Alberta Education ESL Proficiency Benchmarks Tracking Sheets: Grades 1–3

Student Name:	Grade 1 Year:	Grade 2 Year:	Grade 3 Year:
	Teacher:	Teacher:	Teacher:

			LIS	STENING—Grades 1–3					
	LEVEL 1 DA Beginning	LEVEL 2 Developing	DATE	LEVEL 3 Expanding	DATE	LEVEL 4 Bridging	DATE	LEVEL 5 Extending	DATE
Note: The number of	f words acquired by the end of each level prov	vides educators with an appreciation of the amou	ınt of vocabı	llary development from one level to the nex	t. Teachers	are neither expected nor encouraged to co	omplete wor	d counts in order to measure language pro	oficiency.
Linguistic Vocabulary (knowledge of words and their meaning)	Understands a few words (i.e., approximately 1500), including: • utility words related to familiar objects with visual support.	Understands some words (i.e., approximately 2000), including: utility words descriptive words with visual support.		Understands more words (i.e., approximately 4000), including: utility words descriptive words subject-specific words.		Understands a range of words (i.e., approximately 7500), including: utility words descriptive words subject-specific words. academic words.		Understands a broad range of words (i.e., approximately 10,000), including: utility words descriptive words subject-specific words. academic words.	
Linguistic Syntax (knowledge of word order and sentence structure)	Understands: commands simple phrases associated with familiar routines with visual support.	 Understands: two-step commands two-step phrases simple sentences on familiar topics with visual support. 		Understands: • three-step commands • detailed sentences on familiar topics with visual support.		Understands: • multi-step directions • complex sentences on familiar topics with minimal support.		Understands: • multi-step directions • complex sentences • compound sentences on unfamiliar topics with minimal support.	
Strategic Questioning (knowledge of ways to seek information)	Understands: • simple directives • "yes/no" questions • "either/or" questions accompanied by visual support.	Understands literal questions using: • "what" • "when" • "where" • "who" • "how many."		Understands critical thinking questions using: • "what" • "when" • "where" • "who" • "how many."		Understands open-ended questions requiring: • explanation • elaboration • comparison.		Understands hypothetical questions using: • "If?" • "What if?" • "Would you?" • "How?"	

Date the descriptor when the English language learner has consistently demonstrated it in a variety of subject areas.

Note: English language proficiency (ELP) develops within seven years (on average). Each English language learner progresses at a different rate. Some English language learners may experience some regression when the academic language requirements become more complex as they progress through the grades. Attach a new tracking tool to the existing one so that the student's progression or recession is tracked.

				LIS	STENING—Grades 1–3					
	LEVEL 1 Beginning	DATE	LEVEL 2 Developing	DATE	LEVEL 3 Expanding	DATE	LEVEL 4 Bridging	DATE	LEVEL 5 Extending	DATE
Strategic Clarification (knowledge of ways to confirm understanding)	Requests clarification using: gesturing mimicking single words.		Requests clarification using: • familiar phrases.		Requests clarification using: simple questions.		Clarifies understanding by asking: • specific questions.		Asks questions to get: • more information to extend knowledge during a class discussion.	
Socio-linguistic (awareness of social and cultural factors influencing the way language is used)	Understands: • familiar social expressions.		Understands: • familiar language • expressions used in classroom and school contexts.		Recognizes: • differences in formality of speech in familiar contexts.		Recognizes: • differences in formality of speech in unfamiliar contexts.		Understands:	
Discourse (knowledge of how ideas are organized and connected)	Understands: • a few words in related sentences about familiar topics with visual support.		Understands: • the gist of sentences and phrases connected with: • "and" and "then" with visual support.		Understands: main ideas in texts on unfamiliar topics connected with: common conjunctions time markers sequence markers.		Understands: main ideas some details of texts on unfamiliar topics connected with: common conjunctions time markers sequence markers.		Understands: • detailed explanations of unfamiliar topics connected with a variety of: • conjunctions • time markers • sequence markers.	
Auditory Discrimination (ability to hear differences in the sounds of letters and letter combinations)	Recognizes: • most English phonemes (sounds). Listens for: • recognizable words.		Identifies:		Understands: • familiar reduced speech. Distinguishes: • minimal pairs.		Understands: • familiar rapid speech. Distinguishes: • words that rhyme.		Understands: • rapid speech from unfamiliar speakers. Distinguishes: • word forms.	

				SP	EAKING—Grades 1–3					
	LEVEL 1 Beginning	DATE	LEVEL 2 Developing	DATE	LEVEL 3 Expanding	DATE	LEVEL 4 Bridging	DATE	LEVEL 5 Extending	DATE
Note: The number of	words acquired by the end of each level	provides e	ducators with an appreciation of the amoun	t of vocabu	lary development from one level to the next	. Teachers a	are neither expected nor encouraged to co	mplete wor	d counts in order to measure language profi	ciency.
Linguistic Vocabulary (knowledge of words and their meaning)	Uses a few words (i.e., approximately 1500), including: • utility words • descriptive words encountered in class.		Uses some words (i.e., approximately 2000), including: utility words descriptive words.		Uses more words (i.e., approximately 4000), including: utility words descriptive words subject-specific words.		Uses a range of words (i.e., approximately 7500), including: utility words descriptive words subject-specific words.		Uses a broad range of words (i.e., approximately 10,000), including: utility words descriptive words subject-specific words as an understanding of concepts expands.	
Linguistic Grammar (ability to forms sentences conforming to the rules of English)	Uses: pronouns adjectives adverbs nouns verbs with word-order errors and word-ending omissions.		Uses: pronouns plurals nouns verbs with overgeneralization of: -s endings -ed endings.		Uses: pronouns adjectives adverbs nouns verbs with some agreement and tense errors.		Uses: irregular plurals nouns verb-word forms with occasional errors.		Adjusts word forms for: appropriate tenseagreementwith increasing accuracy.	
Linguistic Syntax (knowledge of word order and sentence structure)	Uses: one or more words memorized phrases.		Uses: • simple sentences.		Uses positive and negative:		Adds more detail to:		Uses: simple compound complex sentence structures.	
Strategic (knowledge techniques to overcome language gaps)	Interacts using:		Interacts spontaneously with peers and adults using: • familiar phrases.		Communicates using strategies, such as:		Initiates and sustains a conversation with peers and adults by: • commenting • making a personal connection • questioning.		Initiates and sustains communicative tasks by: • paraphrasing • commenting • making a personal connection • questioning.	

				SP	EAKING—Grades 1–3					
	LEVEL 1 Beginning	DATE	LEVEL 2 Developing	DATE	LEVEL 3 Expanding	DATE	LEVEL 4 Bridging	DATE	LEVEL 5 Extending	DATE
Socio-linguistic (awareness of social and cultural factors influencing the ways language is used)	Uses familiar: greetings courtesy phrases gestures to interact in familiar social contexts.		Uses some common:		Uses common:		Uses: • common phrasal verbs in appropriate contexts.		Adjusts speech: • in formal and informal situations when interacting with peers and adults.	
Discourse (knowledge of how ideas are organized and connected)	Combines one or more words and connects words with: • "and."		Connects words in phrases and/or short simple sentences with: • common conjunctions.		Connects ideas in sentences with:		Connects ideas in related sentences with:		Connects ideas in more complex sentences with: • a variety of cohesive devices.	
Pronunciation (ability to produce comprehensible speech)	Imitates some: • English sounds in: • familiar routines although pronunciation errors may interfere with meaning.		Approximates: • English rhythm • stress • intonation in: • familiar social and classroom routines although pronunciation errors may interfere with meaning.		Uses:		Uses:		Uses:	

				RI	READING—Grades 1–3											
Note: The number	LEVEL 1 Beginning	DATE	LEVEL 2 Developing	DATE	LEVEL 3 Expanding bulary development from one level to the ne	DATE	LEVEL 4 Bridging	DATE	LEVEL 5 Extending	DATE						
Linguistic Vocabulary (knowledge of words and their meaning)	Understands a few words (i.e., approximately 1500), including: utility words descriptive words associated with environmental print and classroom words and labels. Names letters of the alphabet. Acquires some sight words.	verprovide	Understands some words (i.e., approximately 2000), including: utility words descriptive words subject-specific words.	ant of voca	Understands more words (i.e., approximately 4000), including: utility words descriptive words subject-specific words.	cat. reduite	Understands a range of words (i.e., approximately 7500), including: • words with multiple meanings. Applies contextual guessing to understand texts.	Complete W	Understands a broad range of words (i.e., approximately 10,000), including: most subject-specific words. Applies word knowledge to understand texts.	oncenty.						
Linguistic Syntax (knowledge of word order and sentence structure)	Identifies:		Understands elements of: • simple sentences.		Understands: • detailed sentences.		Understands that word order impacts: • meaning.		Understands that word order impacts:							
Strategic Decoding (ability to read words by sounding them out)	Recognizes most: • sound/symbol relationships.		Uses: • phonemic awareness to: • identify sight words • decode using beginning sounds.		Uses: phonemic awareness to decode: ending sounds consonant blends digraphs simple word families.		Uses: phonemic awareness chunking to decode: long and short vowels in medial positions more complex word families.		Uses: phonemic awareness chunking to decode: vowel blends r-controlled vowels two- or three-syllable words.							
Strategic Comprehension (ability to apply techniques and tools to construct meaning)	Matches: • words • pictures to make meaning.		Relies on: • labelled diagrams • illustrations to understand new words.		Relies on: familiar phrases patterned sentences shared experiences to predict meaning.		Uses:		Uses: rereading self-correction prediction word analysis visual cues to comprehend texts on unfamiliar topics.							

				RI	EADING—Grades 1–3					
	LEVEL 1 Beginning	DATE	LEVEL 2 Developing	DATE	LEVEL 3 Expanding	DATE	LEVEL 4 Bridging	DATE	LEVEL 5 Extending	DATE
Socio-linguistic (awareness of social and cultural factors influencing the ways language is used)	Understands • shared reading experiences.		Understands:simple texts literally.		Understands that texts can have: literal meaningfigurative meaning.		Understands the figurative meaning of some: simple phrasal verbs similes.		Understands simple cultural references, such as:	
Discourse (knowledge of how ideas are organized and connected)	Understands: • simple patterned sentences on familiar topics.		Understands: simple sentences connected with: common conjunctions prepositions time markers on familiar topics.		Understands: • main ideas of related sentences connected with: • conjunctions • time markers on familiar topics.		Understands: main ideas some details of related sentences connected with: conjunctions time markers sequence markers on familiar topics.		Understands: • main ideas • details of paragraphs connected with: • a variety of cohesive devices on unfamiliar topics.	
Fluency (ability to read smoothly, accurately and with appropriate expression)	Reads: • letter-by-letter to sound out words.		Reads: • word-by-word • with pausing to refer to visuals.		Reads: • with some phrasing • with some rereading • sounding out words.		Reads: with some expression by substituting unknown words with familiar words with some self-correction.		Reads: with expression with attention to common punctuation making meaningful substitutions.	

	WRITING—Grades 1–3											
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Note: The number o	f words acquired by the end of each leve	l provides e	ducators with an appreciation of the amoun	t of vocabu	llary development from one level to the next	. Teachers	are neither expected nor encouraged to co	mplete wo	rd counts in order to measure language prof	ficiency.		
Linguistic Vocabulary (knowledge of words and their meaning)	Uses a few words (i.e., approximately 1500), including: • sight words • a few utility words • a few descriptive words related to familiar objects and personal experiences.		Uses some words (i.e., approximately 2000), including: utility words descriptive words subject-specific words related to familiar objects, actions and topics.		Uses more words (i.e., approximately 4000), including: utility words descriptive words subject-specific words related to curricular concepts.		Uses a range of words (i.e., approximately 7500), including: • synonyms • words with multiple meanings related to curricular concepts.		Uses a broad range of words (i.e., approximately 10,000), including: utility words descriptive words subject-specific words academic words related to curricular concepts.			
Linguistic Grammar (ability to forms sentences conforming to the rules of English)	Writes: nouns verbs in present tense prepositions to complete: sentence frames.		Writes: nouns verbs in simple past tense prepositions plurals with tense errors and omissions.		Writes: nouns verbs in irregular past and continuous tenses prepositions pronouns articles adjectives adverbs with usage errors.		Writes: a range of grammar structures demonstrating some control of: word order plurals tenses subject–verb agreement.		Writes: a range of grammar structures demonstrating more control of: word order plurals tenses subject–verb agreement.			
Linguistic Syntax (knowledge of word order and sentence structure)	Writes: simple phrases patterned sentences with support.		Writes: simple sentences patterned sentences independently.		Writes: simple detailed sentences compound sentences.		Writes: complex sentences simple paragraphs.		Writes: • a variety of sentence types • detailed paragraphs.			
Strategic (knowledge techniques to overcome language gaps)	Copies words with increasing accuracy.		Attempts to spell familiar words.		Invents spelling that reflects learner's own pronunciation.		Spells words according to: pronunciation knowledge of common spelling patterns.		Spells challenging words using strategies, such as: • phonic memory • visual memory.			

				W	/RITING—Grades 1–3					
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Socio-linguistic (awareness of social and cultural factors influencing the ways language is used) Discourse	Copies: • group-generated texts • pattern sentences with little or no understanding of audience and purpose.		Copies: • group-generated texts. Completes: • pattern sentence frames with some understanding of topic, audience and purpose.		Creates texts using: • appropriate templates to express cultural norms. Completes: • graphic organizers • writing plan templates with support.		Creates texts on specific topics using: • templates as a guide. Completes: • graphic organizers • writing plan templates with some support.		Creates appropriate texts demonstrating a sense of: • topic • purpose • style • register.	
(knowledge of how ideas are organized and connected)	Connects: • two or more words. Substitutes: • words in patterned sentences with support.		Connects words in simple sentences with: • "and" or "then."		Connects ideas in short, related sentences with:		Connects ideas in sentences using a range of:		Produces sequenced and organized texts using: • a variety of cohesive devices effectively.	
Editing (ability to identify and correct writing errors, improve word choice and make sentences clearer)	Edits: • sight words for spelling with direct support.		Edits for:		Edits for:		Edits sentences for:		Edits sentences for: regular punctuation a variety of tenses common irregularly spelled words.	