

Part VI: Explaining ACCESS for ELLS™, Assessing Comprehension and Communication in English State to State, the New English Language Proficiency Test

The optimal path to second language fluency is through the primary language.

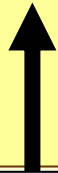
See bibliography for references.

We are creating a crosswalk for English language learners between English language proficiency and academic achievement.

Threshold 1

Threshold 2

**Academic
ACCESS**



**State Assessment
with Accommodations**



State Assessment

**ACCESS for ELLs....a measure of
English language proficiency**

ACCESS for ELLs™ will become the state measure of English language proficiency. It may replace your district's current English language proficiency test starting in the 2005-2006 academic year.

As it is a federally mandated accountability measure, **ACCESS for ELLs™** will be a **state** expenditure.

IMAGE is NOT currently being use as a measure of English language proficiency; it is NOT

- Compliant with the tenets of No Child Left Behind
- Anchored in state English language proficiency standards
- A measure of all language domains
- Designed for K-2 English language learners

The New Generation of English Language Proficiency Tests Must:

- Encompass social language proficiency
- Incorporate academic language proficiency
- Measure listening, speaking, reading, and writing (and comprehension)
- Be anchored in state English language proficiency standards

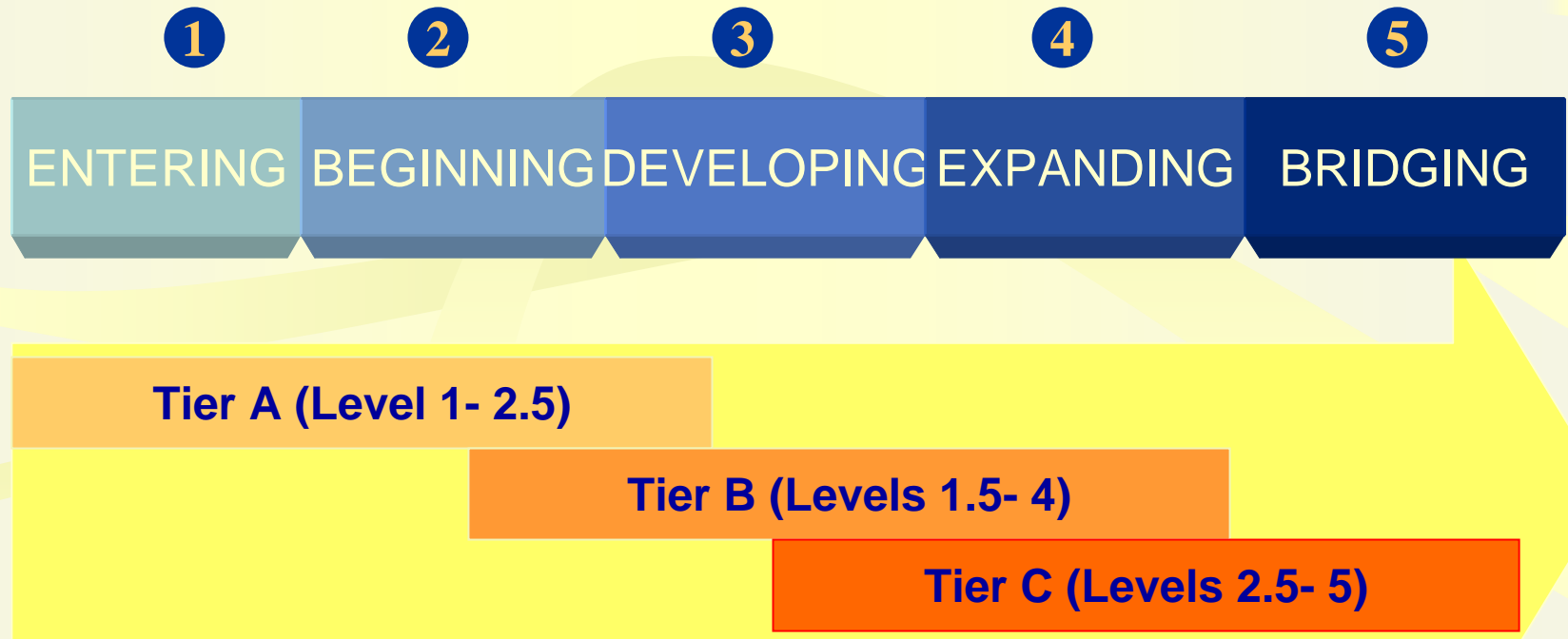
Features of ACCESS for ELLS™

- Two secure forms for annual assessment
- A non-secure, web-based screener for identification and placement
- Annually refreshed
- 5 grade level clusters (K, 1-2, 3-5, 6-8, 9-12)
- 3 Tiers of English language proficiency (A-beginning, B-intermediate, C-advanced)

Why Have a Tiered Test? To...

- Provide greater, and more appropriate, coverage of targeted language proficiency levels
- Differentiate assessment (as instruction)
- Improve program design and services for English language learners

Tier Alignment with Proficiency Levels



Annual ACCESS for ELLs

Administration Times and Scoring

Language Domain	Administration Time	Scoring
Listening	20 minutes	Machine
Speaking	10-15 minutes	Teacher
Reading	40 minutes	Machine
Writing	Up to 1 hour	Rater

Activities and Timeline for ACCESS for ELLs™..

Starting with the English Language Proficiency Standards

- Test specifications
- On-line national course to generate items
- National item review
- Addition of graphics
- Content and bias reviews
- Creation of forms and administration manuals

- Pilot testing May 2004 in WI, IL, and DC
- Field testing fall 2004 in member states
- Professional development related to test administration in all sites
- Implementation Spring 2005...in Illinois, Fall 2005

The Potential Impact of the English Language Proficiency Standards on Teaching and Learning

- **Co-operation**
- **Collaboration**
- **Connections**
- **Commitment**

Next Steps: Putting the English Language Proficiency Standards to Use

What are some ways in which you can share the English language proficiency standards with your colleagues?

What do you plan to do first to implement standards-based education for English language learners?