2 for more information.)

8. MULTIMEDIA, TECHNOLOGY, AND NEW LITERACIES

New understandings around literacy (e.g., visual and digital literacies) have emerged around use of information and communication technologies (International Reading Association, 2009). Relevant, strategic, and appropriate multimedia tools and technology, aligned to the English Language Proficiency Standards, should be integrated into the design of curriculum, instruction, and assessment for English language learners.
DESIGN FEATURES OF THE STANDARDS

The 10 English Language Proficiency Standards are designed for collaborative use by English as a second language (ESL)/English language development and content area teachers in both English language development and content-area instruction. Explicit recognition that language acquisition takes place across the content areas fosters collaboration among educators and benefits English language learners’ learning experiences.

At present, second language development is seen largely as the responsibility of the ESL/English language development teacher, while content development as that of the subject area teacher. Given the new [content] standards’ explicitness in how language must be used to enact disciplinary knowledge and skills, such a strict division of labor is no longer viable. Content area teachers must understand and leverage the language and literacy practices found in science, mathematics, history/social studies, and the language arts to enhance students’ engagement with rich content and fuel their academic performance. ESL/English language development teachers must cultivate a deeper knowledge of the disciplinary language that English language learner students need, and help their students to grow in using it. Far greater collaboration and sharing of expertise are needed among ESL/English language development teachers and content area teachers at the secondary level. At the elementary level, far greater alignment and integration are needed across ESL/English language development and subject matter learning objectives, curriculum, and lesson plans that teachers in self-contained classrooms prepare and deliver (Understanding Language Initiative, 2012, p. 2).

The levels 1-5 descriptors for each of the 10 English Language Proficiency Standards describe targets for English language learner performance by the end of each English language proficiency level at a particular point in time. However, students may demonstrate a range of abilities within each English language proficiency level. By describing the end of each English language proficiency level for each English Language Proficiency Standard, the levels 1-5 descriptors reflect a linear progression across the proficiency levels of an aligned set of knowledge, skills, and abilities. This is done for purposes of presentation and understanding; actual second language acquisition does not necessarily occur in a linear fashion within or across proficiency levels.

An English language learner at any given point along his or her trajectory of English learning may exhibit some abilities (e.g., speaking skills) at a higher proficiency level, while at the same time exhibiting other abilities (e.g., writing skills) at a lower proficiency level. Additionally, a student may successfully perform a particular skill at a lower proficiency level but need review at the next higher proficiency level when presented with a new or more complex type of text. As a reminder, by definition, English language learner status is a temporary status. Thus, an English language proficiency level does not identify a student (e.g., “a Level 1 student”), but rather identifies what a student knows and can do at a particular stage of English language development (e.g., “a student at Level 1” or “a student whose listening performance is at Level 1”).
ORGANIZATION OF THE STANDARDS

For the purposes of clarity, the 10 English Language Proficiency Standards are organized according to a schema that represents each standard’s importance to English language learners’ participation in the practices called for by college- and career-ready English language art and literacy, mathematics, and science standards (G. Bunch, personal communication, August 15, 2013; Bunch, Kibler, & Pimentel, 2013).

TABLE 1.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>ORGANIZATION OF THE ENGLISH LANGUAGE PROFICIENCY STANDARDS IN RELATION TO PARTICIPATION IN CONTENT AREA PRACTICES</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1. construct meaning from oral presentations and literary and informational text through grade-appropriate listening, reading, and viewing</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2. participate in grade-appropriate oral and written exchanges of information, ideas, and analyses, responding to peer, audience, or reader comments and questions</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3. speak and write about grade-appropriate complex literary and informational texts and topics</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4. construct grade-appropriate oral and written claims and support them with reasoning and evidence</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5. conduct research and evaluate and communicate findings to answer questions or solve problems</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>6. analyze and critique the arguments of others orally and in writing</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>7. adapt language choices to purpose, task, and audience when speaking and writing</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>8. determine the meaning of words and phrases in oral presentations and literary and informational text</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>9. create clear and coherent grade-appropriate speech and text</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>10. make accurate use of standard English to communicate in grade-appropriate speech and writing</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

The English Language Proficiency Standards are interrelated and can be used separately or in combination. (In particular, as shown above, Standards 8-10 support the other seven standards.) The standards do not include curriculum statements, nor do they privilege a single approach to the teaching of social and expressive communication or the teaching of grammar; instead, the standards and descriptors for each proficiency level leave room for teachers, curriculum developers, and states to determine how each English Language Proficiency Standard and descriptor should be reached and what additional topics should be addressed.

Standards 1 through 7 involve the language necessary for English language learners to engage in the central content-specific practices associated with English language arts and literacy, mathematics, and science. They begin with a focus on extraction of meaning and then progress to engagement in these practices.

Standards 8 through 10 hone in on some of the more micro-level linguistic features that are undoubtedly important to focus on, but only in the services of the other seven standards.
ALTERNATE ORGANIZATION OF THE ENGLISH LANGUAGE PROFICIENCY STANDARDS

The English Language Proficiency Standards might also be framed in relation to narrower domains of listening, speaking, reading, and writing and also in relation to broader receptive, productive, and interactive modalities. The interactive modalities category allows for emphasis on the need for English language learners to meaningfully engage with their peers during content area instruction. (Standards 9 and 10 address the linguistic structures of English and are framed in relation to Ohio’s standards for the English language arts Language domain.)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>MODALITIES</th>
<th>DOMAINS</th>
<th>CORRESPONDING ENGLISH LANGUAGE PROFICIENCY STANDARDS</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Receptive modalities:</td>
<td>Listening and Reading</td>
<td>1 construct meaning from oral presentations and literary and informational text through grade-appropriate listening, reading, and viewing</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>8 determine the meaning of words and phrases in oral presentations and literary and informational text</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Productive modalities:</td>
<td>Speaking and Writing</td>
<td>3 speak and write about grade-appropriate complex literary and informational texts and topic</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>4 construct grade-appropriate oral and written claims and support them with reasoning and evidence</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Interactive modalities:</td>
<td>Listening, Speaking, Reading, and Writing</td>
<td>2 participate in grade-appropriate oral and written exchanges of information, ideas, and analyses, responding to peer, audience, or reader comments and questions</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>5 conduct research and evaluate and communicate findings to answer questions or solve problems</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>6 analyze and critique the arguments of others orally and in writing</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

2 The terms receptive and productive language functions were used for the English Language Proficiency standards schema, rather than the newer American Council of Foreign Language Teaching (ACTFL) terms used in Phillips (2008), in keeping with the functional language terms used in the Council of Chief State School Officers (2012) ELPD Framework (which employs the earlier ACTFL terminology).

3 The ability to communicate via multiple modes of representation (e.g., non-verbal communication, oral, pictorial, graphic, textual) may be especially important for English language learners with certain types of disabilities. When identifying the access supports and accommodations that should be considered for English language learners and English language learners with IEPs or 504 plans, it is particularly useful to consider English language learner needs in relation to broader receptive, productive, and interactive modalities when listening, speaking, reading, or writing are not the explicit focus of the construct(s) being instructed or assessed.
## Grade 1 English Language Proficiency Standards

### GRADE 1: STANDARDS 1 AND 2

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>ELP STANDARD</th>
<th>BY THE END OF EACH ENGLISH LANGUAGE PROFICIENCY LEVEL, AN ENGLISH LANGUAGE LEARNER CAN . . .</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>LEVEL 1</strong></td>
<td><strong>LEVEL 2</strong></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1.1</td>
<td>An English Language Learner can . . .</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>construct meaning from oral presentations and literary and informational text through grade-</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>appropriate listening, reading, and viewing.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>with prompting and support (including context and visual aids), use a very limited set of</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>strategies to:</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>• identify a few key words from read-alouds, picture books, and oral presentations.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>use an emerging set of strategies to:</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>• identify key words and phrases from read-alouds, simple written texts, and oral presentations.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>use a developing set of strategies to:</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>• identify main topics,</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>• answer questions about key details</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>• retell some key details or events</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>from read-aloud texts, simple written texts, and oral presentations.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>use an increasing range of strategies to:</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>• identify main topics,</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>• ask and answer questions about an increasing number of key details</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>• retell familiar stories or episodes of stories</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>from read-alouds, written texts, and oral presentations.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>use a wide range of strategies to:</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>• identify main topics,</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>• ask and answer questions about key details</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>• retell stories, including key details</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>from read-alouds, written texts, and oral presentations.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1.2</td>
<td>An English Language Learner can . . .</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>participate in grade-appropriate oral and written exchanges of information, ideas, and analyses,</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>responding to peer, audience, or reader comments and questions.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>• listen to short conversations</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>• respond to simple yes/no and some wh- questions about familiar topics.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>• participate in short conversations.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>• take turns.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>• respond to simple yes/no and wh- questions about familiar topics.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>• participate in short discussions, conversations, and short written exchanges</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>• follow rules for discussion.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>• ask and answer simple questions about familiar topics.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>• participate in discussions, conversations, and written exchanges.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>• follow rules for discussion.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>• ask and answer questions about the comments of others.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>• contribute his or her own comments</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>• make comments of his or her own comments about a variety of topics and texts.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>• participate in extended discussions, conversations, and written exchanges.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>• follow rules for discussion.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>• ask and answer questions about the comments of others.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>• build on the comments of others.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>• contribute his or her own comments</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>• make comments of his or her own comments about a variety of topics and texts.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
## Grade 1 English Language Proficiency Standards, cont.

### GRADE 1: STANDARDS 3, 4, AND 5

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>ELP STANDARD</th>
<th>BY THE END OF EACH ENGLISH LANGUAGE PROFICIENCY LEVEL, AN ENGLISH LANGUAGE LEARNER CAN . . .</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1.3</td>
<td>Level 1 Level 2 Level 3 Level 4 Level 5</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1.3</td>
<td>An English Language Learner can . . . communicate simple information or feelings about familiar topics or experiences.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>• communicate simple messages about familiar topics, experiences, or events.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>• deliver short simple oral presentations about familiar topics, stories, experiences, or events.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>• using simple sentences and drawings or illustrations,</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>• deliver short simple oral presentations about familiar topics, stories, experiences, or events.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>• compose written texts about a variety of texts, topics, experiences, or events.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>• including a few descriptive details,</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>• deliver oral presentations about a variety of texts, topics, experiences, or events.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1.4</td>
<td>An English Language Learner can . . . express a preference or opinion about familiar topics or experiences.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>• express a preference or opinion about familiar topics or experiences.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>• express an opinion about familiar topics, experiences, or events.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>• express an opinion about familiar stories, experiences, or events.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>• express opinions about a variety of texts topics, experiences, and events.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1.5</td>
<td>An English Language Learner can . . . conduct research and evaluate and communicate findings to answer questions or solve problems.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>• conduct research and evaluate and communicate findings to answer questions or solve problems.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>• with prompting and support from adults,</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>• participate in shared research projects</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>• gather information from provided sources showing limited control.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>• participate in shared research projects</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>• gather information from provided sources showing emerging control.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>• participate in shared research projects</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>• gather information from provided sources showing independent control.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

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**Ohio Department of Education**
Grade 1 English Language Proficiency Standards, cont.

### GRADE 1: STANDARDS 6, 7, AND 8

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>ELP STANDARD</th>
<th>BY THE END OF EACH ENGLISH LANGUAGE PROFICIENCY LEVEL, AN ENGLISH LANGUAGE LEARNER CAN . . .</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>1.6</strong></td>
<td><strong>LEVEL 1</strong></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>An English Language Learner can . . . analyze and critique the arguments of others orally and in writing.</td>
<td>with prompting and support, • identify a reason an author or a speaker gives to support a point.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>1.7</strong></td>
<td><strong>LEVEL 1</strong></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>An English Language Learner can . . . adapt language choices to purpose, task, and audience when speaking and writing.</td>
<td>[Standard introduced at Level 2.]</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>1.8</strong></td>
<td><strong>LEVEL 1</strong></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>An English Language Learner can . . . determine the meaning of words and phrases in oral presentations and literary and informational text.</td>
<td>with prompting and support (including context and visual aids), • recognize the meaning of a few frequently occurring words and phrases in simple oral presentations and read-alouds about familiar topics, experiences, or events.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Grade 1 English Language Proficiency Standards, cont.

**GRADE 1: STANDARDS 9 AND 10**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>ELP STANDARD</th>
<th>BY THE END OF EACH ENGLISH LANGUAGE PROFICIENCY LEVEL, AN ENGLISH LANGUAGE LEARNER CAN . . .</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>1.9</strong></td>
<td>An English Language Learner can . . . create clear and coherent grade-appropriate speech and text.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>LEVEL 1</td>
<td>Standard introduced at Level 2.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>LEVEL 2</td>
<td>with support (including visual aids and modeled sentences), • retell an event • present simple information with emerging control of some frequently occurring linking words.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>LEVEL 3</td>
<td>with support (including modeled sentences), • retell (in speech or writing) a simple sequence of events in the correct order • present simple information with developing control of some frequently occurring linking words (e.g., and, so) and temporal words (e.g., first, then).</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>LEVEL 4</td>
<td>• recount two or three events in sequence • present simple information about a topic with increasingly independent control of some temporal words (e.g., next, after), and some frequently occurring linking words (and, so).</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>LEVEL 5</td>
<td>• recount a more complex sequence of events in the correct order • introduce a topic • provide some facts about a topic using temporal words to signal event order and using frequently occurring conjunctions (linking words or phrases).</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

| **1.10**     | An English Language Learner can . . . make accurate use of standard English to communicate in grade-appropriate speech and writing. |
| LEVEL 1      | with support (including context and visual aids), • understand and use a small number of frequently occurring nouns and verbs, • understand and use very simple sentences • respond to simple questions. |
| LEVEL 2      | with support (including visual aids and sentences) • recognize and use frequently occurring nouns, verbs, prepositions, and conjunctions (e.g., and, but, or) produce simple sentences. |
| LEVEL 3      | with support (including modeled sentences), • use some singular and plural nouns • use verbs in the present and past tenses • use frequently occurring prepositions and conjunctions • produce and expand simple sentences in response to prompts. |
| LEVEL 4      | • use an increasing number of singular and plural nouns, and verbs • use present and past verb tenses with appropriate subject-verb agreement • use frequently occurring prepositions and conjunctions • produce and expand simple and some compound sentences in response to prompts. |
| LEVEL 5      | • use singular and plural nouns with matching verbs, • use past, present, and future verb tenses • use frequently occurring prepositions and conjunctions • produce and expand simple and compound sentences in response to prompts. |
Supporting Tools:

K-12 PRACTICES MATRIX

GRADE LEVEL ENGLISH LANGUAGE ARTS STANDARDS MATRICES

GRADE LEVEL ENGLISH LANGUAGE PROFICIENCY STANDARDS WITH CORRESPONDENCES TO ENGLISH LANGUAGE ARTS STANDARDS

GRADE LEVEL LITERACY STANDARDS MATRICES

GRADE LEVEL ENGLISH LANGUAGE PROFICIENCY STANDARDS WITH CORRESPONDENCES TO LITERACY STANDARDS
DESIGN FEATURES OF THE CORRESPONDENCES WITH ENGLISH LANGUAGE ARTS/LITERACY, MATHEMATICS, AND SCIENCE STANDARDS

To ensure the English Language Proficiency Standards specify the language that all English language learners must acquire in order to successfully engage with college- and career-ready standards in English language arts, mathematics, and science, two methods of correspondence mappings are provided:

1. CORRESPONDENCES WITH OHIO’S LEARNING STANDARDS FOR MATHEMATICS AND NEXT GENERATION SCIENCE STANDARDS (NGSS) PRACTICES

One set of correspondences is provided for the language demands associated with the mathematics, science, and English language arts practices. The CCSS Standards for Mathematical Practices a.k.a., the Mathematical Practices are the first eight standards for the CCSS for Mathematics and the NGSS Science and Engineering Practices are one of three dimensions in every NGSS standard. A set of English language arts “practices” was created for the Council of Chief State School Officers ELPD Framework since Ohio’s Learning Standards for English Language Arts did not include specific practices in their original form. (All three groups of practices are shown in Figure 1 below).

2. CORRESPONDENCES WITH OHIO’S LEARNING STANDARDS FOR ENGLISH LANGUAGE ARTS

A second type of correspondence shows the relationship between the English Language Proficiency Standards and the language demands found in Ohio’s Learning Standards for English Language Arts. This second set of correspondences is particularly useful as the English Language Proficiency Standards and Ohio’s Learning Standards for English Language Arts have a similar internal construction (based on reading, writing, speaking, listening, and language).

WHAT ARE THE PRACTICES?

The term practices refers to behaviors learners should increasingly use when engaging with the content and growing in content-area maturity and expertise throughout their elementary, middle, and high school years. The term “practices” is used rather than “processes” or “inquiry skills” to emphasize that engaging in [discipline-specific] investigation requires skills and knowledge that is specific to each practice (NRC, 2012, p. 30).

The practices identified within Ohio’s Learning Standards for Mathematics and the NGSS are key parts of the standards themselves. Because Ohio’s Learning Standards for English Language Arts do not explicitly identify key practices and core ideas in its original form, an analogous set of English language arts “practices” was created for the Council of Chief State School Officers ELPD Framework through a close analysis of the priorities contained within the English language arts standards themselves (CCSSO, 2012, p. 16). Relationships and convergences among the mathematics, science, and English language arts practices are shown in Figure 1.

4 As noted in Ohio’s Learning Standards for English Language Arts, the K-5 standards focus on reading, writing, speaking, listening, and language across the curriculum, reflecting the fact that most or all of the instruction students in these grades receive comes from one teacher; grades 6-12 are covered in two content area-specific sections, the first for English language arts teachers and the second for teachers of history/social studies, science, and technical subjects.

5 States who are applying for flexibility regarding specific requirements of the Elementary and Secondary Education Act of 1965 (ESEA), as amended by the No Child Left Behind Act of 2001, must have English Language Proficiency Standards that correspond to the state’s college- and career-ready standards.
FIGURE 1. VENN DIAGRAM SHOWING RELATIONSHIPS AND CONVERGENCES AMONG THE MATHEMATICS, SCIENCE, AND ENGLISH LANGUAGE ARTS PRACTICES

FOUND IN:

1. Ohio’s Learning Standards for Mathematics (practices)
2a. Ohio’s Learning Standards for English Language Arts (student capacity)
2b. ELPD Framework (English language arts “practices”)
3. NGSS (science and engineering practices)

NOTES

1. MP1-MP8 represent Ohio’s Learning Standards Mathematical Practices (p. 6-8).
2. SP1-SP8 represent NGSS Science and Engineering Practices.
3. EP1-EP6 represent Ohio’s Learning Standards for English Language Arts “practices” as defined by the ELPD Framework (p. 11).
4. EP7* represents Ohio’s Learning Standards for English Language Arts student “capacity” (pg. 7)

Suggested citation:
WHY ARE NO CORRESPONDENCE ANALYSES SHOWN BETWEEN THE ENGLISH LANGUAGE PROFICIENCY STANDARDS AND OHIO’S LEARNING STANDARDS FOR MATHEMATICS AND THE NGSS CORE IDEAS?

In coordination with the ELPD Framework authors, the WestEd English Language Proficiency Standards development team followed the ELPD Framework method for English Language Proficiency Standards-to-Content Standards correspondences. This method is based on an analysis of the language demands found within the mathematics, science, and English language arts practices. (See Section 2.3 Standards Match.) The ELPD Framework correspondence approach of focusing on the practices is a useful way to approach English Language Proficiency Standards correspondences with mathematics [and science] because . . .

The content of mathematics is not as fundamentally different from English language proficiency as much as it is a different granularity. Mathematics content is more interrelated and web-like and less hierarchic and linear than mathematicians used to think. If we think of the Mathematical Practices (MP) [the Standards for Mathematical Practice] as the reading and writing (R&W) of mathematics and the content standards (C) as the literature (L) —

MP : C : R&W : L, or, equivalently, MP : R&W : C : L

— then it makes more sense to correspond to the Standards for Mathematical Practice (R&W) as opposed to the Standards for Mathematical Content (C) (P. Daro, personal communication, July 19, 2013).

HOW DO THE PRACTICES INTERRELATE?

The Understanding Language Initiative Venn diagram shown in Figure 1 (Cheuk, 2013) depicts the relationships and convergences among the student actions described by the practices. For example, the central overlap of the three circles highlights the central role of evidence in Ohio’s Learning Standards and the NGSS. In comparison, the English Language Proficiency Standards address the types of language proficiency that English language learners need as they engage in content-area practices (and, therefore, may show slightly different groupings of practices with each English Language Proficiency Standard than the groupings shown in Figure 1). “By explicitly calling attention to these practices, state English Language Proficiency Standards [can be designed to] cultivate higher order thinking skills in English language learners and target their ability to comprehend and communicate about complex text” (CCSSO, 2012, p. 16).

What is the purpose of the two correspondence matrices shown on pp. 16-17?

The purpose of the K-12 Practices Matrix and the Kindergarten English Language Arts Standards Matrix is to help teachers design lesson plans which leverage the strongest correspondences between the English Language Proficiency Standards and Ohio’s Learning Standards and NGSS. However, depending on the instructional activity, and as educators’ familiarity with the standards is developed, educators may identify additional correspondences. The matrices are intended to help educators start with correspondence analyses—they are not an endpoint. The matrices do not contain a fixed set of correspondences.
## GRADE 1 ENGLISH LANGUAGE ARTS STANDARDS MATRIX

Use the Grade 1 English Language Arts Standards Matrix to identify Ohio’s Learning Standards for English Language Arts and their corresponding English Language Proficiency Standards. Click on the English Language Proficiency Standard number to go to the standard within this document. The reference codes for English language arts standards are a simplified version of those used in Ohio’s Learning Standards; in particular, the grade level code was deleted since a teacher will be reading the matrix that pertains to her/his grade level.

### LEGEND FOR DOMAINS
- RL Reading for Literature
- RI Reading for Informational Texts
- W Writing
- SL Speaking and Listening
- L Language

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>ENGLISH LANGUAGE PROFICIENCY STANDARDS</th>
<th>CORRESPONDING STANDARDS FROM OHIO’S LEARNING STANDARDS FOR ENGLISH LANGUAGE ARTS</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1. construct meaning from oral presentations and literary and informational text through grade-appropriate listening, reading, and viewing</td>
<td>RL 1, 2, 3 RI 1, 2, 3 W 2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2. participate in grade-appropriate oral and written exchanges of information, ideas, and analyses, responding to peer, audience, or reader comments and questions</td>
<td>RI 6 W 1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3. speak and write about grade-appropriate complex literary and informational texts and topics</td>
<td>SL 2, 3 L 4, 5</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4. construct grade-appropriate oral and written claims and support them with reasoning and evidence</td>
<td>RL 1 W 6</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5. conduct research and evaluate and communicate findings to answer questions or solve problems</td>
<td>RL 7, 8 RI 4, 5</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>6. analyze and critique the arguments of others orally and in writing</td>
<td>W 8 SL 1 L 3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>7. adapt language choices to purpose, task, and audience when speaking and writing</td>
<td>RI 5 W 6 L 6</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>8. determine the meaning of words and phrases in oral presentations and literary and informational text</td>
<td>RI 4 RI 4 L 4, 5</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>9. create clear and coherent grade-appropriate speech and text</td>
<td>SL 2, 3 W 4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>10. make accurate use of standard English to communicate in grade-appropriate speech and writing</td>
<td>W 1</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Grade 1 English Language Proficiency Standards with Correspondences

**GRADE 1: STANDARD 1**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>ELP 1.1</th>
<th>BY THE END OF EACH ENGLISH LANGUAGE PROFICIENCY LEVEL, AN ENGLISH LANGUAGE LEARNER CAN . . .</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>LEVEL 1</strong></td>
<td>with prompting and support (including context and visual aids), use a very limited set of strategies to: • identify a few key words from read-alouds, picture books, and oral presentations.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**WHEN ENGAGING IN ONE OR MORE OF THE FOLLOWING CONTENT-SPECIFIC PRACTICES:**

**EP1.** Support analyses of a range of grade-level complex texts with evidence.
**EP2.** Construct valid arguments from evidence and critique the reasoning of others.
**EP3.** Build and present knowledge from research by integrating, comparing, and synthesizing ideas from texts.
**EP4.** Build and present knowledge from research by integrating, comparing, and synthesizing ideas from texts.
**EP5.** Build and present knowledge from research by integrating, comparing, and synthesizing ideas from texts.
**MP1.** Make sense of problems and persevere in solving them.
**SP1.** Ask questions and define problems.

**WHEN ENGAGING IN TASKS ALIGNED WITH THE FOLLOWING GRADE 1 ENGLISH LANGUAGE ARTS STANDARDS:**

**Literature**
**RL2.** Retell stories, including key details, and demonstrate understanding of their central message or lesson
**RL3.** Describe characters, settings, and major events in a story, using key details
**RL1. RI.1.** Ask and answer questions about key details in a text.
**RL7.** Use the illustrations and details in a text to describe its key ideas.
**SL2.** Ask and answer questions sabotu key details in a text read aloud or information presented orally or through other media

**Informational Text**
**RL2.** Identify the main topic and retell key details of a text
**RL3.** Describe the connection between two individuals, events, ideas, or pieces of information in a text
### Grade 1 English Language Proficiency Standards with Correspondences, cont.

**GRADE 1: STANDARD 2**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>ELP 1.2</th>
<th>LEVEL 1</th>
<th>LEVEL 2</th>
<th>LEVEL 3</th>
<th>LEVEL 4</th>
<th>LEVEL 5</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>An English Language Learner can participate in grade-appropriate oral and written exchanges of information, ideas, and analyses, responding to peer, audience, or reader comments and questions. . .</td>
<td>• listen to short conversations • respond to simple yes/no and some wh-questions about familiar topics.</td>
<td>• participate in short conversations • take turns • respond to simple yes/no and wh-questions about familiar topics.</td>
<td>• participate in short discussions, conversations, and short written exchanges • follow rules for discussion • ask and answer simple questions about familiar topics.</td>
<td>• participate in discussions, conversations, and written exchanges • follow rules for discussion • ask and answer questions • respond to the comments of others • make comments of his or her own about a variety of topics and texts.</td>
<td>• participate in extended discussions, conversations, and written exchanges • follow rules for discussion • ask and answer questions • build on the comments of others • contribute his or her own comments about a variety of topics and texts.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

### WHEN ENGAGING IN ONE OR MORE OF THE FOLLOWING CONTENT-SPECIFIC PRACTICES:

- **EP1.** Support analyses of a range of grade-level complex texts with evidence.
- **EP5.** Build upon the ideas of others and articulate his or her own ideas when working collaboratively.
- **MP1.** Make sense of problems and persevere in solving them.
- **MP6.** Attend to precision.
- **SP4.** Analyze and interpret data.
- **SP6.** Construct explanations and design solutions.
- **SP8.** Obtain, evaluate, and communicate information.

### WHEN ENGAGING IN TASKS ALIGNED WITH THE FOLLOWING GRADE 1 ENGLISH LANGUAGE ARTS STANDARDS:

- **W.6.** With guidance and support from adults, use a variety of digital tools to produce and publish writing, including in collaboration with peers.
- **SL.1.** Participate in collaborative conversations with diverse partners about Grade 1 topics and texts with peers and adults in small and larger groups
  - a. Follow agreed-upon rules for discussions (e.g., listening to others with care, speaking one at a time about the topics and texts under discussion).
  - b. Build on others’ talk in conversations by responding to the comments of others through multiple exchanges.
  - c. Ask questions to clear up any confusion about the topics and texts under discussion.
Grade 1 English Language Proficiency Standards with Correspondences, cont.

GRADE 1: STANDARD 3

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>ELP 1.3</th>
<th>BY THE END OF EACH ENGLISH LANGUAGE PROFICIENCY LEVEL, AN ENGLISH LANGUAGE LEARNER CAN . . .</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>LEVEL 1</td>
<td>• communicate simple information or feelings about familiar topics or experiences.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>LEVEL 2</td>
<td>• communicate simple messages about familiar topics, experiences, or events.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>LEVEL 3</td>
<td>• deliver short simple oral presentations using simple sentences and drawings or illustrations.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>LEVEL 4</td>
<td>• deliver short simple oral presentations, compose short written texts about familiar topics, stories, experiences, or events.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>LEVEL 5</td>
<td>• deliver oral presentations, compose written texts about a variety of texts, topics, experiences, or events.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

WHEN ENGAGING IN ONE OR MORE OF THE FOLLOWING CONTENT-SPECIFIC PRACTICES:

EP2. Produce clear and coherent writing in which the development, organization, and style are appropriate to the task, purpose, and audience.

MP1. Make sense of problems and persevere in solving them.
MP6. Attend to precision.

SP6. Construct explanations and design solutions.
SP8. Obtain, evaluate, and communicate information.

WHEN ENGAGING IN TASKS ALIGNED WITH THE FOLLOWING GRADE 1 ENGLISH LANGUAGE ARTS STANDARDS:

W.2. Write informative/explanatory texts in which they name a topic, supply some facts about the topic, and provide some sense of closure.
W.3. Write narratives in which they recount two or more appropriately sequenced events, include some details regarding what happened, use temporal words to signal event order, and provide some sense of closure.
SL.4. Describe people, places, things, and events with relevant details, expressing ideas and feelings clearly.
SL.5. Add drawings or other visual displays to descriptions when appropriate to clarify ideas, thoughts, and feelings.
Grade 1 English Language Proficiency Standards with Correspondences, cont.

**GRADE 1: STANDARD 4**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>ELP 1.4</th>
<th>BY THE END OF EACH ENGLISH LANGUAGE PROFICIENCY LEVEL, AN ENGLISH LANGUAGE LEARNER CAN . . .</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>LEVEL 1</strong></td>
<td><strong>LEVEL 2</strong></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>An English Language Learner can</td>
<td>• express a preference or opinion about familiar topics or experiences.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>construct grade-appropriate oral and written claims and support them with reasoning and evidence . . .</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**WHEN ENGAGING IN ONE OR MORE OF THE FOLLOWING CONTENT-SPECIFIC PRACTICES:**

- **EP2.** Produce clear and coherent writing in which the development, organization, and style are appropriate to task, purpose, and audience.
- **EP3.** Construct valid arguments from evidence and critique the reasoning of others.
- **EP5.** Build upon the ideas of others and articulate his or her own ideas when working collaboratively.
- **EP6.** Use English structures to communicate context-specific messages.
- **MP3.** Construct viable arguments and critique reasoning of others.
- **MP6.** Attend to precision.
- **SP4.** Analyze and interpret data.
- **SP6.** Attend to precision.
- **SP7.** Engage in argument from evidence.
- **SP8.** Obtain, evaluate, and communicate information.

**WHEN ENGAGING IN TASKS ALIGNED WITH THE FOLLOWING GRADE 1 ENGLISH LANGUAGE ARTS STANDARDS:**

- **W.1.** Write opinion pieces in which they introduce the topic or name the book they are writing about, state an opinion, supply a reason for the opinion, and provide some sense of closure.
- **SL.4.** Describe people, places, things, and events with relevant details, expressing ideas and feelings clearly.
Grade 1 English Language Proficiency Standards with Correspondences, cont.

**GRADE 1: STANDARD 5**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>ELP 1.5</th>
<th>BY THE END OF EACH ENGLISH LANGUAGE PROFICIENCY LEVEL, AN ENGLISH LANGUAGE LEARNER CAN . . .</th>
</tr>
</thead>
</table>
| **LEVEL 1** | with prompting and support from adults,  
• participate in shared research projects  
• gather information  
• label information  
from provided sources  
showing limited control.  |
| **LEVEL 2** | with prompting and support from adults,  
• participate in shared research projects  
• gather information  
• label information  
• summarize some key information  
from provided sources  
showing emerging control.  |
| **LEVEL 3** | with prompting and support from adults,  
• participate in shared research projects  
• gather information  
• summarize information  
from provided sources  
showing developing control.  |
| **LEVEL 4** | with prompting and support from adults,  
• participate in shared research projects  
• gather information  
• summarize information  
• answer a question  
from provided sources  
showing increasingly independent control.  |
| **LEVEL 5** | with prompting and support from adults,  
• participate in shared research projects  
• gather information  
• summarize information  
• answer a question  
from provided sources  
showing independent control.  |

**WHEN ENGAGING IN ONE OR MORE OF THE FOLLOWING CONTENT-SPECIFIC PRACTICES:**

- EP4. Build and present knowledge from research by integrating, comparing, and synthesizing ideas from texts.
- EP5. Build upon the ideas of others and articulate his or her own ideas when working collaboratively.
- EP6. Use English structures to communicate context specific messages.
- MP1. Make sense of problems and persevere in solving them.
- SP3. Plan and carry out investigations.
- SP6. Construct explanations and design solutions.
- SP8. Obtain, evaluate, and communicate information.

**WHEN ENGAGING IN TASKS ALIGNED WITH THE FOLLOWING GRADE 1 ENGLISH LANGUAGE ARTS STANDARDS:**

- W7. Participate in shared research and writing projects (e.g., explore a number of “how-to” books on a given topic and use them to write a sequence of instructions).
- W8. With guidance and support from adults, recall information from experiences or gather information from provided sources to answer a question.
- SL4. Describe people, places, things, and events with relevant details, expressing ideas and feelings clearly.
- SL5. Add drawings or other visual displays to descriptions when appropriate to clarify ideas, thoughts, and feelings.
Grade 1 English Language Proficiency Standards with Correspondences, cont.

**GRADE 1: STANDARD 6**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>ELP 1.6</th>
<th><strong>BY THE END OF EACH ENGLISH LANGUAGE PROFICIENCY LEVEL, AN ENGLISH LANGUAGE LEARNER CAN . . .</strong></th>
</tr>
</thead>
</table>
| An English Language Learner can analyze and critique the arguments of others orally and in writing . . . | LEVEL 1: [Standard introduced at Level 2.]
| LEVEL 2                      | with prompting and support, • identify a reason an author or a speaker gives to support a point. |
| LEVEL 3                      | • identify one or two reasons an author or a speaker gives to support the main point. |
| LEVEL 4                      | • identify reasons an author or a speaker gives to support the main point. |
| LEVEL 5                      | • identify appropriate reasons an author or a speaker gives to support the main point. |

**WHEN ENGAGING IN ONE OR MORE OF THE FOLLOWING CONTENT-SPECIFIC PRACTICES:**

- **EP2.** Produce clear and coherent writing in which the development, organization, and style are appropriate to task, purpose, and audience.
- **EP3.** Construct valid arguments from evidence and critique the reasoning of others.
- **EP4.** Build and present knowledge from research by integrating, comparing, and synthesizing ideas from texts.
- **EP5.** Build upon the ideas of others and articulate his or her own ideas when working collaboratively.

- **MP1.** Make sense of problems and persevere in solving them.
- **MP3.** Construct viable arguments and critique reasoning of others.

- **SP1.** Ask questions and define problems.
- **SP6.** Construct explanations and design solutions.
- **SP7.** Engage in argument from evidence.
- **SP8.** Obtain, evaluate, and communicate information.

**WHEN ENGAGING IN TASKS AlIGNED WITH THE FOLLOWING GRADE 1 ENGLISH LANGUAGE ARTS STANDARDS:**

- **RI.8.** Identify the reasons an author gives to support points in a text.
- **W.1.** Write opinion pieces in which they introduce the topic or name the book they are writing about, state an opinion, supply a reason for the opinion, and provide some sense of closure.
- **SL.3.** Ask and answer questions about what a speaker says in order to gather additional information or clarify something that is not understood.
Grade 1 English Language Proficiency Standards with Correspondences, cont.

GRADE 1: STANDARD 7

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>ELP 1.7</th>
<th>BY THE END OF EACH ENGLISH LANGUAGE PROFICIENCY LEVEL, AN ENGLISH LANGUAGE LEARNER CAN . . .</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>LEVEL 1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>An English Language Learner can access support in school</td>
<td>[Standard introduced at Level 3.]</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>adapt language choices to purpose, task, and audience when speaking and writing . . .</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

WHEN ENGAGING IN ONE OR MORE OF THE FOLLOWING CONTENT-SPECIFIC PRACTICES:

EP2. Produce clear and coherent writing in which the development, organization, and style are appropriate to the task, purpose, and audience.

EP6. Use English structures to communicate context-specific messages.

MP6. Attend to precision.

SP1. Ask questions and define problems.

SP6. Construct explanations and design solutions.

SP8. Obtain, evaluate, and communicate information.

WHEN ENGAGING IN TASKS ALIGNED WITH THE FOLLOWING GRADE 1 ENGLISH LANGUAGE ARTS STANDARDS:

W.5. With guidance and support from adults, focus on a topic, respond to questions and suggestions from peers, and add details to strengthen writing as needed.

SL.6. Produce complete sentences when appropriate to task and situation.

L.6. Use words and phrases acquired through conversations, reading and being read to, and responding to texts, including using adjectives and adverbs to describe (e.g., When other kids are happy that makes me happy).
Grade 1 English Language Proficiency Standards with Correspondences, cont.

GRADE 1: STANDARD 8

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>ELP 1.8</th>
<th>LEVEL 1</th>
<th>LEVEL 2</th>
<th>LEVEL 3</th>
<th>LEVEL 4</th>
<th>LEVEL 5</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>An English Language Learner can</strong></td>
<td>determine the meaning of words and phrases in oral presentations and literary and informational text . . .</td>
<td>with prompting and support (including context and visual aids), • recognize the meaning of a few frequently occurring words and phrases</td>
<td>with prompting and support (including context and visual aids), • answer and sometimes ask simple questions to help determine the meaning of frequently occurring words and phrases</td>
<td>using sentence-level context and visual aids, • answer and sometimes ask questions to help determine the meaning of some less frequently occurring words and phrases</td>
<td>using sentence context, visual aids, and some knowledge of frequently occurring root words and their inflectional forms, • answer and ask questions to help determine the meaning of less common words, phrases, and simple idiomatic expressions</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>in simple oral presentations and read-alouds about familiar topics, experiences, or events.</td>
<td>in simple oral presentations, read-alouds, and simple texts about familiar topics, experiences, or events.</td>
<td>in oral presentations, read-alouds, and simple texts about familiar topics, experiences, or events.</td>
<td>in oral presentations and written texts about a variety of topics, experiences, or events.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

WHEN ENGAGING IN ONE OR MORE OF THE FOLLOWING CONTENT-SPECIFIC PRACTICES:

EP6. Use English structures to communicate context-specific messages.
MP1. Make sense of problems and persevere in solving them.
SP1. Ask questions and define problems.
SP8. Obtain, evaluate, and communicate information.

WHEN ENGAGING IN TASKS ALIGNED WITH THE FOLLOWING GRADE 1 ENGLISH LANGUAGE ARTS STANDARDS:

**Literature**

RL4. Identify words and phrases in stories or poems that suggest feelings or appeal to the senses.
L4. Determine or clarify the meaning of unknown and multiple-meaning words and phrases based on grade 1 reading and content, choosing flexibly from an array of strategies.
   a. Use sentence-level context as a clue to the meaning of a word or phrase.
   b. Use frequently occurring affixes as a clue to the meaning of a word.
   c. Identify frequently occurring root words (e.g., look) and their inflectional forms (e.g., looks, looked, looking).

L5. With guidance and support from adults, demonstrate understanding of word relationships and nuances in word meanings.
   a. Sort words into categories (e.g., colors, clothing) to gain a sense of the concepts the categories represent.
   b. Define words by category and by one or more key attributes (e.g., a duck is a bird that swims; as tiger is a large cat with stripes).
   c. Identify real-life connections between words and their use (e.g., note places at home that are cozy).
   d. Distinguish shades of meaning among verbs differing in manner (e.g., look, peek, glance, stare, glare, scowl) and adjectives differing in intensity (e.g., large, gigantic) by defining or choosing them or by acting out the meanings.
Grade 1 English Language Proficiency Standards with Correspondences, cont.

GRADE 1: STANDARD 8

WHEN ENGAGING IN TASKS ALIGNED WITH THE FOLLOWING GRADE 1 ENGLISH LANGUAGE ARTS STANDARDS:

- **Informational Text**
  
  - **RI.4.** Ask and answer questions to help determine or clarify the phrases in a text.
Grade 1 English Language Proficiency Standards with Correspondences, cont.

### Grade 1: Standard 9

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>ELP 1.9</th>
<th>By the End of Each English Language Proficiency Level, An English Language Learner Can . . .</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>Level 1</strong></td>
<td><strong>Level 2</strong></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>An English Language Learner can create clear and coherent grade-appropriate speech and text . . .</td>
<td>with support (including visual aids and modeled sentences), • retell an event • present simple information with emerging control of some frequently occurring linking words.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

### When Engaging in One or More of the Following Content-Specific Practices:

| **EP2.** Produce clear and coherent writing in which the development, organization, and style are appropriate to the task, purpose, and audience. | **MP1.** Make sense of problems and persevere in solving them. | **MP3.** Construct viable arguments and critique reasoning of others. | **SP7.** Engage in argument from evidence. | **SP8.** Obtain, evaluate, and communicate information. |

### When Engaging in Tasks Aligned with the Following Grade 1 English Language Arts Standards:

| **W2.** Write informative/explanatory texts in which they name a topic, supply some facts about the topic, and provide some sense of closure. | **W3.** Write narratives in which they recount two or more appropriately sequenced events, include some details regarding what happened, use temporal words to signal event order, and provide some sense of closure. | **SL4.** Describe people, places, things, and events with relevant details, expressing ideas and feelings clearly. | **SP7.** Engage in argument from evidence. | **SP8.** Obtain, evaluate, and communicate information. |
Grade 1 English Language Proficiency Standards with Correspondences, cont.

### GRADE 1: STANDARD 10

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>ELP 1.10</th>
<th><strong>BY THE END OF EACH ENGLISH LANGUAGE PROFICIENCY LEVEL, AN ENGLISH LANGUAGE LEARNER CAN . . .</strong></th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td><strong>LEVEL 1</strong></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>An English Language Learner can</strong></td>
<td>with support (including context and visual aids),</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>make accurate use of standard English to communicate in grade-appropriate speech and writing . . .</td>
<td>• understand and use a small number of frequently occurring nouns and verbs,</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>• understand and use very simple sentences</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>• respond to simple questions.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

### WHEN ENGAGING IN ONE OR MORE OF THE FOLLOWING CONTENT-SPECIFIC PRACTICES:

- **EP2.** Produce clear and coherent writing in which the development, organization, and style are appropriate to task, purpose, and audience.
- **MP6.** Attend to precision.
- **EP6.** Use English structures to communicate context-specific messages.
- **SP8.** Obtain, evaluate, and communicate information.

### WHEN ENGAGING IN TASKS ALIGNED WITH THE FOLLOWING GRADE 1 ENGLISH LANGUAGE ARTS STANDARDS:

- **L.1.** Demonstrate command of the conventions of standard English grammar and usage when writing or speaking.
  - a. Print all upper- and lowercase letters.
  - b. Use common, proper, and possessive nouns.
  - c. Use singular and plural nouns with matching verbs in basic sentences (e.g., He hops; We hop).
  - d. Use personal, possessive, and indefinite pronouns (e.g., I, me, my; they, them, their, anyone, everything).
  - e. Use verbs to convey a sense of past, present, and future (e.g., Yesterday I walked home; Today I walk home; Tomorrow I will walk home).
  - f. Use frequently occurring adjectives.
  - g. Use frequently occurring conjunctions (e.g., and, but, or, so, because).
  - h. Use determiners (e.g., articles, demonstratives).
  - i. Use frequently occurring prepositions (e.g., during, beyond, toward).
  - j. Produce and expand complete simple and compound declarative, interrogative, imperative, and exclamatory sentences in response to prompts.

- **L.1. cont.**
Resources:

INSTRUCTIONAL GUIDELINES AND RESOURCES FOR ENGLISH LANGUAGE LEARNERS BASED ON OHIO’S NEW ENGLISH LANGUAGE PROFICIENCY STANDARDS

This document has been developed by the Lau Resource Center of the Ohio Department of Education as a resource to school district personnel in the use of the new English Language Proficiency Standards to inform instruction and support English language learners in their development of English language communication skills needed for success in school. Click on the following website link to access this useful resource:

http://education.ohio.gov/Topics/Other-Resources/Limited-English-Proficiency/About-the-Lau-Resource-Center

ELPA21 CONSORTIUM

Ohio is a member of the English Language Proficiency Assessment for the 21st Century (ELPA21) consortium. The mission of this consortium is to support educators, member states, and the public as they adopt and implement the English Language Proficiency Standards and college- and career-ready standards. Useful information and resources can be found on the ELPA21 website, which can be accessed via the following link:

http://www.elpa21.org/
Glossary

**Cognate:** A word that has the same linguistic derivation as another; from the same original word or root. Examples of cognates in Indo-European languages are the words *night* (English), *nuit* (French), *Nach* (German), *nacht* (Dutch), etc., derived from the Proto-Indo-European (PIE) *nókʷts* “night”; the Hebrew שָלוֹם *shalom*, the Arabic سَلَامُ *sa* or *salām*, and the Amharic selam (“peace”) are also cognates, derived from Proto-Semitic *šalām*.

**False cognates** are words that are commonly thought to be related (have a common origin), but that linguistic examination reveals are unrelated. The words *embarrassed* (self-conscious, humiliated) in English and *embarazada* (pregnant) in Spanish are examples of false cognates.

**Coherence:** A central, main theme or topic maintained across multiple sentences. One test of coherence is that sentences cannot be reordered without changing meaning.

**Cohesion:** Intra- and inter-sentence language connections made by using cohesive devices (e.g., pronoun or synonym replacement, logical connectors, conclusions that refer to prior content).

**Collocation:** The grouping of two or more words together with a frequency greater than chance. Such terms as “crystal clear,” “middle management,” “nuclear family,” and “cosmetic surgery” are examples of collocated pairs of words.

**Content-specific:** Specific to a given discipline, content area, domain, or subject area. (Within the literature and among researchers, the term “discipline-specific” is more commonly used.) The Council of Chief State School Officers (2012) defines it as “the language used, orally or in writing, to communicate ideas, concepts, and information or to engage in activities in particular subject areas (e.g., science)” (p. 107).

**Context:** This term is derived from Latin, meaning “a joining together” of external sources of information (schemas) with internal concepts (e.g., memories). It is also defined as a frame (e.g., background information, schema) that surrounds an event being examined and provides resources for appropriate interpretation (Duranti & Goodwin, 1992). As Fillmore observed, “When you pick up a word, you drag along with it a whole scene” (Fillmore, 1975, p. 114). Cummins (2000) describes effects of context on communication:

- **Context-embedded communication:** Participants can actively negotiate meaning (e.g., by providing feedback that the message has not been understood), and the language is supported by a wide range of meaningful interpersonal and situational cues.
- **Context-reduced communication:** Participants rely primarily on linguistic cues to meaning, and thus, successful interpretation of the message depends heavily on knowledge of the language itself. (p. 68)

**Control:** As used in the English Language Proficiency Standards, refers to the degree to which a student may use a particular form with stability and precision. For example, independent control occurs when “In more sophisticated explanations, children have little or no difficulty simultaneously employing many complex and sophisticated linguistic devices [see Linking words], and their explanations require little effort from a listener to understand the steps or process being explained” (Bailey, 2013, p. 13).

**Culture:** (a) Different tools, thoughts, and experiences associated with a particular community of practice or certain situations (Brown, Collins, & Duguid, 1989); or (b) “an adaptive process [as opposed to an object that one might hold] that accumulates partial solutions to frequently encountered problems” (Hutchins, 1995, p. 354). “Human growth and creativity tend to occur not within separate and isolated cultures, but within their meeting and intermixture” (Wax, 1993, p. 108).
Glossary, cont.

**Descriptive sentences**: Sentences in which the speaker/writer is able to describe or paint an exact picture in the listener’s or reader’s mind of what the speaker/writer wants to convey. Unlike a simple sentence (e.g., “The cat ran”), a descriptive sentence uses adjectives and adverbs as well as complex sentence construction (dependent, adverbial clauses, prepositional phrases, etc.) (e.g., “The big fat white cat ran quickly along the edge of the garden” which could be expanded to “It was astonishing, although not surprising, to observe that Mr. Dewey’s big fat white cat could run along the edge of the garden so quickly when there was a ferocious dog in close pursuit”).

**Discourse**: Language used in a particular context, such as the academic discourse of a science classroom compared to the social discourse of the playground. Different types of discourse call for different vocabulary, phrases, structures, and language registers. According to Gee (1999), language is always used from a perspective and always occurs within a context; there is no neutral use of language.

**ELPD Framework**: The Framework for English Language Proficiency Development Standards Corresponding to the Common Core State Standards and the Next Generation Science Standards (CCSSO, 2012), which provides guidance to states on how to use the expectations of the Common Core State Standards and the Next Generation Science Standards as tools for the creation and evaluation of English Language Proficiency Standards.

**English language proficiency (ELP)**: “A socially constructed notion of the ability or capacity of individuals to use language for specific purposes” (CCSSO, 2012, p. 107). Also referred to by some as English language development, English language proficiency embodies the belief that language development is ongoing. Multiple pathways to English language proficiency are possible, but the end goal for students’ progress in acquiring English is to ensure full participation of English language learners in school contexts.

**EP**: English language arts “practices,” which describe ways in which developing student practitioners of English language arts should increasingly engage with the subject matter as they grow in content-area maturity and expertise throughout their elementary, middle, and high school years. The practices are student actions, not teaching practices. Developed for the ELPD Framework by English Language Arts standards writer Susan Pimentel as analogous to the existing mathematics and science & engineering practices, but not found in the original standards for English Language Arts.

**Evidence**: Facts, figures, details, quotations, or other sources of data and information that provide support for claims or analyses and that can be evaluated by others. Evidence should appear in a form, and be derived from a source, that is widely accepted as appropriate to a particular discipline, such as details or quotations from a text in the study of literature or experimental results in the study of science. (See Appendix A of Ohio’s Learning Standards for English Language Arts.)

**Formulaic expressions**: Expressions produced in accordance with a mechanically followed rule or style. In the initial stages of English language acquisition, formulaic expressions are learned as a “chunk” in reference to familiar topics or objects in the immediate environment. Examples of formulaic expressions used during the initial phrase of English language acquisition in schools include “go to the bathroom,” “stand in line,” and other habitually-used phrases. These prefabricated units are important because they serve as a bridge to connect vocabulary and grammar. Cowie (1998) argues that formulaic expressions are a crucial step in helping student move towards the acquisitions of idioms and the development of native-like proficiency.
Glossary, cont.

**Frequently occurring words and phrases:** As used in the English Language Proficiency Standards, this refers to words and phrases used commonly in the classroom and to everyday language used in schools. It is important to note that this does not refer to the Top 100 High-Frequency Words (e.g., “the,” “a,” “and,” “but”). The term “basic” is not used in the English Language Proficiency Standards because a term that is basic to one person may not be basic to another; acquisition of specific words and phrases depends on exposure and experiences.

**Grade-appropriate:** As used in the English Language Proficiency Standards, this refers to level of content and text complexity in relation to CCR standards’ requirements for a particular grade level or grade span. (See Ohio’s Learning Standards for English Language Arts and Defining the Core.)

**Idioms:** An idiom is an expression that cannot be understood from the meanings of its component words but has a meaning of its own. Usually that meaning is derived from the history of the language and culture in which it is used. Students’ acquisition of idioms progresses from literal meanings to figurative and metaphorical meanings.

- **Transparent idioms** are expressions in which the literal meaning is clearly linked to the figurative meaning, e.g., give the green light, break the ice.
- **Semi-transparent idioms** are expressions in which the link between literal and figurative meaning is less obvious, e.g., beat a dead horse, save one’s breath.
- **Opaque idioms** are expressions with an undetectable link between literal and figurative language, e.g., pull one’s leg, kick the bucket.

**Inflectional ending:** A short suffix added to the end of a word to alter its meaning. In this document, the term refers to endings such as -s, -es, -ing, and -ed.

**Inflectional forms:** The forms of a word that include alteration of the word to indicate singular or plural, verb tense, and verb aspect. Inflected or inflectional forms also include irregular verbs (e.g. sing – sang –sung) and irregular plural nouns (e.g. mouse –mice).

**Informational text:** Text with a primary purpose to inform the reader about the natural or social world (includes explanatory text). See Ohio’s Learning Standards for English Language Arts.

**Interactive language skills:** Skills involved in producing language in spoken or written form during collaborative, interactive activities, including collaborative use of receptive and productive modalities. This modality “refers to the learner as a speaker/listener and as a reader/writer. It requires two-way interactive communication where negotiation of meaning may be observed. The exchange will provide evidence of awareness of the sociocultural aspects of communication as language proficiency develops” (Phillips, 2008, p. 96).

**Language forms:** Vocabulary, grammar, and features of discourse specific to a particular content area or discipline. This term refers to the surface features of language and how they are arranged according to the grammar of the language. As a means of connecting sound with meaning, it incorporates morphology, syntax, and phonology.

**Language functions:** What students do with language to accomplish content-specific tasks. As defined by Gibbons (1993), language functions can be used to describe the purposes for which language is used in the classroom. Their use offers a simple and practical way to ensure that content and language are integrated.

**Linguistic Output:** Refers to the production of language. Educators should provide English language learners with communicative tasks that require students to create the sustained output necessary for second language development. (See Principle 7 in Principles of Instructed Second Language Acquisition.)
Glossary, cont.

**Linking words (a.k.a. cohesive devices):** Words or phrases that can be used as sentence connectors to develop coherence within a paragraph by linking one idea/argument to another. Examples include *however, in conclusion, basically, as it turns out, at last, eventually, after all, rarely, normally, at first, often, further, and firstly.*

**Modalities (modes of communication):** The means or manner by which communication takes place. This document identifies three modalities: receptive, productive, and interactive. The four language domains of reading, writing, listening, and speaking are contained within these three modalities. (see page 7 of the English Language Proficiency Standards for more information.)

**Modeled sentences:** As used in the English Language Proficiency Standards, this term refers to the provision of exemplar speech and text to students as part of the instructional process. Examples of modeled sentences in the English Language Proficiency Standards include sentence frames, sentence stems, and sentence models.

**MP:** Ohio’s Learning Standards for Mathematics or Mathematical Practices. The practices describe ways in which developing student practitioners of mathematics should increasingly engage with the subject matter as they grow in content-area maturity and expertise throughout their elementary, middle, and high school years. The Standards for Mathematical Practice are descendants of the *Adding It Up* proficiencies (Kilpatrick, Swafford, & Findell, 2001) and the *NCTM process standards* (NCTM, 2000). They also descend from work on *Habits of Mind* (Dri scoll, 1995) and the national syllabi of Singapore, Japan, and Finland.

**Nonverbal communication:** As used in the English Language Proficiency Standards, this term refers the process of communication through sending and receiving wordless (mostly visual) cues between people. Examples of nonverbal communication in the English Language Proficiency Standards may include gestures, nods, thumbs up or down, or facial expressions.

**Organize:** In the English Language Proficiency Standards, refers to discourse that conveys temporal, causal, categorical, or other logical relationships that are consistent with the author’s apparent purpose in conveying information, narrating a story, making a persuasive argument, or some other emergent discourse form.

**Productive language skills:** Skills involved in producing language in spoken or written form. This modality “places the learner as speaker [and/or] writer for a ‘distant’ audience (one with whom interaction is not possible or is limited). The communication is set for a specified audience, has purpose, and generally abides by rules of genre or style. It is a planned or formalized speech act or written document, and the learner has an opportunity to draft, get feedback, and revise it before publication or broadcast” (Phillips, 2008, p. 96).

**Receptive language skills:** Skills involved in interpreting and comprehending spoken or written language. This modality “refers to the learner as a reader [and/or] listener/viewer working with ‘text’ whose author or deliverer is not present or accessible. It presumes that the interaction is with authentic written or oral documents where language input is meaningful and content laden. The learner brings background knowledge, experience, and appropriate interpretive strategies to the task, to promote understanding of language and content in order to develop a personal reaction” (Phillips, 2008, p. 96).

**Referent:** The thing that a word or phrase denotes or stands for; examples may include abstractions or physical examples.

**Recognize:** As used in the English Language Proficiency Standards, this verb refers to instances when a student might recognize the meaning of the words, using verbal communication or non-verbal communication.

**Registers:** Distinguishable patterns of communication based upon well-established language practices, such as the language used in subject-area classrooms. Registers are a “recognizable kind of language particular to specific functions and situation. A well-known non-academic example is *sports announcer talk*” (Ferguson, 1983, p. 155).
Glossary, cont.

**Research projects:**

**Short research project:** An investigation intended to address a narrowly tailored query in a brief period of time, as in a few class periods or a week of instructional time.

**More sustained research project:** An investigation intended to address a relatively expansive query using several sources over an extended period of time, as in a few weeks of instructional time.

**Scaffolding:** As defined in Ohio’s Learning Standards for English Language Arts, this refers to guidance or assistance provided to students by a teacher, another adult, or a more capable peer, enabling the students to perform tasks that they otherwise would not be able to perform alone, with the goal of fostering the students’ capacity to perform the tasks on their own later on. Pedagogically, a scaffold is the support offered to students so that they can successfully engage in activity beyond their current ability to perform independently. Specific scaffolds temporarily support the development of understandings as well as disciplinary (and language) practices. Once the development takes place, the scaffolds are removed and new ones may be erected, if needed, to support new needed developmental work. For more information, see Walqui et al. (2013).

**Sentence structures:** As used in the English Language Proficiency Standards and the Proficiency Level Descriptors, language structures include simple, compound, complex sentences, and the range of other language structures.

**Simple:** As used in the English Language Proficiency Standards, this generally refers to the grammatical structure of a phrase, sentence, or text relative to its complexity or density. A “simple” sentence may use subject+verb+object construction without any embellishments.

**Source:** As used in the English Language Proficiency Standards, this refers to speech or text used largely for informational purposes, as in research.

**SP:** The NGSS Science and Engineering Practices. The practices describe the behaviors that scientists engage in as they investigate and build models and theories about the natural world and the key set of engineering practices that engineers use as they design and build models and systems. The Science and Engineering Practices “describe behaviors that scientists engage in as they investigate and build models and theories about the natural world” (NGSS, 2013). As noted in Appendix F of the NGSS (NGSS Lead States, 2013), chapter three of the Science Framework for K-12 Science Education (NRC, 2012) provides background on the development of the Science and Engineering Practices. For more information and examples, see Bybee (2011).

**Variety of topics:** As used in the English Language Proficiency Standards this refers to a range of topics that may be either familiar or unfamiliar to the student (i.e., requiring support to build the student’s background knowledge or particular context knowledge).

**Visual aids:** As used in the English Language Proficiency Standards, this refers to pictures, realia (objects used in real life), sketches, diagrams, labeled pictures, and picture dictionaries.
Glossary, cont.

**Vocabulary:** A set of words, phrases, or expressions, within a language, that is familiar to a person. (See the PLDs for specific vocabulary expectations by the end of each English language proficiency level.)

**Academic vocabulary** (see also Ohio’s Learning Standards for English Language Arts):

**General academic words and phrases:** Vocabulary common to written texts but not commonly a part of speech; as used in the English Language Proficiency Standards, analogous to Tier Two words and phrases. Bailey & Heritage (2010) refer to this as “school navigational language.”

**Content-specific words and phrases:** Words and phrases appropriate to the topic or specific to a particular field of study. Sometimes referred to as “terms.” (Terms are words and phrases that are given specific meanings in specific contexts.) Bailey & Heritage (2010) refer to this as “curriculum content language.” As defined in Language standard 6 of Ohio’s Learning Standards, this refers to grade-appropriate general academic and domain-specific words and phrases, analogous to Tier Three words. (However, the English Language Proficiency Standards do not suggest that vocabulary taught to English language learners should be limited to only that defined by Ohio’s Learning Standards.)

**Three Tiers of Vocabulary:**

**Tier One:** Words acquired through everyday speech, usually learned in the early grades.

**Tier Two:** Academic words that appear across all types of text. These are often precise words that are used by an author in place of common words (e.g., “gallop” instead of “run”). They change meaning with use.

**Tier Three:** Domain-specific words that are specifically tied to content (e.g., “Constitution,” “lava”). These are typically the types of vocabulary words that are included in glossaries, highlighted in textbooks, and addressed by teachers. They are considered difficult words that are important to understanding content.

**Frequently occurring vocabulary:** This includes common words and phrases, as well as idiomatic expressions.

**Social vocabulary/language:** Cummins (2000) refers to this as “surface proficiency” and, in earlier iterations of his work, as Basic Interpersonal Communicative Skills (BICS).

**Wh- questions:** “Who,” “what,” “where,” “when,” “why,” and “how” questions.

**With prompting and support/with (some) guidance and support:** See Scaffolding.
References


References, cont.


References, cont.


References, cont.


Appendix A

PROFICIENCY LEVEL DESCRIPTORS
FOR ENGLISH LANGUAGE PROFICIENCY STANDARDS
Proficiency Level Descriptors for English Language Proficiency Standards

INTRODUCTION

The Council of Chief State School Officers utilized the services of WestEd and the Understanding Language Initiative at Stanford University to develop a new set of English language proficiency standards (CCSSO, 2013). The English Language Proficiency Standards were developed for grades K, 1, 2-3, 4-5, 6-8, and 9-12 to highlight and elaborate upon the critical language, knowledge about language, and skills using language that are within college- and career-readiness standards in mathematics, science, and English language arts and that are necessary in order for English language learners to be successful in schools.

The purpose of this Proficiency Level Descriptors for English Language Proficiency Standards document is to complement, rather than replace, the English Language Proficiency Standards. This document provides summary definitions and more detailed descriptions of what English language learners’ language forms might look like as English language learners gain proficiency with the strategic set of language functions outlined in the English Language Proficiency Standards. Following a glossary of key terms, the document concludes with an appendix that provides background information about the contexts in which the proficiency level descriptors are situated.

PROFICIENCY LEVEL DESCRIPTOR SUMMARIES

In general, proficiency level descriptors provide “descriptions of the level of English language knowledge and skills required of each [proficiency] level” (Perie, 2008, p. 15). When designing the English Language Proficiency Standards, the language forms outlined in the proficiency level descriptors were embedded throughout the grade-level/grade-span English Language Proficiency Standards according to the grade-appropriate expectations that had been placed in each English Language Proficiency Standard.

High level summaries of the PLDs provide an overview in relation to:

1. The degree of control of English that English language learners typically show as they participate in grade-appropriate classroom-based activities involving the strategic language functions outlined in the English Language Proficiency Standards; and

2. What the forms of English language learners’ language-related performance typically look like.
TABLE 1. HIGH LEVEL SUMMARIES OF FORMS EMBEDDED WITHIN THE ENGLISH LANGUAGE PROFICIENCY STANDARDS

| BY THE END OF EACH ELP LEVEL, AN ENGLISH LANGUAGE LEARNER CAN . . . |
|---|---|---|---|---|
| 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 |
| **PLD** Summary | • show limited control of English when participating in grade-appropriate classroom activities | • show emerging control of English when participating in grade-appropriate classroom activities | • show developing control of English when participating in grade-appropriate classroom activities | • show increasingly independent control of English when participating in grade-appropriate classroom activities | • show independent control of English when participating in grade-appropriate classroom activities |
| | • convey simple information, using simply constructed phrases and sentences with a limited range of vocabulary | • convey briefly sequenced and/or simply detailed information, using combinations of simple sentence structures and simple vocabulary | • use related paragraphs to convey related events, ideas, and/or opinions, using frequently occurring complex sentence structures and a developing vocabulary | • convey related events, ideas, and/or opinions, using multiple related paragraphs with increasingly complex, descriptive sentence structures and a wider vocabulary | • convey a complex sequence of events, ideas, opinions, and/or steps in a process, using a wide variety of complex and sophisticated, descriptive sentence structures and a wide vocabulary |

Additionally, once a student is considered English proficient for the purposes of English language learner assessment and eligibility for English language learner services, the student will continue to develop English language skills beyond involvement in an English language development program. Development of language skills is an ongoing process that continues throughout one's lifetime.

**DETAILED PROFICIENCY LEVEL DESCRIPTORS**

The progressions shown in Table 2 provide more detailed information on the language forms which were embedded in the English Language Proficiency Standards according to grade-appropriate expectations. They show an increasingly sophisticated use and control of language forms at the discourse, sentence, and vocabulary levels, as English language learners develop use and control of the language functions needed to participate in content-specific practices (Bailey, Reynolds Kelly, Heritage, Jones & Bernstein-Blackstock, 2013; Bailey & Heritage, 2008; Cook, White, Castro, Patton, & Bird, 2012; Valdes, Walqui, Kibler, & Alvarez, 2012).

During development, the proficiency level descriptors in Table 2 were framed in relation to the “high-leverage characteristics” (Bailey, et al., 2013 p. 84) needed for addressing the language demands found within CCR standards, at the discourse, sentence, and vocabulary levels. Bailey and colleagues (2013) clarify that “Analogous to Stevens et al.’s (2009) notion of a hypothetical learning trajectory, linguistic hallmarks present the trajectory of individual linguistic and discourse features” (p.74) helping to delineate steps taken along the progression of English language development. Based on the authors’ preliminary analyses of pilot data, characteristics for discourse, sentence, and vocabulary levels include:

1. Discourse level: level of control over organization, cohesion, and overall stamina
2. Sentence level: sophistication of sentence structure
3. Vocabulary level: sophistication of vocabulary (e.g., range and specificity), including expansion of word groups and grammatical forms
### TABLE 2. DETAILED PROFICIENCY LEVEL DESCRIPTORS FOR FORMS EMBEDDED WITHIN THE ENGLISH LANGUAGE PROFICIENCY STANDARDS

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>BY THE END OF EACH ELP LEVEL, AN ENGLISH LANGUAGE LEARNER CAN . . .</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>1</strong></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Discourse Level</strong></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>What is the amount of content-specific language that can be quickly processed or easily produced?</strong></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Sentence Level</strong></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>How much information is packed within a sentence structure (clause) or sentence?</strong></td>
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</tbody>
</table>
By the end of each ELP level, an English Language Learner can...

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Vocabulary Level</th>
<th>1</th>
<th>2</th>
<th>3</th>
<th>4</th>
<th>5</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>What is the range and specificity of words, phrases, and expressions used?</td>
<td>a limited (i.e., initial) range of simple vocabulary including:</td>
<td>a simple vocabulary including:</td>
<td>a developing vocabulary including:</td>
<td>a wider vocabulary including:</td>
<td>a wide vocabulary including:</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>• very frequently occurring words and phrases (everyday terms, cognates, and expressions with clear, easily demonstrated referents)</td>
<td>• frequently occurring words and phrases based on specific context, such as social, instructional, and general terms, cognates, and expressions across content areas</td>
<td>• words and phrases in spoken and written forms in a growing number of contexts, such as specific content-area terms, cognates, and expressions</td>
<td>• a larger proportion of vivid, less frequently occurring words and phrases</td>
<td>• an emerging awareness of how to create new words from familiar words (i.e., electricity from electric), collocations (i.e., habitual juxtaposition of a particular word with another word or words, with a frequency greater than chance) and multiple-meaning words</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>• a small number of frequently occurring words, phrases, and formulaic expressions based on literal definition of words</td>
<td>• frequently occurring pronouns used with increasing precise control</td>
<td>• an emerging awareness of how to create new words from familiar words (i.e., electricity from electric), collocations (i.e., habitual juxtaposition of a particular word with another word or words, with a frequency greater than chance) and multiple-meaning words</td>
<td>• precise derivations of words and phrases regardless of context, such as general, specific, technical, and abstract content-related vocabulary, cognates, content-specific collocations, and figurative language</td>
<td>• precise use of intensive pronouns</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>• frequently occurring pronouns used with initial control (and occasional misapplications)</td>
<td>• a few transparent idioms (i.e., expressions in which literal meaning is clearly linked to figurative meaning) that are grammatically simple in form</td>
<td>• relative pronouns (e.g., who, whom, which, that), relative adverbs (e.g., where, when, why)</td>
<td>• opaque idioms (i.e., expressions with an undetectable link between literal and figurative language) with grammatical and metaphorical complexity</td>
<td>• semi-transparent idioms (i.e., expressions in which the link between literal and figurative meaning is less obvious) with increasing grammatical and figurative complexity</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>• nonverbal communication</td>
<td></td>
<td>• transparent idioms with developing grammatical complexity</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
A NOTE ON TABLES 1 AND 2

The Levels 1-5 descriptors in Table 1 and Table 2 describe targets for English language learner performance by the end of each English language proficiency level. However, students may demonstrate a range of abilities within and across each English language proficiency level; second language acquisition does not necessarily occur in a linear fashion within or across proficiency levels. Differences in abilities within English language proficiency levels are based upon English language learners’ native language proficiency, their academic background in their first language, and their individual differences. For the purposes of presentation and understanding, the Levels 1-5 descriptors describe proficiency at the end of each English language proficiency level in terms of a linear progression across the proficiency levels of an aligned set of knowledge, skills, and abilities.

At any given point along their trajectories of English learning, English language learners may exhibit some abilities (e.g., speaking skills) at a higher proficiency level while exhibiting other abilities (e.g., writing skills) at a lower proficiency level. Additionally, a student may successfully perform a particular task at a lower proficiency level but need review at the next highest proficiency level when presented with a new or more complex type of task. Since, by definition, English language learner status is a temporary status, an English language proficiency level does not categorize a student (e.g., “a Level 1 student”), but, rather, identifies what a student knows and can do at a particular stage of ELP (e.g., “a student at Level 1” or “a student whose listening performance is at Level 1”).

A NOTE ON SCAFFOLDING

While many English language proficiency standards’ proficiency level descriptors include references to scaffolding, the proficiency level descriptors shown in this document do not include reference to scaffolding in relation to English language proficiency levels. As outlined in Guiding Principle 4 of the English Language Proficiency Standards, it is recommended that scaffolding should not be framed only as support to be provided to English language learners with lower levels of English language proficiency, and it is important to avoid encouraging or reinforcing static notions of what students can or cannot do at various levels of English language proficiency. Guiding Principle 4 states:

English language learners at all levels of English language proficiency should be provided with scaffolding in order to reach the next reasonable proficiency level as they develop grade-appropriate language capacities, particularly those that involve content-specific vocabulary and registers. The type and intensity of the scaffolding provided will depend on each student’s ability to undertake the particular task independently while continuing to uphold appropriate complexity for the student. (CCSSO, 2013, p. 4; emphasis added)

It is important that educators use a more nuanced approach to scaffolding (Walqui, Bunch, Kibler, & Pimentel, 2013). Scaffolding can be provided to students throughout the process of English language proficiency, not just at the lower English language proficiency levels.

Students at every level of English language proficiency will engage in some academic tasks that require little or no scaffolding because the students have already mastered the requisite skills and language; other tasks that require moderate scaffolding because the students can carry out some aspects of the task independently but require linguistic or other support for other aspects; and tasks that require substantial scaffolding because they entail cognitively and linguistically unfamiliar and challenging content or skills. (Walqui et al., 2013, p. 5; emphasis in original)
References


References, cont.


