

Chicagoland Partners for English Language Learners

*Understanding and Using the CAN DO Descriptors
with Second Language Learners*

NSSD 112

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Word Sort

- With your tablemates, please sort the words that are in your envelope.
- You may sort these words into categories, semantic maps, whatever makes sense to the group.
- You may speak in your native language during the sorting. You must, however, be able to explain the sorting to others in English.
- Teaching tip: This can be done as a picture sort for non-English readers. This is a great way to pre-teach vocabulary.

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Today's Goals

- Understand the Iceberg of Language
- Understand the Nature of Learning a New Language
- Introduction to the grade level cluster CAN DO Descriptors
 - Performance Definitions
 - Classroom Applications

Developing new understandings about language and culture

“Educating all children will require the will and commitment to understand and respond to cultural difference. To the extent that teachers know and understand how children’s past experiences have been organized and explained, they are better able to fashion new ones for them.”

(Bowman & Stott, 1994)

What is your favorite snack?

- Sweet or salty



Tammy King, IRC, 2010

Salt from the perspective of...

- A Poet
 - An Economist
 - An Nutritionist
 - A Historian
- Now in a group of four:

Discuss how your language use changed depending on the focus.

The Iceberg of Language

BICS – Basic Interpersonal Communication Skills: This is conversational language. Language on the surface.

CALPS – Cognitive Academic Language Proficiency Skills (academic language) Language of deep understanding.



The English Language Proficiency Standards

- **SOCIAL and INSTRUCTIONAL language**
- **The language of LANGUAGE ARTS**
- **The language of MATHEMATICS**
- **The language of SCIENCE**
- **The language of SOCIAL SCIENCE**

Bootstrapping

(Cloud, Genesse, Hamayan, 2009)

- ELL's use their home language to help them learn English much the way a child uses the straps to pull on their boots—it is much easier than if a child just tries to tug away at the boots themselves.
- Write down how you “bootstrap” as I read to you the following children’s classic piece of literature.
- How could you make the language more comprehensible for your students?

Best practices in ELL education

- 1) Values prior knowledge
- 2) Is context embedded
- 3) Integrates cooperative group work
- 4) Uses total physical response (gesture)
- 5) Uses multidimensional assessment
- 6) Integrates language, content, and process

Modify Teacher Talk

- Be aware of idioms (Jodi Reiss, 2008)
- Use meaningful gestures
- Teacher think alouds
- Slow down
- Use visuals
- Un-clutter the classroom environment
- Think-pair-share while teaching
- Allow extended wait time

WIDA

World-Class Instructional Design and Assessment

- Levels of Language Proficiency (measure with ACCESS)
 - Listening, Speaking, Reading, Writing
 - Entering
 - Beginning
 - Developing
 - Expanding
 - Bridging
 - Reaching
- Remember, a student can “display” different levels of language proficiency within BICS and CALPS and within each of the language skill areas: listening, speaking, reading and writing.

CAN DO Descriptors: Grade Level Cluster 1-2

For the given level of English language proficiency and with visual, graphic, or interactive support through Level 4, English language learners can process or produce the **language** needed to:

	Level 1 Entering	Level 2 Beginning	Level 3 Developing	Level 4 Expanding	Level 5 Bridging	Level 6 - Reaching
LISTENING	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Follow modeled, one-step oral directions (e.g., "Find a pencil.") Identify pictures of everyday objects as stated orally (e.g., in books) Point to real-life objects reflective of content-related vocabulary or oral statements Mimic gestures or movement associated with statements (e.g., "This is my left hand.") 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Match oral reading of stories to illustrations Carry out two- to three-step oral commands (e.g., "Take out your science book. Now turn to page 25.") Sequence a series of oral statements using real objects or pictures Locate objects described orally 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Follow modeled multi-step oral directions Sequence pictures of stories read aloud (e.g., beginning, middle, and end) Match people with jobs or objects with functions based on oral descriptions Classify objects according to descriptive oral statements 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Compare/contrast objects according to physical attributes (e.g., size, shape, color) based on oral information Find details in illustrated, narrative, or expository text read aloud Identify illustrated activities from oral descriptions Locate objects, figures, places based on visuals and detailed oral descriptions 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Use context clues to gain meaning from grade-level text read orally Apply ideas from oral discussions to new situations Interpret information from oral reading of narrative or expository text Identify ideas/concepts expressed with grade-level content-specific language 	
SPEAKING	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Repeat simple words, phrases, and memorized chunks of language Respond to visually-supported (e.g., calendar) questions of academic content with one word or phrase Identify and name everyday objects Participate in whole group chants and songs 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Use first language to fill in gaps in oral English (code switch) Repeat facts or statements Describe what people do from action pictures (e.g., jobs of community workers) Compare real-life objects (e.g., "smaller," "biggest") 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Ask questions of a social nature Express feelings (e.g., "I'm happy because...") Retell simple stories from picture cues Sort and explain grouping of objects (e.g., sink v. float) Make predictions or hypotheses Distinguish features of content-based phenomena (e.g., caterpillar, butterfly) 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Ask questions for social and academic purposes Participate in class discussions on familiar social and academic topics Retell stories with details Sequence stories with transitions 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Use academic vocabulary in class discussions Express and support ideas with examples Give oral presentations on content-based topics approaching grade level Initiate conversation with peers and teachers 	

The CAN DO Descriptors work in conjunction with the WIDA Performance Definitions of the English language proficiency standards. The Performance Definitions use three criteria (1. linguistic complexity; 2. vocabulary usage; and 3. language control) to describe the increasing quality and quantity of students' language processing and use across the levels of language proficiency.



CAN DO Descriptors: Grade Level Cluster 1-2

For the given level of English language proficiency and with visual, graphic, or interactive support through Level 4, English language learners can process or produce the **language** needed to:

	Level 1 Entering	Level 2 Beginning	Level 3 Developing	Level 4 Expanding	Level 5 Bridging	Level 6 - Reaching
READING	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Identify symbols, icons, and environmental print Connect print to visuals Match real-life familiar objects to labels Follow directions using diagrams or pictures 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Search for pictures associated with word patterns Identify and interpret pre-taught labeled diagrams Match voice to print by pointing to icons, letters, or illustrated words Sort words into word families 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Make text-to-self connections with prompting Select titles to match a series of pictures Sort illustrated content words into categories Match phrases and sentences to pictures 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Put words in order to form sentences Identify basic elements of fictional stories (e.g., title, setting, characters) Follow sentence-level directions Distinguish between general and specific language (e.g., flower v. rose) in context 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Begin using features of non-fiction text to aid comprehension Use learning strategies (e.g., context clues) Identify main ideas Match figurative language to illustrations (e.g., "as big as a house") 	
WRITING	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Copy written language Use first language (L1, when L1 is a medium of instruction) to help form words in English Communicate through drawings Label familiar objects or pictures 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Provide information using graphic organizers Generate lists of words/phrases from banks or walls Complete modeled sentence starters (e.g., "I like ____.") Describe people, places, or objects from illustrated examples and models 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Engage in prewriting strategies (e.g., use of graphic organizers) Form simple sentences using word/phrase banks Participate in interactive journal writing Give content-based information using visuals or graphics 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Produce original sentences Create messages for social purposes (e.g., get well cards) Compose journal entries about personal experiences Use classroom resources (e.g., picture dictionaries) to compose sentences 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Create a related series of sentences in response to prompts Produce content-related sentences Compose stories Explain processes or procedures using connected sentences 	

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CAN DO Descriptors: Grade Level Cluster 3-5

For the given level of English language proficiency and with visual, graphic, or interactive support through Level 4, English language learners can process or produce the **language** needed to:

	Level 1 Entering	Level 2 Beginning	Level 3 Developing	Level 4 Expanding	Level 5 Bridging	Level 6 - Reaching
LISTENING	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Point to stated pictures, words, or phrases Follow one-step oral directions (e.g., physically or through drawings) Identify objects, figures, people from oral statements or questions (e.g., "Which one is a rock?") Match classroom oral language to daily routines 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Categorize content-based pictures or objects from oral descriptions Arrange pictures or objects per oral information Follow two-step oral directions Draw in response to oral descriptions Evaluate oral information (e.g., about lunch options) 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Follow multi-step oral directions Identify illustrated main ideas from paragraph-level oral discourse Match literal meanings of oral descriptions or oral reading to illustrations Sequence pictures from oral stories, processes, or procedures 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Interpret oral information and apply to new situations Identify illustrated main ideas and supporting details from oral discourse Infer from and act on oral information Role play the work of authors, mathematicians, scientists, historians from oral readings, videos, or multi-media 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Carry out oral instructions containing grade-level, content-based language Construct models or use manipulatives to problem-solve based on oral discourse Distinguish between literal and figurative language in oral discourse Form opinions of people, places, or ideas from oral scenarios 	
SPEAKING	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Express basic needs or conditions Name pre-taught objects, people, diagrams, or pictures Recite words or phrases from pictures of everyday objects and oral modeling Answer yes/no and choice questions 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Ask simple, everyday questions (e.g., "Who is absent?") Restate content-based facts Describe pictures, events, objects, or people using phrases or short sentences Share basic social information with peers 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Answer simple content-based questions Re/tell short stories or events Make predictions or hypotheses from discourse Offer solutions to social conflict Present content-based information Engage in problem-solving 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Answer opinion questions with supporting details Discuss stories, issues, and concepts Give content-based oral reports Offer creative solutions to issues/problems Compare/contrast content-based functions and relationships 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Justify/defend opinions or explanations with evidence Give content-based presentations using technical vocabulary Sequence steps in grade-level problem-solving Explain in detail results of inquiry (e.g., scientific experiments) 	

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CAN DO Descriptors: Grade Level Cluster 3-5

For the given level of English language proficiency and with visual, graphic, or interactive support through Level 4, English language learners can process or produce the **language** needed to:

	Level 1 Entering	Level 2 Beginning	Level 3 Developing	Level 4 Expanding	Level 5 Bridging	Level 6 - Reaching
READING	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Match icons or diagrams with words/concepts Identify cognates from first language, as applicable Make sound/symbol/word relations Match illustrated words/phrases in differing contexts (e.g., on the board, in a book) 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Identify facts and explicit messages from illustrated text Find changes to root words in context Identify elements of story grammar (e.g., characters, setting) Follow visually supported written directions (e.g., "Draw a star in the sky.") 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Interpret information or data from charts and graphs Identify main ideas and some details Sequence events in stories or content-based processes Use context clues and illustrations to determine meaning of words/phrases 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Classify features of various genres of text (e.g., "and they lived happily ever after"—fairytale) Match graphic organizers to different texts (e.g., compare/contrast with Venn diagram) Find details that support main ideas Differentiate between fact and opinion in narrative and expository text 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Summarize information from multiple related sources Answer analytical questions about grade-level text Identify, explain, and give examples of figures of speech Draw conclusions from explicit and implicit text at or near grade level 	
WRITING	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Label objects, pictures, or diagrams from word/phrase banks Communicate ideas by drawing Copy words, phrases, and short sentences Answer oral questions with single words 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Make lists from labels or with peers Complete/produce sentences from word/phrase banks or walls Fill in graphic organizers, charts, and tables Make comparisons using real-life or visually-supported materials 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Produce simple expository or narrative text String related sentences together Compare/contrast content-based information Describe events, people, processes, procedures 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Take notes using graphic organizers Summarize content-based information Author multiple forms of writing (e.g., expository, narrative, persuasive) from models Explain strategies or use of information in solving problems 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Produce extended responses of original text approaching grade level Apply content-based information to new contexts Connect or integrate personal experiences with literature/content Create grade-level stories or reports 	

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CAN DO Descriptors: Grade Level Cluster 6-8

For the given level of English language proficiency and with visual, graphic, or interactive support through Level 4, English language learners can process or produce the **language** needed to:

	Level 1 Entering	Level 2 Beginning	Level 3 Developing	Level 4 Expanding	Level 5 Bridging	Level 6 - Reading
LISTENING	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Follow one-step oral commands/instructions Match social language to visual/graphic displays Identify objects, people, or places from oral statements/questions using gestures (e.g., pointing) Match instructional language with visual representation (e.g., "Use a sharpened pencil.") 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Follow multi-step oral commands/instructions Classify/sort content-related visuals per oral descriptions Sequence visuals per oral directions Identify information on charts or tables based on oral statements 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Categorize content-based examples from oral directions Match main ideas of familiar text read aloud to visuals Use learning strategies described orally Identify everyday examples of content-based concepts described orally Associate oral language with different time frames (e.g., past, present, future) 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Identify main ideas and details of oral discourse Complete content-related tasks or assignments based on oral discourse Apply learning strategies to new situations Role play, dramatize, or re-enact scenarios from oral reading 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Use oral information to accomplish grade-level tasks Evaluate intent of speech and act accordingly Make inferences from grade-level text read aloud Discriminate among multiple genres read orally 	
SPEAKING	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Answer yes/no and choice questions Begin to use general and high frequency vocabulary Repeat words, short phrases, memorized chunks Answer select WH-questions (e.g., "who," "what," "when," "where") within context of lessons or personal experiences 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Convey content through high frequency words/phrases State big/main ideas of classroom conversation Describe situations from modeled sentences Describe routines and everyday events Express everyday needs and wants Communicate in social situations Make requests 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Begin to express time through multiple tenses Retell/rephrase ideas from speech Give brief oral content-based presentations State opinions Connect ideas in discourse using transitions (e.g., "but," "then") Use different registers inside and outside of class State big/main ideas with some supporting details Ask for clarification (e.g., self-monitor) 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Paraphrase and summarize ideas presented orally Defend a point of view Explain outcomes Explain and compare content-based concepts Connect ideas with supporting details/evidence Substantiate opinions with reasons and evidence 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Defend a point of view and give reasons Use and explain metaphors and similes Communicate with fluency in social and academic contexts Negotiate meaning in group discussions Discuss and give examples of abstract, content-based ideas (e.g., democracy, justice) 	

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CAN DO Descriptors: Grade Level Cluster 6-8

For the given level of English language proficiency and with visual, graphic, or interactive support through Level 4, English language learners can process or produce the **language** needed to:

	Level 1 Entering	Level 2 Beginning	Level 3 Developing	Level 4 Expanding	Level 5 Bridging
READING	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Associate letters with sounds and objects Match content-related objects/pictures to words Identify common symbols, signs, and words Recognize concepts of print Find single word responses to WH- questions (e.g., "who," "what," "when," "where") related to illustrated text Use picture dictionaries/ illustrated glossaries 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Sequence illustrated text of fictional and non-fictional events Locate main ideas in a series of simple sentences Find information from text structure (e.g., titles, graphs, glossary) Follow text read aloud (e.g., tapes, teacher, paired-readings) Sort/group pre-taught words/ phrases Use pre-taught vocabulary (e.g., word banks) to complete simple sentences Use L1 to support L2 (e.g., cognates) Use bilingual dictionaries and glossaries 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Identify topic sentences, main ideas, and details in paragraphs Identify multiple meanings of words in context (e.g., "cell," "table") Use context clues Make predictions based on illustrated text Identify frequently used affixes and root words to make/extract meaning (e.g., "un-," "re-," "-ed") Differentiate between fact and opinion Answer questions about explicit information in texts Use English dictionaries and glossaries 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Order paragraphs Identify summaries of passages Identify figurative language (e.g., "dark as night") Interpret adapted classics or modified text Match cause to effect Identify specific language of different genres and informational texts Use an array of strategies (e.g., skim and scan for information) 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Differentiate and apply multiple meanings of words/ phrases Apply strategies to new situations Infer meaning from modified grade-level text Critique material and support argument Sort grade-level text by genre
WRITING	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Draw content-related pictures Produce high frequency words Label pictures and graphs Create vocabulary/concept cards Generate lists from pre-taught words/phrases and word banks (e.g., create menu from list of food groups) 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Complete pattern sentences Extend "sentence starters" with original ideas Connect simple sentences Complete graphic organizers/ forms with personal information Respond to yes/no, choice, and some WH- questions 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Produce short paragraphs with main ideas and some details (e.g., column notes) Create compound sentences (e.g., with conjunctions) Explain steps in problem-solving Compare/contrast information, events, characters Give opinions, preferences, and reactions along with reasons 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Create multiple-paragraph essays Justify ideas Produce content-related reports Use details/examples to support ideas Use transition words to create cohesive passages Compose intro/body/ conclusion Paraphrase or summarize text Take notes (e.g., for research) 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Create expository text to explain graphs/charts Produce research reports using multiple sources/ citations Begin using analogies Critique literary essays or articles

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Selecting Words to Teach

(Cloud, Genesee, Hamayan, 2009)

- **Select words that are important for understanding the essential learnings and the text.**
- **Do not exceed the number of words that student can remember (around 6 to 10 per lesson, depending on the learners' age and/or stage of proficiency).**
- **Select words that can advance student's word learning skills (words with particular prefixes or suffixes for example)**
- **Teach words that are frequent, useful and likely to be encountered in the content area. They should be highly transferrable to other units or content areas.**
- **Do not directly teach words if students can use context or structural analysis skills to discover the word's meaning.**
- **Be sure that you select an appropriately leveled passage to begin with, one for which you will only need to teach a small number of words prior to reading.**

Using WIDA levels to differentiate instruction and teach vocabulary

1. You will be assigned a WIDA level.
2. Listen to the story of *The Kapok Tree*.
3. As I read you the story, using your assigned WIDA level, write down the vocabulary words you hear that would be appropriate to teach for that level.
4. Choose a theme/topic that you would teach using this book.
5. Now, using your chosen theme and your assigned WIDA level, review your list and narrow it down to 6 - 10 essential words.

Thank you and Feedback

- Please visit our website at www.luc.edu/cpell
 - You will find symposium power-points for administrators, teachers, and parents.
 - You will find out more about our great CPELL scholars and graduates.
 - You will find additional resources to help you serve your ELL students and families.
- Feedback:
 - 2 CPDU forms—complete and turn in the form with the checkboxes; keep the other form for your records.
 - 1 CPELL feedback form—complete and turn in. Please make sure you mark your position at the top of the form.