## **English Language Learning**

## Intro

The Priority Learning Standards for English Learners was developed to provide educators with a tool to assist in prioritizing and planning for English language development in all four language domains within all content areas. We understand language must be embedded in meaningful, authentic context, and that the dimensions, intricacies and nuances of language are complex. To support language acquisition in content areas, the Priority Learning Standards for English Learners can be used alongside the Priority Learning Standards identified for each content area.

Educators are encouraged to refer to the following resources to provide additional support for individual learners:

- WIDA 2012 English Language Development Standards
- WIDA Can Do Descriptors
- ISBE Priority Learning Standards for all content areas

While developing this tool, consideration was given to key uses that could be implemented in a flexible learning environment, could be easily supported by families, and had the potential for integration within and across content areas.

	Kindergarten				
	Receptive Lan	iguage Skills	Expressive I	Language Skills	
	Listening Reading		Speaking	Writing	
1	Process recounts by pointing to pictures described orally in context (e.g., "the big dog") and finding familiar people, places, or objects named orally (e.g., "Where's a chair?")  Process explanations by identifying illustrated activities described orally  Process arguments by classifying everyday objects by descriptive features (e.g., red ones, blue ones)  Discuss by following routines, chants, and songs	Process recounts by matching icons and symbols to corresponding pictures  Process explanations by identifying steps in procedures from illustrations and icons (e.g., "It goes up. It comes down.")  Process arguments by matching illustrations to words of personal interest as modeled	words, simple phrases or expressions from familiar stories as a whole class  Explain by identifying familiar objects used in everyday routines and activities with a partner (e.g., in the home language and English)	Recount by dictating personal information scribed by adults (e.g., about self and family members)  Explain by describing familiar routines by drawing pictures and dictating to adults (e.g., in one or more languages)  Argue by illustrating likes or dislikes from real-life objects or pictures	
I 2	Process recounts by responding with gestures to songs, chants, or stories modeled by teachers  Process explanations by	Process recounts by reproducing content-related information in oral text through drawings	Recount by restating some language associated with illustrated short stories or informational text (e.g., "I see." "I	Recount by drawing and labeling familiar people, objects, or events from models (e.g., word walls, posters, cards)	
	identifying people and places		hear.")		

	associated with everyday events described orally (e.g., "It is Monday. You are at school.")  Process arguments by identifying oral preferences stated by others (e.g., choosing pictures or objects)	identifying illustrated words or icons to show why (e.g., in play-based activities)  Process arguments by classifying labeled pictures of personal choices from stories according to different character traits	Explain by describing uses of everyday objects or roles of familiar people (e.g., "Teacher reads.")  Argue by stating personal preferences (e.g., "I like this.")  Discuss by addressing others according to relationship (e.g., student-student, student-teacher)	through language experience) Argue by drawing and reproducing words about preferences (e.g., from charts or posters)
I 3	Process recounts by following sequential language for oral directions one step at a time (e.g., "Walk to the door. Now, come to the circle.")	Process recounts by identifying familiar words in context (e.g., in Big Books or wall charts) in small groups	Recount by describing attributes of familiar objects, people, and places	Recount by reproducing familiar words from labeled models or illustrations (e.g., labeled dioramas)
	identifying language associated with features of objects or print (e.g., "Show me a word in the title.")	showing relationships depicted in informational text with real-life objects (e.g., "5 is more than 3.")  Process arguments by predicting next steps, actions, or events in informational text and stories	Explain by comparing sizes of familiar phenomena (e.g., bigger than/ smaller than, longer/ wider)  Argue by stating personal preferences or opinions (e.g., "Recess is best.")  Discuss by using language and body movement to include others in conversations	Explain by describing familiar events or phenomena using sentence starters and drawings  Argue by completing text about personal opinions on different topics (e.g., "I like .")
I 4	extended oral descriptions of content-related topics to illustrations or graphics (e.g., "The bright yellow ball is shining in the sky.")  Process explanations by drawing individual phases or steps to "how" questions (e.g., "How does a caterpillar change into a butterfly?"  Process arguments by drawing to make predictions from illustrated stories read aloud (e.g., "What happens next?")	identifying words in picture dictionaries (e.g., in multiple languages Process explanations by demonstrating the	Recount by sharing personal stories or experiences with others (e.g., in multiple languages)  Explain by comparing and contrasting placement of real-life objects and phenomena (e.g., "on the table" v. "under the table")  Argue by expressing likes, dislikes, or preferences	sequence of pictures and words  Argue by producing statements about choices using different models as examples (e.g., "I want to")
Leve I 5	Process recounts by making patterns from real objects or	Process recounts by ordering words to form short sentences	Recount by relating school- based content	Recount by describing everyday experiences using

	effect from oral information	pocket charts, cards)	and personal experiences with peers and adults  Explain by describing steps in familiar cycles and processes (e.g., getting in a circle to play a game)  Argue by giving reasons for content-related information when modeled (e.g., "These animals go together because they have spots.")  Discuss by asking questions to extend conversations	illustrated phrases and short sentences  Explain by sequencing content- related processes by drawing and describing objects (e.g., from seeds to plants)  Argue by listing reasons for content-related choices with guidance and support (e.g., "Why do you like number 5?")
Leve	x	x	×	x
l 6				
		Grade 1		
	Receptive Lan	guage Skills	Expressive I	anguage Skills
			Expressive Language Skills	
	Listening	Reading	Speaking	Writing
1	pictures described orally in context (e.g., "the big dog") and finding familiar people, places, or objects named orally (e.g., "Where's a chair?")  Process explanations by identifying illustrated activities described orally  Process arguments by classifying everyday objects by descriptive features (e.g., red ones, blue ones)  Discuss by following routines, chants, and songs	icons and symbols to corresponding pictures  Process explanations by identifying steps in procedures from illustrations and icons (e.g., "It goes up. It comes down.")  Process arguments by matching illustrations to words of personal interest as modeled	expressions from familiar stories as a whole class  Explain by identifying familiar objects used in everyday routines and activities with a partner (e.g., in the home language and English)  Argue by stating personal likes from oral prompts (e.g., sports, food, animals)	
	Process recounts by responding with gestures to songs, chants,	Process recounts by reproducing content-related	Recount by restating some language associated	Recount by drawing and
	or stories modeled by teachers	information in oral text through drawings	with illustrated short stories or informational text (e.g., "I see." "I hear.")	objects, or events from models (e.g., word walls, posters, cards)
	described orally (e.g., "It is	identifying illustrated words or icons to show why (e.g., in play-based activities)	Explain by describing uses of everyday objects or	Explain by connecting oral language to print (e.g., through language experience)

Leve	Process arguments by identifying oral preferences stated by others (e.g., choosing pictures or objects)  Process recounts by following sequential language for oral	Process arguments by classifying labeled pictures of personal choices from stories according to different character traits  Process recounts by identifying familiar words in	Argue by stating personal preferences (e.g., "I like this.")  Discuss by addressing others according to relationship (e.g., student-student, student-teacher)  Recount by describing	Argue by drawing and reproducing words about preferences (e.g., from charts or posters)  Recount by reproducing familiar words from labeled
13	directions one step at a time (e.g., "Walk to the door. Now, come to the circle.")  Process explanations by identifying language associated with features of objects or print (e.g., "Show me a word in the title.")  Process arguments by acting out opposites using gestures (e.g., through songs or chants)	context (e.g., in Big Books or wall charts) in small groups  Process explanations by showing relationships depicted in informational text with real-life objects (e.g., "5 is more than 3.")  Process arguments by predicting next steps, actions, or events in informational text and stories read aloud (e.g., by pointing to pictures)	objects, people, and places  Explain by comparing sizes of familiar phenomena (e.g., bigger than/ smaller than, longer/ wider)  Argue by stating personal preferences or opinions (e.g., "Recess is best.")  Discuss by using language and body movement to include others in conversations	models or illustrations (e.g., labeled dioramas)  Explain by describing familiar events or phenomena using sentence starters and drawings  Argue by completing text about personal opinions on different topics (e.g., "I like .")
I 4	extended oral descriptions of content-related topics to illustrations or graphics (e.g., "The bright yellow ball is shining in the sky.")  Process explanations by drawing individual phases or steps to "how" questions (e.g., "How does a caterpillar change into a butterfly?"  Process arguments by drawing to make predictions from illustrated stories read aloud (e.g., "What happens next?")	Process explanations by demonstrating the relationship between objects,	personal stories or experiences with others (e.g., in multiple languages)  Explain by comparing and contrasting placement of real-life objects and phenomena (e.g., "on the table" v. "under the table")  Argue by expressing likes, dislikes, or preferences with reasons (e.g., "I like because ")  Discuss by asking questions to request clarification	
l 5	patterns from real objects or pictures based on detailed oral		school- based content and personal experiences	Recount by describing everyday experiences using illustrated phrases and short sentences

	more crayons of another color.")  Process explanations by identifying illustrations related to cause and effect from oral information  Process arguments by agreeing	matching familiar descriptive phrases to objects or illustrations with a partner (e.g., steps in morning routines)	steps in familiar cycles and processes (e.g.,	Explain by sequencing content- related processes by drawing and describing objects (e.g., from seeds to plants)  Argue by listing reasons for content-related choices with guidance and support (e.g., "Why do you like number 5?")		
Leve	x	x	×	×		
l 6						
		Grades 2 &				
	Receptive Lan			Language Skills		
	Listening	Reading	Speaking	Writing		
1	what happens next based on familiar oral stories (e.g., by pointing or drawing)  Process explanations by pairing objects, pictures, or equations as directed by a partner  Process arguments by indicating	recounts by identifying key words and phrases in illustrated text  Process explanations by matching pictures with graphic information from illustrated texts  Process arguments by identifying language related to likes, needs, and wants in labeled illustrations	outcomes of experiments or stories with guidance and visual support	Recount by creating and labeling visual representations of ideas or stories  Explain by stating facts associated with images or illustrations  Argue by indicating decisions or preferences through labeled pictures, words, or phrases		
Leve I 2	the "who," "where" and "when" of illustrated statements  Process explanations by matching oral descriptions to photos, pictures, or icons	ge in context (e.g., in biographies) Process explanations by interpreting images, illustrations, and graphics		Recount by listing ideas using graphic organizers  Explain by stating how something happens using illustrations and sequential language (e.g., eruption of volcanoes)		

	Process arguments by categorizing content-based pictures or objects from oral descriptions (e.g., "animals that form groups to help members survive")	Process arguments by identifying claims or opinions in illustrated texts	(e.g., science experiments) Discuss by asking yes or no questions to request clarification	Argue by connecting preferences, choices, or opinions to reasons
Leve	Process recounts	Process recounts by	Recount by stating	Recount by expressing ideas
I 3	by illlustrating events in	identifying temporal-related words that signal order of events (e.g., "In the beginning")	information from personal or school- related experiences	in various genres (e.g., poetry, interactive journals)
	Process explanations by completing graphic organizers or representations from oral comparisons	Process explanations by sequencing sentences descriptive of processes or procedures in informational	Explain by expressing cause and effect of behaviors or events	Explain by stating ideas about content-related topics
	Process arguments by identifying similarities and differences from oral content-	texts  Process arguments by identifying general academic and content-related words and phrases in text relevant to the genre/key use (e.g., "once		Argue by describing pros and cons related to social issues or familiar topics
			Discuss by • Negotiating agreement in small groups • Expressing own ideas consistent with the topic discussed	
1.4	Process recounts by re-enacting content-related situations or events from oral descriptions	Process recounts by identifying main ideas and details in illustrated texts	Recount by describing situations and events from school and the community	Recount by creating stories with details about characters and events
	Process explanations by identifying content-related ideas and details in oral discourse	Process explanations by classifying main ideas and details in informational or explanatory texts	Explain by stating details of processes or procedures Argue by posing different	Explain by describing strategies to solve problems Argue by supporting main ideas or opinions with evidence from texts
	Process arguments by identifying opposing sides of arguments in dialogues	Process arguments by sorting content-related information according to specific criteria (e.g., pros and cons)	solutions to content- related issues or problems Discuss by expressing own ideas and supporting ideas of others	
Leve I 5	Process recounts by identifying details of content-related topics from oral discourse	Process recounts by highlighting relevant information in grade-level texts to produce summaries	Recount by asking and answering questions about information from speakers	Recount by describing the sequence of content-related ideas
	Process explanations by following a series of short oral directions to create models of			Explain by describing details of processes, procedures, and events

	or processes  Process arguments by identifying claims in oral presentations	in open sorts) identifying the main purpose of texts  Process arguments by matching opinions to reasons in informational texts and literature	Argue by expressing and supporting different ideas with examples  Discuss by • Initiating and maintaining conversations • Challenging ideas respectfully • Listening to, building, and extending ideas	Argue by producing persuasive pieces supported by multiple reasons or details
I 6				
		Grades 4 &	5	
	Receptive Lan	guage Skills	Expressive l	anguage Skills
	Listening	Reading	Speaking	Writing
11	oral words and phrases to content-related pictures or objects  Process explanations by distinguishing key words and phrases related to phenomena  Process arguments by matching illustrations with oral points of view	highlighting previewed or familiar phrases  Process explanations by matching illustrated words/ phrases to causal or sequential language  Process arguments by identifying key words and phrases of claims	words and phrases associated with the content using visual or graphic support  Explain by demonstrating procedures using realia  Argue by answering yes/no or choice questions across content or personal preferences  Discuss by expressing own ideas in a variety of ways (e.g., drawing, using gestures, graphing)	Recount by communicating personal experiences through drawings and words  Explain by producing short-answer responses to questions using word/phrase banks  Argue by using key words or phrases related to the topic  Recount by listing procedural
12	the context of narratives (e.g., the who, what, when, & where) to illustrations  Process explanations by following oral directions to show recurring steps in cycles or problem solving  Process arguments by distinguishing words and	identifying the "who," "what," "where," and "when" in narrative text with a partner  Process explanations by identifying key words and phrases that describe the topic or phenomena  Process arguments by differentiating between claims	stories or content- related events  Explain by giving reasons why or how something works using diagrams, charts or images  Argue by stating opinions based on experiences  Discuss by taking turns	steps across content areas  Explain by using key terms related to phenomena  Argue by stating reasons for particular points of view

			to particular conversation	
I 3	Process recounts by identifying the beginning, middle and end in oral retelling of a text  Process explanations by	Process recounts by identifying main ideas in narrative and informational text	ideas in classroom conversations on social and academic topics	Recount by using key words and phrases reflective of main ideas Explain by answering "how"
	interpreting cause and effect	Process explanations by matching causes with effects	Explain by stating clear sequential procedures to peers	or "why questions (e.g., "How does the water cycle work?" "Why are there three branches of government?"
	perspectives, stances, or points	Process arguments by identifying evidence from multiple places within text	content-based facts that support a position	Argue by connecting reasons to opinions supported by facts and details
			Discuss by answering questions to contribute to a topic	
Leve I 4	Process recounts by sequencing events or steps based on oral reading of informational text	Process recounts by connecting details to main ideas or themes	content-related oral reports	Recount by relating a sequence of events using a variety of transitional words, phrases, and clauses
	identifying precise details,	Process explanations by identifying the different words or phrases that are used to describe the same topic or phenomena	causal relationships of content-related issues and concepts	Explain by elaborating topics with facts, definitions, concrete details, or quotations and examples
	Process arguments by identifying evidence that supports predictions or hypotheses	Process arguments by hypothesizing or predicting based on evidence	evidence for claims	Argue by providing reasons and evidence which support particular point s
I 5		Process recounts by summarizing information from multiple related sources	personal and content-	Recount by creating narratives that connect personal experiences and content
	Process explanations by identifying components of systems (e.g., ecosystems,	Process explanations by identifying how text provides clear details of the topic or phenomena	Explain by elaborating by adding precision and details to content-related	Explain by describing how factors contribute to events or outcomes  Argue by including evidence from multiple sources
	uncertainty of spoken words or	Process arguments by evaluating the strength of evidence as support for claims	Argue by supporting claims with evidence from various sources Discuss by challenging	
Larre	<u></u>	<u> </u>	ideas respectfully	
Leve	X	×	X	X
I 6				

		Gr	rades 6 & 8	
	Receptive La	nguage Skills	Expressive Langua	ge Skills
	Listening	Reading	Speaking	Writing
Level 1	oral statements  Process explanations by matching instructional	by identifying icons in graphs, charts, and environmental print related to familiar topics  Process explanations by matching content related objects, pictures, or media to words and	Recount by answering select Wh- questions  Explain by showing how to solve realworld problems using symbols, numerals, graphs, or diagrams  Argue by responding yes or no to short statements or questions related to a claim	Recount by producing labeled illustrations of conclusions reached in problem-solving  Explain by (drawing and) labeling pictures, diagrams, and graphs to show relationships, processes in content
	Process arguments by identifying points of view from short statements (1st or 3rd)		Discuss by contributing to conversations by sharing own work (e.g., pictures, posters, graphics)	Argue by generating words and phrases that represent opinions (e.g., "I think")
Level 2	matching oral	Process recounts by locating main ideas in a series of simple sentences  Process explanations by comparing ideas on the same topic in a series of	Recount by stating main ideas or points of classroom conversations  Explain by connecting two content- related ideas that define "how" or  "why"  Argue by stating evidence to support  claims (in home language and English)	Recount by producing statements related to main ideas on familiar topics in home language and English Explain by comparing illustrated descriptions of content-related concepts (e.g., mitosis v. meiosis
	(e.g., weather or climate conditions)  Process arguments by identifying claims from a series of oral statements	Process arguments by	Discuss by answering Whquestions in conversations	Argue by connecting simple
Level 3	familiar text with visuals Process explanations by	identifying topic sentences, main ideas, and details in paragraphs  Process explanations by sequencing steps or events to describe processes (e.g. solving math problems)	expressing time in multiple tenses  Explain by demonstrating how to conduct experiments, engage in processes, or solve problems with supports	Recount by producing short paragraphs with main ideas and some details  Explain by producing descriptive paragraphs around a central idea  Argue by substantiating opinions with content-related examples and evidence
Level 4	Process recounts by identifying main ideas and details in oral discourse	Process recounts by identifying summaries of	Recount by paraphrasing and summarizing content-related ideas presented orally	Recount by producing content-related reports  Explain by describing relationships between

	descriptions to images, graphs, or formulas Process arguments by matching evidence to claims in oral discourse	matching content- related cause to effect in graphically- supported text  Process arguments by classifying pros and	related concepts  Argue by connecting ideas with supporting details or evidence  Discuss by demonstrating awareness of	details or examples and supporting ideas  Argue by crafting persuasive pieces (e.g., editorials) with a series of substantiated content-related claims
Level 5	sequencing a series of illustrated events from oral passages (e.g. historical recaps)  Process explanations by carrying out a series of oral directions to construct mathematical or scientific models  Process arguments by establishing	matching details of content-related topics to main idea  Process explanations by sequencing events based on cause and effect (e.g., how machines operate)  Process arguments by	content-related reports based on research from multiple sources  Explain by giving demonstrations with step-by-step details (e.g. converting Fahrenheit to Celsius)  Argue by defending points of view with specific claims	Recount by summarizing conclusions reached from steps in problem-solving or conducting experiments  Explain by producing informational text around graphs and charts  Argue by justifying ideas using multiple sources
Level 6	x	x	x	х

Page Break

	Grades 9 - 12				
	Receptive La	nguage Skills	Expressive	Language Skills	
	Listening	Reading	Speaking	Writing	
Level 1	Process recounts by matching everyday oral content- related words and phrases to pictures, diagrams, or photographs  Process explanations by identifying words and phrases related to sequence  Process arguments by	Process recounts by matching key content-related terms and ideas to images, graphs, icons, or diagrams  Process explanations by identifying key words and phrases that describe the topics or phenomena  Process arguments by matching media (e.g.,	Recount by naming and briefly describing content topics using visual support (e.g., posters, diagrams, pictures) and answering select yes/no or Wh- questions  Explain by ordering events or stages of phenomena with sequential language (e.g., first, next, step 1)  Argue by stating pros and	Recount by listing content words or phrases and including images, diagrams, and charts that relate to the topic  Explain by producing short responses to questions using word/phrase banks  Argue by listing pros and cons of issues	
	opinions or facts from oral statements	•	cons listed visually on a topic		

Level 2	matching oral descriptions of characters or main events in content-related topics  Process explanations by comparing information, symbols, or icons on charts or tables described orally  Process arguments by identifying claims in oral	Process recounts by locating main ideas in a series of related sentences  Process explanations by identifying different types of connectors that show relationships between topics and phenomena  Process arguments by making connections between statements that	examples of content-related information previously studied  Explain by posing and responding to Wh-questions that relate to phenomena  Argue by responding to oral or written claims  Discuss by asking and	Recount by following patterns specific to narrative or informational text (e.g., orientation, presentation of events, conclusion)  Explain by using transitions and connectors to show causal relationships or procedures  Argue by expressing claims with evidence (e.g., "Socialism is a good government system because")
Level 3	identifying main ideas from short content-related oral presentations  Process explanations by recognizing relationships in a series of oral statements  Process arguments by identifying language choices that represent	identifying detailed descriptions, procedures, and information in paragraphs  Process explanations by summarizing information with diagrams, models, flow charts, or illustrations  Process arguments by identifying their purposes and audiences	responding to questions in small group discussions  Explain by connecting causes to effects in a series of statements  Argue by stating claims matched to evidence using a	Recount by summarizing content- related material  Explain by choosing words and  phrases to provide precise  details, descriptions,  comparisons, and  ordered procedures  Argue by justifying reasons or  opinions with evidence
Level 4	following the steps of content-related tasks or assignments given orally  Process explanations by interpreting cause and effect from oral discourse  Process arguments by differentiating multiple perspectives presented orally	reflecting on various accounts of a subject told in different media (e.g., print and multimedia)  Process explanations by comparing information on phenomena across a variety of multimedia sources  Process arguments by identifying persuasive language across content	and summarizing content- related ideas in large and small groups Explain by providing precise words and phrases to	Recount by creating narrative or informational extended text of past events or experiences (e.g., lab reports, current events)  Explain by integrating images, diagrams, formulas, or charts to describe phenomena  Argue by creating persuasive essays or reports making adjustments for specific audiences

6				
Level	x	×	×	x
		view on any given issue	sustain conversations	
		perspectives and points of	ideas or questions to	
	others	Process arguments by recognizing multiple	Discuss by generating new	
	arguments presented by others	Drocoss arguments by	persuasive language	
	evaluating the purpose of	quotes, or examples	points of view using	
	Process arguments by	extended definitions, facts,	audiences of personal	
	ciass discussions	including how it is shaped by specific details,	Argue by convincing	
	and phenomena from class discussions	text and how it develops,	extended discourse	
	consequences of events	tracing the central idea of	objective, neutral tone in	variety of sources
	identifying effects and	Process explanations by	information using an	perspectives and evidence from a
	Process explanations by		Explain by presenting	Argue by integrating multiple
	oral discourse	extended details	irom various sources	and conesivery
	oral discourse	descriptions and	from various sources	and cohesively
	experiences or series of events based on	or theme and how it is supported by clear	presentations on content- related material learned	Explain by organizing information and details logically
5	reconstructing past	identifying the central idea	multimedia oral	language that creates coherence
Level	Process recounts by	Process recounts by	Recount by giving	Recount by sequencing using
			determine relevant ones	
			one's own ideas to	
			Discuss by sorting through	