



**PRIME**<sup>TM</sup>

Protocol for Review of  
Instructional Materials for ELLs

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WIDA PRIME Correlation

## Introduction

The Protocol for Review of Instructional Materials for ELLs (PRIME) has been developed by World-Class Instructional Design and Assessment (WIDA) to assist publishers and educators in examining the representation of key elements of the WIDA English language proficiency standards in their materials.

The intent of this review is to identify the ways in which elements of the *WIDA English Language Proficiency Standards, 2007 Edition, PreKindergarten through Grade 12* are represented in the published materials. These materials vary from core or supplemental texts to DVDs to software programs; however, it is assumed that they all seek to provide teachers with standards-based references to use with English language learners in diverse settings across the United States.

The **Protocol for Review of Instructional Materials for ELLs (PRIME)** is **not** an evaluative tool aimed to judge the effectiveness of published materials using the WIDA English Language Proficiency (ELP) Standards. The goal of the Protocol for Review of Instructional Materials for ELLs (PRIME) is twofold:

- to aid publishers and correlators in developing materials and communicating how their materials incorporate or address aspects of the WIDA English Language Proficiency Standards, and
- to assist educators in making informed decisions in selecting instructional materials for programs serving English language learners.

WIDA welcomes the opportunity to work with both publishers and educators. WIDA realizes that it has a unique perspective on the conceptualization of language proficiency standards and how it envisions their use. It is our hope that by using this inventory, publishers will gain a keener understanding of some of the facets involved in the language development of English language learners as they pertain to their products.

## Organization

The Protocol for Review of Instructional Materials for ELLs (PRIME) is organized into two parts that, as a whole, are intended to provide information about instructional materials in each of 14 criteria. **Part 1** contains information about the materials that are to be reviewed. **Part 2** is the protocol used for the review of instructional materials and includes space for publishers to explain the answers to the questions. An Appendix at the end of the document provides definitions of the categories included in the PRIME correlation.

## Directions for completing the Protocol for Review of Instructional Materials for ELLs (PRIME) inventory:

- STEP 1:** Complete information about materials being reviewed.
- STEP 2:** Respond to the “Yes/No” questions about the presence of the criteria in the materials.
- STEP 3:** Provide justification to support your “Yes” responses. (Note: If additional explanation for “No” answers is relevant to readers’ understanding of the materials, this may also be included.)

## Organization of the WIDA English Language Proficiency Standards In Relation to the Protocol for Review of Instructional Materials for ELLs

The 14 PRIME criteria are in **BOLD** below.

### I. Performance Definitions (Criteria that shape the ELP Standards)

- IA. **Linguistic Complexity**
- IB. **Vocabulary Usage**
- IC. **Language Control/Conventions**

### II. English Language Proficiency Standards

- IIA. **Presence of WIDA ELP Standards**
- IIB. **Representation of Language Domains (Listening, Speaking, Reading, Writing)**

### III. Levels of English Language Proficiency (Entering, Beginning, Developing, Expanding, Bridging)

- IIIA. **Differentiation of Language**
- IIIB. **Scaffolding Language Development**

### IV. Strands of Model Performance Indicators

- IVA. *Language Functions*
  - **Attached to Context**
  - **Higher Order Thinking**
- IVB. *Content Stem*
  - **Coverage and Specificity of Example Topics**
  - **Accessibility to Grade Level Content**
- IVC. *Instructional Supports*
  - **Sensory Support**
  - **Graphic Support**
  - **Interactive Support**

## Part 1: Information About Materials

Publication Title(s): \_\_\_\_\_

Publisher: \_\_\_\_\_

Materials/ Program to be Reviewed: \_\_\_\_\_

Tools of Instruction included in this review: \_\_\_\_\_

Intended Teacher Audiences: \_\_\_\_\_

Intended Student Audiences: \_\_\_\_\_

WIDA Framework(s) considered: \_\_\_\_\_

Language domains addressed in material: \_\_\_\_\_

WIDA English Language Proficiency Standards addressed: \_\_\_\_\_

WIDA language proficiency levels included: \_\_\_\_\_

Most Recently Published Edition or Website: \_\_\_\_\_

In the space below explain the focus or intended use of the materials.

## Part 2: PRIME Correlation Tool

### I. PERFORMANCE DEFINITIONS

#### IA. Linguistic Complexity (the amount and quality of speech or writing)

YES NO

- A. Do the instructional materials take into account linguistic complexity for language learners?
- B. Do the instructional materials address linguistic complexity for all of the targeted proficiency levels?
- C. Is linguistic complexity systematically addressed, in multiple lessons, chapters, or units, in the materials?

Justification: In the box below provide examples from materials as evidence to support each “yes” response for this section. Provide descriptions, not just page numbers.

#### IB. Vocabulary Usage (specificity of words, from general to specific to technical)

YES NO

- A. Is vocabulary usage represented as words, phrases, and expressions in context?
- B. Is vocabulary usage addressed in the materials for all of the targeted levels of proficiency?
- C. Are general, specific, and technical language usage systematically presented throughout the materials?

Justification: In the box below provide examples from materials as evidence to support each “yes” response for this section. Provide descriptions, not just page numbers.

#### IC. Language Control/Conventions (comprehensibility of language)

YES NO

- A. Are opportunities to demonstrate language control presented in the materials?
- B. Do opportunities to demonstrate language control correspond to all targeted levels of language proficiency?

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YES NO

- C. Are opportunities to demonstrate language control systematically presented in the materials in multiple chapters, lessons, or units?

Justification: In the box below provide examples from materials as evidence to support each “yes” response for this section. Provide descriptions, not just page numbers.

## II. ENGLISH LANGUAGE PROFICIENCY (ELP) STANDARDS

### IIA. Presence of WIDA English Language Proficiency Standards

YES NO

- A. Are social and instructional language and one or more of the remaining WIDA Standards (the language of Language Arts, of Mathematics, of Science, and of Social Studies) present in the materials?
- B. Do the materials systematically integrate Social and Instructional Language and the language of the targeted content area(s)?

Justification: In the box below provide examples from materials as evidence to support each “yes” response for this section. Provide descriptions, not just page numbers.

### IIB. Representation of Language Domains

YES NO

- A. Are the language domains (listening, speaking, reading, and writing) targeted in the materials?
- B. Are the targeted language domains presented within the context of language proficiency levels?
- C. Are the targeted language domains systematically integrated throughout the materials?

Justification: In the box below provide examples from materials as evidence to support each “yes” response for this section. Provide descriptions, not just page numbers.

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**III. LEVELS OF LANGUAGE PROFICIENCY**

**IIIA. Differentiation of Language** (for ELP levels)

YES NO

- A. Do the materials differentiate between the language proficiency levels?
- B. Is differentiation of language proficiency developmentally and linguistically appropriate for the designated language levels?
- C. Is differentiation of language systematically addressed throughout the materials?

Justification: In the box below provide examples from materials as evidence to support each “yes” response for this section. Provide descriptions, not just page numbers.

**IIIB. Scaffolding Language Development** (from ELP level to ELP level)

YES NO

- A. Do the materials provide scaffolding supports for students to advance within a proficiency level?
- B. Do the materials provide scaffolding supports for students to progress from one proficiency level to the next?
- C. Are scaffolding supports presented systematically throughout the materials?

Justification: In the box below provide examples from materials as evidence to support each “yes” response for this section. Provide descriptions, not just page numbers.

**IV. STRANDS OF MODEL PERFORMANCE INDICATORS**

**IVA. Language Functions**

YES NO **Context**

- A. Do the materials include a range of language functions?
- B. Do the language functions attach to a context (i.e. are they incorporated into a communicative goal or activity)?

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YES NO

- C. Are language functions presented comprehensively to support the progression of language development?

Justification: In the box below provide examples from materials as evidence to support each “yes” response for this section. Provide descriptions, not just page numbers.

YES NO

**Higher Order Thinking**

- D. Are opportunities to engage in higher order thinking present for students of various levels of English language proficiency?
- E. Are opportunities for engaging in higher order thinking systematically addressed in the materials?

Justification: In the box below provide examples from materials as evidence to support each “yes” response for this section. Provide descriptions, not just page numbers.

**IVB. Content Stem**

YES NO **Coverage and Specificity of Example Content Topics**

- A. Do examples cover a wide range of topics typically found in state and local academic content standards?
- B. Are example topics accessible to English language learners of the targeted level(s) of English language proficiency?
- C. Are example topics systematically presented throughout the materials?

Justification: In the box below provide examples from materials as evidence to support each “yes” response for this section. Provide descriptions, not just page numbers.

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- YES NO **Accessibility to Grade Level Content**
- D. Is linguistically and developmentally appropriate grade level content present in the materials?
- E. Is grade level content accessible for the targeted levels of language proficiency?
- F. Is the grade level content systematically presented throughout the materials?

Justification: In the box below provide examples from materials as evidence to support each “yes” response for this section. Provide descriptions, not just page numbers.

**IVC. INSTRUCTIONAL SUPPORTS**

- YES NO **Sensory Support**
- A. Are sensory supports, which may include visual supports, present and varied in the materials?
- B. Are sensory supports relevant to concept attainment and presented in a manner that reinforces communicative goals for the targeted levels of proficiency?
- C. Are sensory supports systematically presented throughout the materials?

Justification: In the box below provide examples from materials as evidence to support each “yes” response for this section. Provide descriptions, not just page numbers.

- YES NO **Graphic Support**
- D. Are graphic supports present and varied in the materials?
- E. Are graphic supports relevant to concept attainment and presented in a manner that reinforces communicative goals for the targeted proficiency levels?
- F. Are graphic supports systematically presented throughout the materials?

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Justification: In the box below provide examples from materials as evidence to support each “yes” response for this section. Provide descriptions, not just page numbers.

YES NO **Interactive Support**

G. Are interactive supports present and varied in the materials?

H. Are interactive supports present and relevant to concept attainment for the targeted proficiency levels?

I. Are interactive supports varied and systematically presented in the materials?

Justification: In the box below provide examples from materials as evidence to support each “yes” response for this section. Provide descriptions, not just page numbers.

## Appendix

- I. Performance Definitions** – the criteria (linguistic complexity, vocabulary usage, and language control) that shape each of the six levels of English language proficiency that frame the English language proficiency standards.
- IA. Linguistic Complexity** – the amount and quality of speech or writing for a given situation
  - IB. Vocabulary Usage** – the specificity of words (from general to technical) or phrases for a given context
  - IC. Language Control/Conventions** – the comprehensibility and understandability of the communication for a given context
- II. English Language Proficiency Standards** – the language expectations of English language learners at the end of their English language acquisition journey across the language domains, the four main subdivisions of language.
- IIA. Five WIDA ELP Standards:**
1. English language learners **communicate** for **Social** and **Instructional** purposes within the school setting.
  2. English language learners **communicate** information, ideas, and concepts necessary for academic success in the content area of **Language Arts**.
  3. English language learners **communicate** information, ideas, and concepts necessary for academic success in the content area of **Mathematics**.
  4. English language learners **communicate** information, ideas, and concepts necessary for academic success in the content area of **Science**.
  5. English language learners **communicate** information, ideas, and concepts necessary for academic success in the content area of **Social Studies**.
- IIB. Domains:**
- **Listening** – process, understand, interpret, and evaluate spoken language in a variety of situations
  - **Speaking** – engage in oral communication in a variety of situations for a variety of audiences
  - **Reading** – process, understand, interpret, and evaluate written language, symbols and text with understanding and fluency
  - **Writing** – engage in written communication in a variety of situations for a variety of audiences
- III. Levels of English Language Proficiency** - The five language proficiency levels (1-Entering, 2-Beginning, 3-Developing, 4-Expanding, 5- Bridging) outline the progression of language development in the acquisition of English. The organization of the standards into strands of Model Performance Indicators (MPIs) illustrates the continuum of language development.
- IIIA. Differentiation** – providing instruction in a variety of ways to meet the educational needs of students at different proficiency levels
  - IIIB. Scaffolding** – building on already acquired skills and knowledge from level to level of language proficiency based on increased linguistic complexity, vocabulary usage, and language control through the use of supports.

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**IV. Strands of Model Performance Indicators** – examples that describe a specific level of English language proficiency for a language domain. Each Model Performance Indicator has three elements: Language Function, Content Stem, and Support

**IVA. Language Functions** – the first of the three elements in model performance indicators indicates how ELLs are to process and use language to demonstrate their English language proficiency.

- Context – the extent to which language functions are presented comprehensively, socially and academically in materials
- Higher Order Thinking – cognitive processing that involves learning complex skills such as critical thinking and problem solving.

**IVB. Content Stem** – the second element relates the context or backdrop for language interaction within the classroom. The language focus for the content may be social, instructional or academic depending on the standard.

**IVC. Instructional Support** – instructional strategies or tools used to assist students in accessing content necessary for classroom understanding or communication and to help construct meaning from oral or written language. Three categories of instructional supports include sensory, graphic and interactive supports.

- Sensory support – A type of scaffold that facilitates students’ deeper understanding of language or access to meaning through the visual or other senses.
- Graphic support – A type of scaffold to help students demonstrate their understanding of ideas and concepts without having to depend on or produce complex and sustained discourse.
- Interactive support – A type of scaffold to help students communicate and facilitate their access to content, such as working in pairs or groups to confirm prior knowledge, using their native language to clarify, or incorporating technology into classroom activities.