To support multilingual learners in becoming proficient, all teachers working with ELLs need to focus on both content and WIDA English Language Development (ELD) standards. There are five WIDA ELD Standards that provide teachers with a connection between language development and content area learning.

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Understanding WIDA Standards

WIDA ELD Standards Statements

- **Standard 1:** English language learners communicate for Social and Instructional purposes within the school setting.
  Language for Social Instructional Purpose (ELD-SI)
- **Standard 2:** English language learners communicate information, ideas, and concepts necessary for academic success in the content area of Language Arts.
  Language for Language Arts (ELD-LA)
- **Standard 3**: English language learners communicate information, ideas, and concepts necessary for academic success in the content area of Mathematics.
  Language for Math (ELD-MA)
- **Standard 4**: English language learners communicate information, ideas, and concepts necessary for academic success in the content area of Science.
  Language for Science (ELD-SC)
- **Standard 5**: English language learners communicate information, ideas, and concepts necessary for academic success in the content area of Social Studies.
  Language for Social Studies (ELD-SS)

Links to the WIDA ELD Standards Framework

[Kindergarten](#)

[Grade 1](#)

[Grades 2-3](#)

[Grades 4-5](#)

[Grades 6-8](#)

[Grades 9-12](#)

[Kindergarten-Grade 12](#)

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WIDA ELD standards are written using a reference code. The reference code includes:

- **WIDA ELD Standards** written as abbreviations **(ELD-SI, ELD-LA, ELD-MA, ELD-SC,** and **ELD-SS);**
- **Grade level clusters (K, 1, 2-3, 4-5, 6-8,** and **9-12);**
- **Key language uses (Narrate, Inform, Explain,** and **Argue).** These Key Language Uses describe the prominent ways that language is used in schools across all disciplines. They help educators to provide focus and coherence as they are planning for integrating content and language.
- **Modes of communication (interpretive** and **expressive)**. The interpretive communication mode encompasses listening, reading, and writing. The expressive communication mode encompasses speaking, writing, and representing.

Each WIDA ELD Standard outlines Language Expectations which include Language Functions and Language Features for content driven instruction, adding specificity to the WIDA ELD Standard statements and Key Language Uses.

- **Language Functions** highlight common patterns of language use, showcasing particular ways students might use language to meet the purposes of schooling. For example, a series of Language Functions is associated with the process of constructive fictional narratives, informing peers of newly gained knowledge, explaining phenomena, or engaging in scientific argumentation.
- **Language Features** are examples of various language resources that carry out specific Language Functions within the expectations, for example: different types of sentences, clauses, phrases, and words.

Sample WIDA ELD Standard for Grades 4-5   **Sample WIDA ELD Standard for Grades 9-12**

Selecting WIDA Standards

When selecting WIDA ELD Standard, consider the following:

- Which content area is the focus **(LA, MA, SC, or SS)**?
- What grade level cluster is this lesson designed for **(KG, 1, 2-3, 4-5, 6-8, or 9-12)**?
- What is the most prominent key language use for the lesson **(Narrate, Inform, Explain, or Argue)**?
- What communication mode is emphasized in the lesson **(Interpretive, Expressive, or both)**?

Use this frame to write your WIDA ELD Standard:

ELD-_____._____._____._____
     Standard   Grade   Key Language Use Communication Mode

See example below:

ELD-LA.6-8.Inform. Narrate.Expressive

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Steps for Selecting WIDA Standards

When selecting WIDA ELD Standards for a lesson, consider using the following steps:

Step 1

Think	My ELA lesson focuses on identifying main idea and details in informational texts. This lesson addresses language of Language Arts (LA).
Write	**ELD-LA___._____._____._____** Standard Grade Key Language Use Communication Mode

Step 2

Think	My ELA lesson is designed for 1st graders and aligns with Grade 1 cluster of the WIDA ELD Standards.
Write	**ELD-LA___._1___._____._____** Standard Grade Key Language Use Communication Mode

Step 3

Think	During this lesson, students will summarize sections of the text and identify the main idea along with supporting details. The primary language function for this lesson is narration. The key language use for the lesson is narrate.
Write	**ELD-LA___._1___.Narrate_____._____** Standard Grade Key Language Use Communication Mode

Step 4

Think	Throughout the lesson, students will primarily use language through speaking, writing, and representing their ideas in a graphic organizer. The main mode of communication for this lesson is expressive.
Write	**ELD-LA___._1___.Narrate_____.Expressive_____** Standard Grade Key Language Use Communication Mode

In this case, **ELD-LA.1.Narrate.Expressive** is the WIDA Standard that should be added to the lesson plan.

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Siminar to priority standards within Missouri Learning Standards, some WIDA ELD Standards are more prominent than others.

Priority WIDA Standards for Grades K-3

WIDA Standards	KG	Grade 1	Grades 2-3
Standard 1: **Language for Social Instructional Purposes**	ELD-SI.K-3.Narrate ELD-SI.K-3.Inform ELD-SI.K-3.Explain ELD-SI.K-3.Argue		
Standard 2: **Language for Language Arts**	ELD-LA.K.Narrate.Expressive ELD-LA.K.Narrate.Interpretive ELD-LA.K.Inform.Expressive ELD-LA.K.Inform.Interpretive	ELD-LA.1.Narrate.Expressive ELD-LA.1.Narrate.Interpretive ELD-LA.1.Inform.Expressive ELD-LA.1.Inform.Interpretive	ELD-LA.2-3.Narrate.Expressive ELD-LA.2-3.Narrate.Interpretive ELD-LA.2-3.Inform.Expressive ELD-LA.2-3.Inform.Interpretive ELD-LA.2-3.LA.Argue. Expressive ELD-LA.2-3.Argues.Interpretive
Standard 3: **Language for Mathematics**	ELD-MA.K.Inform.Interpretive ELD- MA.Inform.Expressive ELD-MA.K.Inform.Interpretive	ELD-MA.1.Inform.Interpretive ELD-MA.1.Inform.Expressive	ELD-MA.2-3.Explain.Interpretive ELD-MA.2-3.Explain.Expressive ELD-MA.2-3.Argue.Interpretive ELD-MA.2-3.Argue.Expressive
Standard 4: **Language for Science**	ELD-SC.K.Inform.Expressive ELD-SC.K.Inform.Interpretive	ELD-SC.1.Inform.Interpretive ELD-SC.1.Inform.Expressive ELD-SC.1.Explain.Interpretive ELD-SC.1.Explain.Expressive	ELD-SC.2-3.Explain.Interpretive ELD-SC.2-3.Explain.Expressive ELD-SC.2-3.Argue.Interpretive ELD-SC.2-3.Argue.Expressive
Standard 5: **Language for Social Studies**	ELD-SS.K.Explain.Expressive ELD-SS.K.Explain.Interpretive	ELD-SS.1.Inform.Interpretive ELD-SS.1.Inform.Expressive ELD-SS.1.Argue.Interpretive ELD-SS.1.Argue.Expressive	ELD-SS.2-3.Explain.Interpretive ELD-SS.2-3.Explain.Expressive ELD-SS.2-3.Argue.Interpretive ELD-SS.2-3.Argue.Expressive

Priority WIDA Standards for Grades 4-12

WIDA Standards	Grades 4-5	Grades 6-8	Grades 9-12
Standard 1: **Language for Social Instructional Purposes**	ELD-SI.4-3.Narrate ELD-SI.K-3.Inform ELD-SI.K-3.Explain ELD-SI.K-3.Argue		
Standard 2: **Language for Language Arts**	ELD-LA.4-5.Narrate.Expressive ELD-LA.4-.Narrate.Interpretive ELD-LA.4-5.Inform.Expressive LA.6-8.Inform.Interpretive ELD-LA.4-5.LA.Argue.Expressive ELD-LA.4-.Argues.Interpretive	ELD-LA.6-8.Narrate.Expressive ELD-LA.6-8.Narrate.Interpretive ELD-LA.6-8.Inform.Expressive LA.6-8.Inform.Interpretive ELD-LA.6-8.LA.Argue. Expressive ELD-LA.6-8.Argues.Interpretive	ELD-LA.9-12.Narrate.Expressive ELD-LA.9-2.Narrate.Interpretive ELD.LA.9-12.Inform.Expressive LA.9-12.Inform.Interpretive ELD-LA.9-2.LA.Argue.Expressive ELD-LA.9-12.Argues.Interpretive
Standard 3: **Language for Mathematics**	ELD-MA.4-.Explain.Interpretive ELD-MA.4-5.Explain.Expressive ELD-MA.4-5.Argue.Interpretive ELD-MA.6-8.Argue.Expressive	ELD-MA.6.Explain.Interpretive ELD-MA.6-.Explain.Expressive ELD-MA.6-.Argue.Interpretive ELD-MA.6-8.Argue.Expressive	ELD-MA.9-2.Explain.Interpretive ELD-MA.9-12.Explain.Expressive ELD-MA.9-2.Argue.Interpretive ELD-MA.9-12.Argue.Expressive
Standard 4: **Language for Science**	ELD-4-5.Explain.Interpretive ELD-SC.4-5.Explain.Expressive ELD-SC.4-5.Argue.Interpretive ELD-SC.4-5.Argue.Expressive	ELD-6-8.Explain.Interpretive ELD-SC.6-8.Explain.Expressive ELD-SC.6-8.Argue.Interpretive ELD-SC.6-8.Argue.Expressive	ELD—SC.9-12.Explain.Interpretive ELD-SC.9-12.Explain.Expressive ELD-SC.9-12.Argue.Interpretive ELD-SC.9-12.Argue.Expressive
Standard 5: **Language for Social Studies**	ELD-SS.4-5.Explain.Interpretive ELD-SS.4-5.Explain.Expressive ELD-SS.4-5.Argue.Interpretive ELD-SS.4-5.Argue.Expressive	ELD-SS.6-8.Explain.Interpretive ELD-SS.6-8.Explain.Expressive ELD-SS.6-8.Argue.Interpretive ELD-SS.6-8.Argue.Expressive	ELD-SS.9-12.Explain.Interpretive ELD-SS.9-12.Explain.Expressive ELD-SS.9-12.Argue.Interpretive ELD-SS.9-12.Argue.Expressive