

## Appendix D: WIDA Performance Definitions

### WIDA Performance Definitions Listening and Reading, Grades K-12

At each grade, toward the end of a given level of English language proficiency, and with instructional support, English learners will process...

	Discourse Dimension	Sentence Level	Word/Phrase Level
	Linguistic Complexity	Language Forms and Conventions	Vocabulary Usage
<b>Level 6 – Reaching</b> Language that meets all criteria through Level 5, Bridging			
<b>Level 5 Bridging</b>	Rich descriptive discourse with complex sentences  Cohesive and organized related ideas	Compound, complex grammatical constructions (e.g., multiple phrases and clauses)  A broad range of sentence patterns characteristic of particular content areas	Technical and abstract content-area language, including content-specific collocations  Words and expressions with shades of meaning across content areas
<b>Level 4 Expanding</b>	Connected discourse with a variety of sentences  Expanded related ideas	A variety of complex grammatical constructions  Sentence patterns characteristic of particular content areas	Specific and some technical content-area language  Words or expressions with multiple meanings across content areas
<b>Level 3 Developing</b>	Discourse with a series of extended sentences  Related ideas	Compound and some complex (e.g., noun phrase, verb phrase, prepositional phrase) grammatical constructions  Sentence patterns across content areas	Specific content language, including expressions  Words and expressions with common collocations and idioms across content areas
<b>Level 2 Emerging</b>	Multiple related simple sentences  An idea with details	Compound grammatical constructions  Repetitive phrasal and sentence patterns across content areas	General content words and expressions, including cognates  Social and instructional words and expressions across content areas
<b>Level 1 Entering</b>	Single statements or questions  An idea within words, phrases, or chunks of language	Simple grammatical constructions (e.g., commands, Wh- questions, declaratives)  Common social and instructional forms and patterns	General content-related words  Everyday social and instructional words and expressions

...within sociocultural contexts for language use.

Reprinted with permission. © 2012 Board of Regents of the University of Wisconsin System, on behalf of the WIDA consortium – [www.wida.us](http://www.wida.us).

## Appendix D: WIDA Performance Definitions

### WIDA Performance Definitions Speaking and Writing, Grades K-12

At each grade, toward the end or a given level of English language proficiency, and with instructional support, English learners will produce...

	Discourse Level	Sentence Level	Word/Phrase Level
	Linguistic Complexity	Language Forms and Conventions	Vocabulary Usage
<b>Level 6 – Reaching</b> Language that meets all criteria through Level 5, Bridging			
<b>Level 5 Bridging</b>	Multiple, complex sentences	A variety of grammatical structures matched to purpose	Technical and abstract content-area language, including content-specific collocations
	Organized, cohesive, and coherent expression of ideas	A broad range of sentence patterns characteristic of particular content areas	Words and expressions with shades of meaning across content areas
<b>Level 4 Expanding</b>	Short, expanded, and some complex sentences	A variety of grammatical structures	Specific and some technical content-area language
	Organized expression of ideas with emerging cohesion	Sentence patterns characteristic of particular content areas	Words and expressions with expressive meaning through use of collocations and idioms across content areas
<b>Level 3 Developing</b>	Short and some expanded sentences with emerging complexity	Repetitive grammatical structures with occasional variation	Specific content language, including cognates and expressions
	Expanded expression of one idea or emerging expression of multiple related ideas	Sentence patterns across content areas	Words or expressions with multiple meanings used across content areas
<b>Level 2 Emerging</b>	Phrases or short sentences	Formulaic grammatical structures	General content words and expressions
	Emerging expression of ideas	Repetitive phrasal and sentence patterns across content areas	Social and instructional words and expressions across content areas
<b>Level 1 Entering</b>	Words, phrases, or chunks of language	Phrase-level grammatical structures	General content-related words
	Single words used to represent ideas	Phrasal patterns associated with common social and instructional situations	Everyday social and instructional words and expressions

...within sociocultural contexts for language use.