Simple Strategies for English Language Learners

ELD Level	Characteristics of the Learner	Classroom Language Demands w/o using SIOP Strategies	Tips for Teaching
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.