

WIDA – Can-Do Descriptors – Language Development Indicators for Grades 6-8

	Level 1 - Entering	IP	D	Level 2 - Beginning	IP	D	Level 3 - Developing	IP	D	Level 4 - Expanding	IP	D	Level 5 - Bridging	IP	D	
Listening	• Follow one-step oral commands/instructions			• Follow multi-step oral commands/instructions			• Categorize content-based examples from oral directions			• Identify main ideas and details of oral discourse			• Use oral information to accomplish grade-level tasks			
	• Match social language to visual/graphic displays			• Classify/sort content-related visuals per oral descriptions			• Match main ideas of familiar text read aloud to visuals			• Complete content-related tasks or assignments based on oral discourse			• Evaluate intent of speech and act accordingly			
	• Identify objects, people, or places from oral statements/questions using gestures (e.g., pointing)			• Sequence visuals per oral directions			• Use learning strategies described orally • Identify everyday examples of content-based concepts described orally			• Apply learning strategies to new situations			• Make inferences from grade-level text read aloud			
	• Match instructional language with visual representation (e.g., "Use a sharpened pencil.")			• Identify information on charts or tables based on oral statements			• Associate oral language with different time frames (e.g., past, present, future)			• Role play, dramatize, or re-enact scenarios from oral reading			• Discriminate among multiple genres read orally			
Speaking	• Answer yes/no and choice questions			• Convey content through high frequency words/phrases			• Begin to express time through multiple tenses			• Paraphrase and summarize ideas presented orally			• Defend a point of view and give reasons			
	• Begin to use general and high frequency vocabulary			• State big/main ideas of classroom conversation			• Retell/rephrase ideas from speech			• Defend a point of view			• Use and explain metaphors and similes			
				• Describe situations from modeled sentences			• Give brief oral content-based presentations			• Explain outcomes						
	• Repeat words, short phrases, memorized chunks			• Describe routines and everyday events			• Connect ideas in discourse using transitions (e.g., "but," "then")			• Explain and compare content-based concepts			• Communicate with fluency in social and academic contexts			
	• Answer select WH-questions (e.g., "who," "what," "when," "where") within context of lessons or personal experiences				• Express everyday needs and wants			• Use different registers inside and outside of class			• Connect ideas with supporting details/evidence			• Negotiate meaning in group discussions		
					• Communicate in social situations			• State big/main ideas with some supporting details			• Substantiate opinions with reasons and evidence			• Discuss and give examples of abstract, content-based deas (e.g., democracy, justice)		
				Make requests			• Ask for clarification (e.g., self-monitor)									
Reading	• Associate letters with sounds and objects			• Sequence illustrated text of fictional and non-fictional events			• Identify topic sentences, main ideas, and details in paragraphs			• Order paragraphs			• Differentiate and apply multiple meanings of words/phrases			
	• Match content-related objects/pictures to words			• Locate main ideas in a series of simple sentences			• Identify multiple meanings of words in context (e.g., "cell," "table")			• Identify summaries of passages			• Apply strategies to new situations			
	• Identify common symbols, signs, and words			• Find information from text structure (e.g., titles, graphs, glossary)			• Use context clues			• Identify figurative language (e.g., "dark as night")						
	• Recognize concepts of print			• Follow text read aloud (e.g., tapes, teacher, paired-readings)			• Make predictions based on illustrated text			• Interpret adapted classics or modified text			• Infer meaning from modified grade-level text			
	• Find single word responses to WH- questions (e.g., "who," "what," "when," "where") related to illustrated text				• Sort/group pre-taught words/ phrases			• Identify frequently used affixes and root words to make/extract meaning (e.g., "un-," "re-," "-ed")			• Match cause to effect				• Critique material and support argument	
					• Use pre-taught vocabulary (e.g., word banks) to complete simple sentences			• Differentiate between fact and opinion			• Identify specific language of different genres and informational texts					
	• Use picture dictionaries/ illustrated glossaries				• Use L1 to support L2 (e.g., cognates)			• Answer questions about explicit information in texts			• Use an array of strategies (e.g., skim and scan for information)			• Sort grade-level text by genre		
• Use bilingual dictionaries and glossaries					• Use English dictionaries and glossaries											
Writing	• Draw content-related pictures			• Complete pattern sentences			• Produce short paragraphs with main ideas and some details (e.g., column notes)			• Create multiple-paragraph essays			• Create expository text to explain graphs/charts			
	• Produce high frequency words			• Extend "sentence starters" with original ideas			• Create compound sentences (e.g., with conjunctions)			• Justify ideas			• Produce research reports using multiple sources/citations			
	• Label pictures and graphs				• Connect simple sentences			• Explain steps in problem-solving			• Produce content-related reports					
	• Create vocabulary/concept cards									• Use details/examples to support ideas			• Begin using analogies			
	• Generate lists from pretaught words/phrases and word banks (e.g., create menu from list of food groups)				• Complete graphic organizers/forms with personal information			• Compare/contrast information, events, characters			• Use transition words to create cohesive passages				• Critique literary essays or articles	
• Respond to yes/no, choice, and some WH-questions					• Give opinions, preferences, and reactions along with reasons			• Compose intro/body/conclusion			• Paraphrase or summarize text					
							• Take notes (e.g., for research)									

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