

Proficiency Levels, Stages, Characteristics and Language Expectations

Proficiency Level	Acquisition Stage	Characteristics of Stage	Expectations/ Activities
Beginner	Pre-production (Entering)	No verbal language production, minimal comprehension, sometimes called "silent period"	Listen, repeat, circle, point, match, draw, move, act-out, choose
	Early Production (Emerging)	One- or two-word utterances, limited comprehension	Name, label, list, give short responses, group, categorize, discriminate
Intermediate	Speech Emergent (Transitioning)	Increased comprehension, responds in simple sentences, still some basic errors in speech	Recall, retell, define, describe, explain, summarize, restate, compare, contrast, role-play
Advanced	Intermediate Fluency (Expanding)	Good comprehension, complex sentence patterns, few speech errors, near "native-like"	Analyze, create, debate, defend, predict, evaluate, justify, support, examine, hypothesize
Proficient	Fluent (Commanding)	"native-like"	All of the above