

Targeted English Language Development (ELD)

What is it?

Targeted English language development is targeted and explicit Language Instruction that is purposeful, focused instruction on English language skills (listening, speaking, reading, writing) for ELs only, driven by the English Language Proficiency Standards (ELPS). In Arizona, ELs in K-5 are required to participate in 120 minutes of daily ELD instruction, and ELs in grades 6-12 are required to participate in 100 minutes of daily ELD instruction.

How does Targeted ELD work?

In grades K–5, Targeted ELD typically occurs through small-group instruction within the classroom, or teachers may group and share students so that English learners receive instruction from a designated teacher during the required 120 minutes. In grades 6–12, students are scheduled into a dedicated ELD class period taught by an ELD-certified teacher.

What should be included during Targeted ELD?

During Targeted ELD, students receive explicit instruction in English language skills, including vocabulary, grammar, reading, writing, listening, and speaking, aligned to the Arizona ELPS. The focus is on developing academic English that students need to access grade-level content, delivered through structured practice and meaningful language use. There are a variety of ways to provide explicit instruction:

1. **Academic Language Development:** Targeted ELD focuses heavily on the language of school, not just conversational English. Students should learn:
 - Academic vocabulary (tier 2/3 words) - teachers can pre-teach (frontload) vocabulary for content areas or reinforce vocabulary
 - Language structures and functions found in grade-level tasks
 - Complex sentences, grammar, and syntax
 - Transition words, signal words, and phrases for academic writing
 - Forms of academic discourse (explain, argue, compare, summarize)
2. **English language proficiency domains:** Instruction must address all four ELPS domains:
 - Listening
 - Understanding increasingly complex oral instructions
 - Identifying key details and main ideas
 - Responding to academic questions using evidence
 - Speaking
 - Practicing structured conversations

- Using sentence frames to build fluency
 - Engaging in academic discussions and presentations
 - Reading
 - Learning word-learning strategies
 - Building comprehension skills with informational and literary texts
 - Identifying text structures and features
 - Writing
 - Writing sentences, paragraphs, and multi-paragraph texts
 - Using correct grammar, punctuation, and spelling
 - Writing for different purposes (narrative, informative/explanatory, argumentative)
3. **Language Functions Aligned to Grade-Level Content:** Targeted ELD teaches the language needed to access content, not the content itself. Examples:
- How to describe (science observations)
 - How to justify and explain reasoning (math)
 - How to compare/contrast, sequence, or summarize (ELA and social studies)
 - Grade-Level and content-based vocabulary or terminology
4. **Explicit Grammar and Conventions Instruction:** Grammar is taught in context, building toward accurate academic writing. Examples:
- Parts of speech
 - Verb tenses
 - Prepositions
 - Sentence combining
 - Clauses and conjunctions
5. **Structured Practice and Output Opportunities:** Students should have frequent chances to use the target language, including:
- Student-to-student conversations
 - Content-neutral speaking routines (e.g., Think-Pair-Share, Numbered Heads Together)
 - Short, structured writing tasks
 - Oral language warm-ups

What resources are available to use during Targeted ELD?

- K-5: Elementary teachers can utilize any core (tier 1) program materials, particularly to pre-teach (frontload) vocabulary or concepts or to reinforce previously taught vocabulary or concepts, using reading, writing, listening, and speaking. Other resources include:
 - Raz Plus
 - Raz Plus EL Edition
 - Literacy Center materials (see instructional coach)
 - Language-based resources from the core ELA program (writing, grammar, vocabulary)
- 6th-12th Grade: Secondary teachers will mostly utilize their core ELD program during targeted ELD.