Proficiency Level Descriptors

Mode of	ELD Proficiency Level Continuum				
Communication					
	At the <i>early stages</i> of the Emerging level, students are able to perform the following tasks:	Upon exit from the Emerging level, students are able to perform the following tasks:	At the <i>early stages</i> of the Expanding level, students are able to perform the following tasks:	Upon exit from the Expanding level, students are able to perform the following tasks:	
Collaborative	 Express basic personal and safety needs and ideas, and respond to questions on social and academic topics with gestures and words or short phrases. Use basic social conventions to participate in conversations. 	 Express basic personal and safety needs and ideas, and respond to questions on social and academic topics with phrases and short sentences. Participate in simple, face-to-face conversations with peers and others. 	 Express a variety of personal needs, ideas, and opinions and respond to questions using short sentences. Initiate simple conversations on social and academic topics. 	 Express more complex feelings, needs, ideas, and opinions using extended oral and written production; respond to questions using extended discourse. Participate actively in collaborative conversations in all content areas with moderate to light support as appropriate. 	
Interpretive	 Comprehend frequently occurring words and basic phrases in immediate physical surroundings. Read very brief grade-appropriate text with simple sentences and familiar vocabulary, supported by graphics or pictures. Comprehend familiar words, phrases, and questions drawn from content areas. 	 Comprehend a sequence of information on familiar topics as presented through stories and face-to-face conversation. Read brief grade-appropriate text with simple sentences and mostly familiar vocabulary, supported by graphics or pictures. Demonstrate understanding of words and phrases from previously learned content material. 	 Comprehend information on familiar topics and on some unfamiliar topics in contextualized settings. Read independently a variety of grade-appropriate text with simple sentences. Read more complex text supported by graphics or pictures. Comprehend basic concepts in content areas. 	Comprehend detailed information with fewer contextual clues on unfamiliar topics. Read increasingly complex grade-level text while relying on context and prior knowledge to obtain meaning from print. Read technical text on familiar topics supported by pictures or graphics.	
Productive	 Produce learned words and phrases and use gestures to communicate basic information. Express ideas using visuals such as drawings, charts, or graphic organizers. Write or use familiar words and phrases related to everyday and academic topics. 	 Produce basic statements and ask questions in direct informational exchanges on familiar and routine subjects. Express ideas using information and short responses within structured contexts. Write or use learned vocabulary drawn from academic content areas. 	 Produce sustained informational exchanges with others on an expanding variety of topics. Express ideas in highly structured and scaffolded academic interactions. Write or use expanded vocabulary to provide information and extended responses in contextualized settings. 	 Produce, initiate, and sustain spontaneous interactions on a variety of topics. Write and express ideas to meet most social and academic needs through the recombination of learned vocabulary and structures with support. 	

Proficiency Level Descriptors

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Proficiency Level Descriptors (continued)

Mode of Communication	ELD Proficiency Level Continuum Bridging			
	At the early stages of the Bridging level, students are able to perform the following tasks:	Upon exit from the Bridging level, students are able to perform the following tasks:		
Collaborative	 Express increasingly complex feelings, needs, ideas, and opinions in a variety of settings; respond to questions using extended and more elaborate discourse. Initiate and sustain dialogue on a variety of grade-level academic and social topics. 	 Participate fully in all collaborative conversations in all content areas at grade level, with occasional support as necessary. Participate fully in both academic and non-academic settings requiring English. 		
Interpretive	 Comprehend concrete and many abstract topics and begin to recognize language subtleties in a variety of communication settings. Read increasingly complex text at grade level. Read technical text supported by pictures or graphics. 	 Comprehend concrete and abstract topics and recognize language subtleties in a variety of communication settings. Read, with limited comprehension difficulty, a variety of grade-level and technical texts in all content areas. 		
Productive	 Produce, initiate, and sustain interactions with increasing awareness of tailoring language to specific purposes and audiences. Write and express ideas to meet increasingly complex academic demands for specific purposes and audiences. 	 Produce, initiate, and sustain extended interactions tailored to specific purposes and audiences. Write and express ideas to meet a variety of social needs and academic demands for specific purposes and audiences. 		