

## Second Language Acquisition Stages for ELLs

Stage	Characteristics	Approximate Time Frame	Teacher Prompts for Instruction and Assessment
Preproduction	<p>The student</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Has minimal comprehension</li> <li>Does not verbalize</li> <li>Nods "Yes" and "No"</li> <li>Draws and points</li> </ul>	0 - 6 months	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Show me...</li> <li>Circle the...</li> <li>Where is...?</li> <li>Who has...?</li> </ul>
Early Production	<p>The student</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Has limited comprehension</li> <li>Produces one- or two-word responses</li> <li>Participates using key words and familiar phrases</li> <li>Uses present-tense verbs</li> </ul>	6 months - 1 year	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Yes/no questions</li> <li>Either/or questions</li> <li>One- or two-word answers</li> <li>Lists</li> <li>Labels</li> </ul>
Speech Emergence	<p>The student</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Has good comprehension</li> <li>Can produce simple sentences</li> <li>Makes grammar and pronunciation errors</li> <li>Frequently misunderstands jokes</li> </ul>	1 - 3 years	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Why...?</li> <li>How...?</li> <li>Explain...</li> <li>Phrase or short-sentence answers</li> </ul>
Intermediate Fluency	<p>The student</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Has excellent comprehension</li> <li>Makes few grammatical errors</li> </ul>	3 - 5 years	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>What would happen if...?</li> <li>Why do you think...?</li> </ul>
Advanced Fluency	<p>The student has a near-native level of speech.</p>	5 - 7 years	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Decide if...</li> <li>Retell...</li> </ul>

Source: Adapted from Krashen and Terrell as cited in Hill & Flynn (2006, p.15)

Found at; <http://www.ascd.org/publications/books/108052/chapters/The-Stages-of-Second-Language-Acquisition.aspx>