

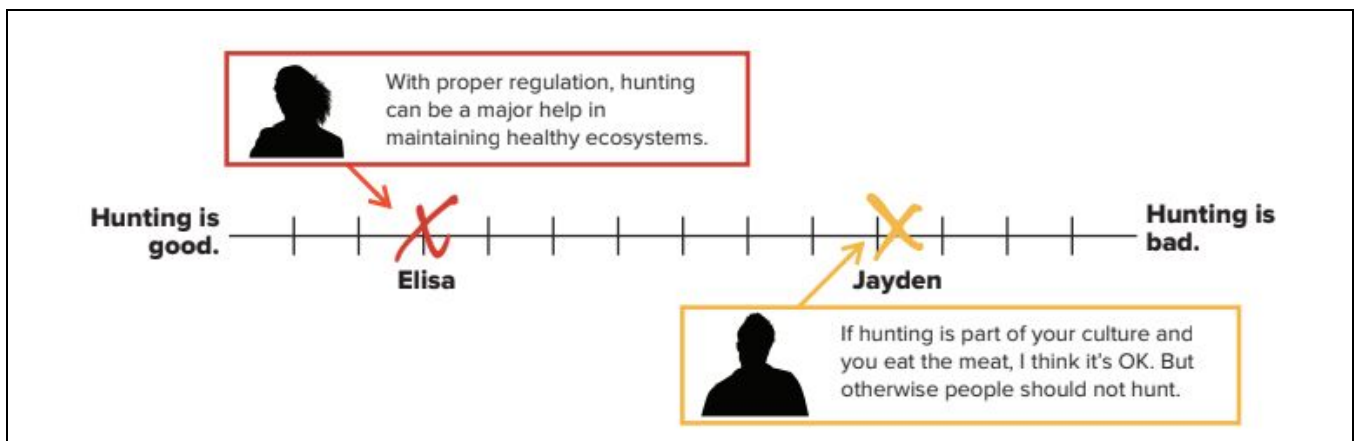


English Learners Newsletter

December 2020

Promoting Academic Conversations for ELs

The Opinion Continuum - Developing Discussions



1. Write two opposite opinions related to the topic on the two ends of the continuum. Make enough copies for each student.
2. Ask students to place an X on the continuum to represent where they stand on the issue. They should write their name next to their X.
3. On the first rotation, ask students to find one of their classmates and have each write their X and their name on their partner's continuum. Have students discuss with each other why they placed their X where they did. Students can ask questions and jot notes to remember their points.
4. Ask students to reconsider their opinion. They can keep their X where it is or change it depending on the new information they have gained.
5. On the second rotation, find a different partner and share where each has placed their X and why. Repeat the process as time permits so that all students get the opportunity to give their opinions and hear other opinions. Options: share out as a whole group or ask students to write their opinion and reasons. They can also include the opinions and reasons of others.

Resources for Promoting Academic Language

Word Generation - [Opinion Continuum Lesson](#)

Jeff Zwiers [Tools for Academic Conversations](#)

[Stronger and Clearer Each Time Poster](#) and [Stronger and Clearer Each Time Template](#)

Stephen Fleenor [The Visual Non-Glossary](#) and [Webinar](#)

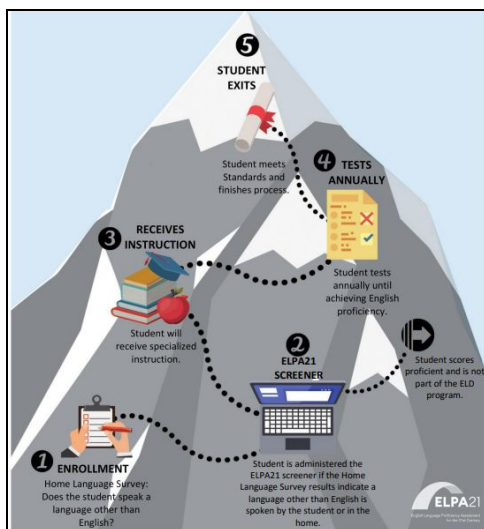


Additional Resources

[Seal of Biliteracy](#) - The purpose of the Nebraska Seal of Biliteracy is to acknowledge the high school recipient has achieved a high level of proficiency in English and at least one additional language other than English. The Seal is the cumulative evidence of the Nebraska World Language Standards which are structured around communication, cultures, connections, communities, and cognition within a language other than English. The Nebraska Seal of Biliteracy can be used to communicate language proficiency to employers and institutions of postsecondary education. The ability to communicate in multiple languages is viewed as an asset when applying for a job or for college admission. As of October, 2020 38 Seals have been awarded to 37 students. [NEWS RELEASE](#)

TransACT ParentNotices-if you don't have an account, please sign up for one.

<https://app.parentnotices.com/register> If you have an account and want training, please see [Administrators](#) or [Staff](#)



ELPA21 Summative Assessment - 2021 Testing Window February 8 - March 19

[NE Portal](#) for All Announcements and Resources

Test Administrators - [General Information](#)

Test Administrators - [Training Modules](#)

[Technology Coordinators](#)

December and January are great months to provide multiple practice opportunities for your in-person and remote EL students in preparation for the summative assessment. Practice tests can be accessed on the [NE Portal](#).

Questions

Please contact us with any questions or concerns regarding your EL students.



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