

Aurora Public Schools
ELA-Special Ed Instructional Interventions Process

ELA Student Characteristics Form

Background Information: This document represents valuable information from Dr. Susan Durón of the Colorado Department of Education. This form summarizes some of the possible characteristics that might be evidenced by students who are English language learners as they are acquiring a second language.

Important Note: When completing this form, it is important to keep in mind that the presence of a single or even several of the characteristics listed below does not necessarily indicate a learning disability. Rather, there is a greater possibility of a learning problem when the characteristics is extreme, frequently evident, and observed in the student both in English and in the student's other language.

1. Short attention span and inability to attend to the task at hand
2. Poor oral expression in the first language (L1) and in English
3. Poor auditory and/or visual memory (retention)
4. Very low achievement in reading in L1 and in English
5. Poor comprehension; inability to grasp the sequence and main ideas in either language
6. Poor vocabulary in L1 and in English
7. Poor writing skills and expressions in L1 and in English
8. Low interest or motivation
9. Inability to discriminate differences in sounds (phonemic awareness)
10. Inability to discriminate visual stimuli in L1 and in English
11. Inability to follow directions in L1 or in English
12. Low math (both problem solving and computation) regardless of the language used for instruction
13. Extremes in behavior exhibited various situations (home, school, playground, etc.)
14. Poor social interaction and/or an inability to form peer relations
15. Disorganized and/or poor study skills
16. Inappropriate affective characteristics in various situations (home, school, etc.)
17. Slow at processing information
18. Poor eye/hand coordination
19. Slow word retrieval in L1 and in English
20. Poor confidence and low self esteem
21. Unintelligible or illogical speech patterns