# Simple Strategies for English Language Learners

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| 1         | - Negligible academic language  
            - Not ready to actively produce language, single word and gesture responses  
            - 0-1,000 receptive word vocabulary | Impossible 0 to 2% accuracy 0-1 year English acquisition time | - Uses manipulatives, visuals, realia, props, games  
            - Create climate of acceptance/respect that supports acculturation  
            - Use cooperative learning groups  
            - Require physical response to check comprehension  
            - Display print to support oral language  
            - Model activities for students'  
            - Use hands-on activities  
            - Use bilingual students as peer helpers  
            - Adjust rate of speech to enhance comprehension  
            - Ask yes/no questions  
            - Ask students to show/point/draw  
            | Teach content area vocabulary/terminology |
| 2         | - Very Limited academic language  
            - Short phrases, many mistakes in grammar  
            - 1,000-6,000 word vocabulary  
            - Learning BICS | Extremely Difficult 5 to 18% accuracy 1-2 year English acquisition time | - Continue Stage 1 Strategies PLUS:  
            - Simplify language/not content  
            - Lessons designed to motivate students to talk  
            - Ask students questions that require one/two responses - Who? What? Which one? How many?  
            - Lessons expand vocabulary |
| 3         | - Limited academic language  
            - Simple sentences  
            - Responds orally and in written form  
            - Up to 7,000 word vocabulary  
            - Reading, writing, speaking and listening skills will be more decontextualized and abstract. | Difficult 34 to 67% accuracy 2-3 year English acquisition time | - Continue Stages 1 & 2 PLUS:  
            - List and review instructions step-by-step  
            - Build on students’ prior knowledge  
            - Incorporate more reading and writing  
            - Engage students in producing language such as describing, retelling, comparing, contrasting, summarizing, graphs, charts, diagrams, creating rebuses |
| 3/4       | - Between 7,000 and 12,000 word vocabulary | Manageable to Difficult 68 to 81% accuracy 3-4 year acquisition time | - Continue Stage 3 Strategies PLUS add Stage 4 as appropriate |
| 4         | - Fluent academic language  
            - Can communicate thoughts  
            - Can produce connected narrative  
            - Up to 12,000 word vocabulary  
            - Functions somewhat on an academic level with peers. | Manageable 82 to 95% accuracy 3-5 year acquisition time | - Have students brainstorm list, web, use graphic organizers  
            - Ask questions soliciting opinions, judgment, explanation (more why and how questions)  
            - Introduce figurative language  
            - Develop more academic language (oral /written) |
| 5         | - Advanced academic language  
            - Beyond 12,000 word vocabulary  
            - Functions on an academic level with peers  
            - Exit from ELL Services | Very Easy 98 to 100% accuracy 5-7 year acquisition time | - Continue Stages 1-4 Plus:  
            - Incorporate note-taking skills  
            - Demonstrate how to verify answers (oral/written)  
            - Expand figurative language (idioms)  
            - Study Skills  
            - Test-taking skills |

## Important Note - Student need to “SWRL” every day in every class

The domains of language acquisition, **Speaking, Writing, Reading and Listening** need to be equally exercised across content areas **daily**. Assuring that students are using all domains of language acquisition to support their English language development is essential.