



Multilingual Learners Newsletter

September 2023

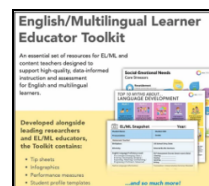


Setting Students Up for Success!

Now that school has begun and students are getting settled into their routines, what can we do to set them up for a successful school year and a successful performance on the ELPA21 Summative Assessment? One suggestion is to meet with each student and review ELPA21 performance from previous years as well as other data to help them set goals for this school year. ([Sample Goal Sheet](#)) Student goals can then be shared with their parents and teachers so that everyone is aware of what the student wants to achieve and can support them with their goal(s). It is important to keep the goal(s) and action steps as a focus so that students know what they are working towards and how they are making progress towards their goals throughout the year.

There are a few helpful resources from ELPA21 that can assist teachers as they support their students with their reading, writing, speaking, and listening goals. The [ELPA21 Enrichment Activities](#) provide practice tasks that are similar to what students will be expected to do on the ELPA21 Summative. The [constructed response rubrics](#) give teachers good tools to help measure student performance. The EL Toolkit 2021 and the EL Enhanced Toolkit 2022 provide two tasks for each domain for each grade band with rubrics. These can be purchased at the [NABE Online Store](#). Teachers can refer to the [ELP Standards and Proficiency Level Descriptors](#) for guidance in lesson planning and formative assessment.

Date:	Student:				
Review Performance	ELPA Summative Assessments 2023	R -	W -	S -	L -
	2022	R -	W -	S -	L -
	2021	R -	W -	S -	L -
	Additional State Level Assessments				
	District Level Assessments				
	School Level Assessments				
	Screener Assessment				
Review Growth	How has the student demonstrated growth? Identify strengths:				
	What are areas to continue to work on?				
New Goal	Example: The student (insert name) will improve from (ALD in Language Domain) to (ALD in Language Domain) this school year as demonstrated on the ELPA21 Summative Assessment. OR The student (insert name) will improve Writing/Speaking from ___ to ___ by using the constructed response rubrics each quarter.				



Serving English Learners

- Identification
- Language Instruction Educational Programs (LIEPs)
- Staffing and Professional Development
- NDE Rule 15 – Canvas Course
- ELP Standards – Canvas Course
- Review ELP Standards and Proficiency Level Descriptors – Canvas Course
- Content and Language Objectives – Canvas Course
- Other Professional Development Resources

In addition, NDE offers many [Canvas Courses](#) that provide professional learning to teachers so that they can support English learners. Teachers and Administrators can also reach out to their ESU and/or NDE for additional support in meeting the needs of their English learners and setting them up for success!





Spotlight:. MidTESOL with Ben Vilkas and Vicki Anderson



Dr. Ben Vilkas, an Associate Professor at Wayne State College, was excited to join MIDTESOL when he moved to Nebraska from Arizona in 2018. Having a background in K-12 ESL teaching, he wanted to join a professional organization that supported English language learners as well as professionals involved in English learning teaching. MIDTESOL was the perfect fit and he has enjoyed collaborating with other MIDTESOL members in Nebraska, Iowa, Missouri, and Kansas. Last year, Dr. Vilkas served as the Program Chair for the 2022 MIDTESOL Conference. In that role, he was able to evaluate presentation proposals, plan the schedule for the event, and assist in selecting the featured speakers. This year, he is serving as Conference Chair for the 2023 MIDTESOL Conference.



Dr. Vicki Michael Anderson, Associate Professor of Education and Director of TESOL/ESL Programs at Concordia University, has been involved with MIDTESOL since 2013. Having previously served on the Indiana TESOL (INTESOL) board in both Student Representative and Executive roles, Vicki realized the important role that state/regional organizations can play in supporting ESL teachers of all kinds when she came to Nebraska in 2012. MIDTESOL works hard to do just that, and Vicki has served in the organization as Conference Chair and Conference Program Chair and general Conference Committee member (multiple years), President (2018), and Past President (2019). Vicki currently serves as the Communications Director for MIDTESOL, overseeing the publication of *MIDTESOL Matters* (MIDTESOL's newsletter), the *MIDTESOL Journal*, the MIDTESOL Website, social media, MIDTESOL Updates e-mails, etc. She finds it deeply fulfilling to be able to celebrate and uplift the work of so many talented English teachers and their students in the state of Nebraska, as well as in our "sister states" of Iowa, Missouri, and Kansas.

Guidance: [US Department of Education](#): Schools' Civil Rights Obligations to English learners and their parents - "The obligation not to discriminate based on race, color, or national origin requires public schools to take affirmative steps to ensure that limited English proficient (LEP) students, now more commonly known as English Learner (EL) students or English Language Learners (ELLs), can meaningfully participate in educational programs and services, and to communicate information to LEP parents in a language they can understand."

Additional Resources:

- [MIDTESOL Conference 2023](#)
- [EL Teachers Collaborative](#) 1st Meeting: September 27th at ESU 2 from 8:30-3:00 CT [Register Here!](#)
- [Building Better Writers](#) - a website with resources (book and training) to support teachers who work with English learners.
- [Welcome to the Effective Literacy Podcast](#) - podcast about what literacy is and how we can improve literacy instruction for multilingual learners.
- [Linked2Literacy](#) is a non-profit organization focused on increasing book ownership of kids in underserved communities. Kathleen Ousey is the Co-Executive Director and would love to make statewide connections.



Questions: Please contact us with any questions or concerns regarding your MLL students or program.

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