

ACCOMMODATING ENGLISH LANGUAGE LEARNERS IN THEIR CONTENT AREA CLASSES

PROFICIENCY LEVELS 3/4

DEVELOPING/EXPANDING

Instructional Accommodations

- ✓ Provide concrete “real” examples and experiences
- ✓ Activate prior knowledge: (e.g. K-W-L; make connections with students’ culture, experiences, interests, and skills)
- ✓ Simplify vocabulary/ Explain slang and idioms in simpler language
- ✓ Highlight/review/repeat key points and vocabulary frequently
- ✓ Establish consistent classroom routines/ List steps for completing assignments
- ✓ Use yes/no, either/or, wh- , and why/how questions (Allow wait time for responses)
- ✓ Check for comprehension on a regular basis (“Do you understand?” is not detailed enough)
- ✓ Make outlines/ Use graphic organizers and/or note-taking skeletons
- ✓ Plan ways for ESL student to participate in class and in cooperative learning groups
- ✓ Use audio tapes to reinforce learning
- ✓ Use simplified books/texts that cover content-area concepts
- ✓ Encourage note-taking and check notes for accuracy
- ✓ Help students refine grammar and spelling
- ✓ Involve students in clearly defined tasks that require them to solve problems, analyze, defend, justify, and evaluate both orally and in writing
- ✓ Encourage student to use bilingual dictionary as a learning tool

Assessment Modifications

- ✓ Instruct student to explain how an answer was achieved (orally and in writing)
- ✓ Have student complete fill-in-the-blank exercises
- ✓ Ask student to retell/restate orally and in writing
- ✓ Ask student to define/explain/summarize orally and in writing
- ✓ Have student compare and contrast orally and in writing
- ✓ Use cloze procedures with outlines, charts, timelines, etc.
- ✓ Have student analyze and explain data orally and in writing
- ✓ Instruct student to express opinions and judgments (orally and in writing)
- ✓ Limit essay writing; offer alternatives such as “fill-in-the blank” sections or short answer
- ✓ Allow additional time for completion
- ✓ Consider testing student in a separate room with an aide or ESL teacher