

STAGES OF LANGUAGE ACQUISITION

Directions: Check each behavior you see in the home and then explain how your child does the behavior:

1 SILENT RECEPTIVE/COMPREHENSION

Sometimes called the "silent period". Child is figuring out what the new language means without worrying about talking.

ENGLISH	SECOND LANGUAGE
* listen _____	* listen _____
* point _____	* point _____
* match _____	* match _____
* move _____	* move _____
* draw _____	* draw _____
* mime _____	* mime _____
* choose _____	* choose _____
* act it out _____	* act it out _____

2 EARLY PRODUCTION

Speech is allowed to emerge naturally. Child is still listening to understand. Early speech will contain many errors.

ENGLISH	SECOND LANGUAGE
* yes/no questions _____	* yes/no questions _____
* one word answers _____	* one word answers _____
* label _____	* label _____
* list _____	* list _____
* two word strings _____	* two word strings _____
* categorize (ex. dog is an animal) _____	* categorize _____

3 SPEECH EMERGENCE

When talked to often, use of speech will improve. Sentences will become longer, more complex, and with a wider vocabulary range. Number of mistakes become less over time.

ENGLISH	SECOND LANGUAGE
* three words/short phrases _____	* three words/short phrases _____
* summarize _____	* summarize _____
* longer phrases _____	* longer phrases _____
* complete sentences _____	* complete sentences _____
* extended discourse _____	* extended discourse _____
* recall _____	* recall _____
* explain _____	* explain _____
* dialogue _____	* dialogue _____
* narration _____	* narration _____
* define _____	* define _____

4 INTERMEDIATE FLUENCY

When talked to often and taught in the second language, second language learners will develop excellent comprehension and their speech will reflect fewer grammatical errors. Opportunities to use the second language for varied purposes will broaden learners' ability to use the language.

ENGLISH	SECOND LANGUAGE
* give options _____	* give options _____
* analyze _____	* analyze _____
* defend _____	* defend _____
* create _____	* create _____
* debate _____	* debate _____
* evaluate _____	* evaluate _____
* justify _____	* justify _____
* examine _____	* examine _____

Developed by Northeast Colorado BOCES ELL Team as adopted from:
Krashen, SD (1982). Principals and Practices in Second Language Acquisition. New York: Pergamon Press