

Who are ELLs?

ENGLISH AS A SECOND LANGUAGE LEARNERS (ELLs)

According to the Ontario Ministry of Education:

“...English language learners are students in provincially funded English language schools whose first language is a language other than English, or is a variety of English that is significantly different from the variety used for instruction in Ontario’s schools, and who may require focused educational supports to assist them in attaining proficiency in English.”

From English Language Learners / ESL and ELD Programs and Services: Policies and Procedures for Ontario Elementary and Secondary Schools, Kindergarten to Grade 12 (Section 1.2, Page 8, 2007)

According to The Ontario Curriculum, Grades 9-12, ESL and ELD, 2007, two kinds of programs are offered for ELLs. The key difference between the two programs has been underlined.

SUPPORT PROGRAMS for ELLs

English as a Second Language programs

“English as a Second Language (ESL) programs are intended for students whose first language is a language other than English or is a variety of English significantly different from that used for instruction in Ontario schools. Students in these programs have age-appropriate first-language literacy skills and educational backgrounds.” (p. 6)

English Literacy Development programs

“English Literacy Development (ELD) programs are intended for students whose first language is a language other than English or is a variety of English significantly different from that used for instruction in Ontario schools. Students in these programs are most often from countries in which their access to education has been limited, so that they have had limited opportunities to develop language and literacy skills in any language... As a result, they arrive in Ontario secondary schools with significant gaps in education.” (p. 6)

WHERE DO OUR ELLs COME FROM?

Our ELLs come from a variety of countries and an array of cultural and religious backgrounds. The chart below lists top eleven countries of citizenship in 2007/2008.

Top Citizenship	Number of students
Philippines	137
India	89
Canada	71
Pakistan	37
Colombia	34
Iraq	34
Jamaica	27
Sri Lanka	26
China	19
Nigeria	18
Korea	15

Students who report Canada as their country of citizenship arrived from India, Jamaica, Pakistan, Trinidad, Jordan, Hong Kong, USA, other Canadian provinces, Nigeria, Portugal, China, Colombia, Kuwait, Poland, Ukraine, Sri Lanka, Guatemala, Chile, UAE, Ecuador, Croatia, Malaysia, Ghana, Philippines, Taiwan, Iran, Spain and Egypt (respectively).

They follow two scenarios:

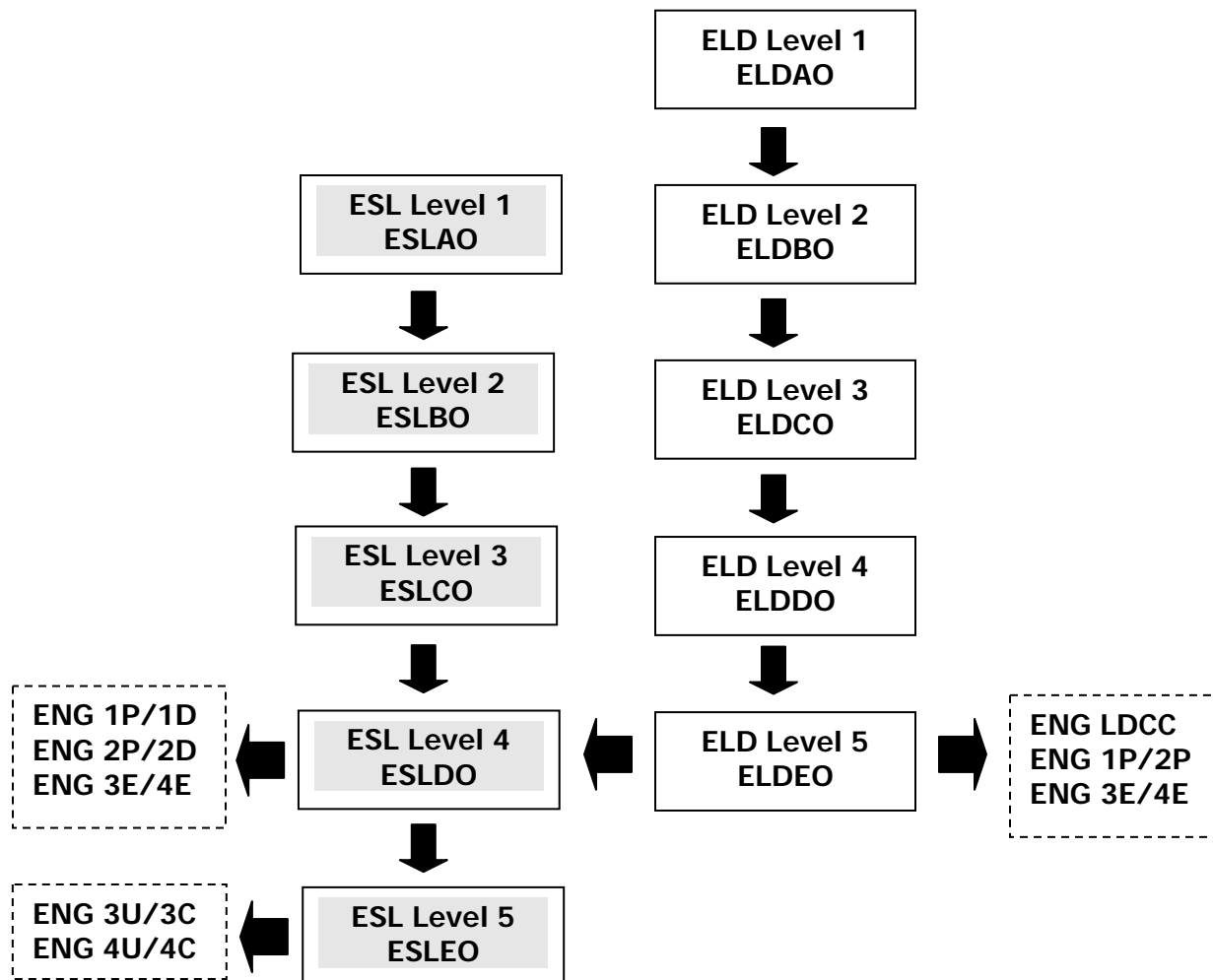
- Their parent(s), who are Canadian citizens, sponsored them to become Canadian citizens
- They were born in Canada, but spent some time living elsewhere for a period of time

ESL/ELD Courses

During the past two years, 70% of secondary newcomer ELLs in Dufferin-Peel required English as a Second Language support. They received it through (up to) four or five ESL courses, depending on their placement and age:

English as a Second Language

English Literacy Development



(Pathways to English chart from The Ontario Curriculum, Grades 9-12. English as a Second Language and English Literacy Development, 2007)

ESL AND ELD COURSE PROFILES

The information in this section includes an overview of each of the five ESL and ELD courses. The overviews have been quoted from *The Ontario Curriculum, Grades 9-12. English as a Second Language and English Literacy Development, 2007*.

This section also includes links to the ESL Course Profiles, materials designed to help teachers implement the curriculum. Teachers are encouraged to amend, revise, and adapt them, as they have not been revised to align with the newly revised ESL/ELD Curriculum.

ESL COURSES: AO-EO

Open ESL AO – Level 1

"This course builds on students' previous education and language knowledge to introduce them to the English language and help them adjust to the diversity in their new environment. Students will use beginning English language skills in listening, speaking, reading, and writing for everyday and essential academic purposes. They will engage in short conversations using basic English language structures and simple sentence patterns; read short adapted texts; and write phrases and short sentences. The course also provides students with the knowledge and skills they need to begin to adapt to their new lives in Canada." (p. 59).

ESL AO course Profile http://www.curriculum.org/csc/library/profiles/9/esl_c.shtml

Open ESL BO – Level 2

"This course extends students' listening, speaking, reading, and writing skills in English for everyday and academic purposes. Students will participate in conversations in structured situations on a variety of familiar and new topics; read a variety of texts designed or adapted for English language learners; expand their knowledge of English grammatical structures and sentence patterns; and link English sentences to compose paragraphs. The course also supports students' continuing adaptation to the Ontario school system by expanding their knowledge of diversity in their new province and country." (p. 71)

ESL BO course Profile http://www.curriculum.org/csc/library/profiles/9/esl_c.shtml

Open ESL CO – Level 3

"This course further extends students' skills in listening, speaking, reading, and writing in English for a variety of everyday and academic purposes. Students will make short classroom oral presentations; read a variety of adapted and original texts in English; and write using a variety of text forms. As well, students will expand their academic vocabulary and their study skills to facilitate their transition to the mainstream school program. This course also introduces students to the rights and responsibilities inherent in Canadian citizenship, and to a variety of current Canadian issues." (p. 83)

ESL CO course Profile http://www.curriculum.org/csc/library/profiles/9/esl_c.shtml

Open ESL DO – Level 4

"This course prepares students to use English with increasing fluency and accuracy in classroom and social situations and to participate in Canadian society as informed citizens. Students will

develop the oral-presentation, reading, and writing skills required for success in all school subjects. They will extend listening and speaking skills through participation in discussions and seminars; study and interpret a variety of grade-level texts; write narratives, articles, and summaries in English; and respond critically to a variety of print and media texts. (p. 95)

ESL DO course Profile http://www.curriculum.org/csc/library/profiles/11/esl_c.shtml

Open ESL EO – Level 5

"This course provides students with the skills and strategies they need to make the transition to college and university preparation courses in English and other secondary school disciplines. Students will be encouraged to develop independence in a range of academic tasks. They will participate in debates and lead classroom workshops; read and interpret literary works and academic texts; write essays, narratives, and reports; and apply a range of learning strategies and research skills effectively. Students will further develop their ability to respond critically to print and media texts." (p. 107)

ESL EO course Profile http://www.curriculum.org/csc/library/profiles/10/esl_c.shtml

ELD COURSES: AO-EO

Open ELD AO

"This course is intended for English language learners who have had limited access to schooling and thus have significant gaps in their first-language literacy skills. Students will use basic listening and speaking skills to communicate in English for everyday purposes; develop readiness skills for reading and writing; begin to read highly structured texts for everyday and school-related purposes; and use basic English language structures and sentence patterns in speaking and writing. The course will also help students become familiar with school routines and begin to adapt to their new lives in Canada." (p. 119).

ELD AO course Profile (Public) http://www.curriculum.org/csc/library/profiles/9/esl_p.shtml

Open ELD BO

"This course is intended for English language learners who have had limited access to schooling and thus have gaps in their first-language literacy skills. Students will use their developing listening and speaking skills to communicate in English for a variety of purposes; develop reading strategies to understand a variety of simple texts; produce simple forms of writing; apply increasing knowledge of English grammatical structures in speaking and writing; expand their vocabulary; and develop fundamental study skills. The course will also provide opportunities for students to become familiar with and use school and community resources and to build their knowledge of Canada and diversity." (p. 131).

ELD BO course Profile (Public) <http://www.curriculum.org/csc/library/profiles/10/pdf/ELDBOP.pdf>

Open ELD CO

"This course builds on students' growing literacy and language skills and extends their ability to communicate in English about familiar and school-related topics. Students will make brief oral presentations; improve their literacy skills through a variety of contextualized and supported reading and writing tasks; distinguish between fact and opinion in short written and oral texts; complete short guided-research projects; and engage in a variety of cooperative learning

activities. The course will also enable students to strengthen and extend their study skills and personal-management strategies and to broaden their understanding of Canadian diversity and citizenship." (p. 144).

ELD CO course Profile (Public) <http://www.curriculum.org/csc/library/profiles/11/pdf/ELDCOP.pdf>

Open ELD DO

"This course extends students' literacy skills and ability to apply learning strategies effectively, and teaches them how to use community resources to enhance lifelong learning. Students will communicate with increased accuracy and fluency for a variety of academic and everyday purposes; perform a variety of guided reading, writing, and viewing tasks; and use media and community resources to complete guided-research projects. This course further develops the critical thinking skills students will need to participate in Canadian society as informed citizens." (p. 153).

ELD DO course Profile (Public) <http://www.curriculum.org/csc/library/profiles/11/pdf/ELDDOP.pdf>

Open ELD EO

"This course provides students with skills and strategies that will allow them to continue their education successfully and pursue pathways to employment that may involve apprenticeship and/or cooperative education programs. Students will communicate orally and in writing on a variety of topics; perform a variety of independent reading and writing tasks; interpret and create media texts; and use a range of media and community resources. This course also expands the critical thinking skills students will need in order to contribute to Canadian society as informed citizens." (p. 163).

ELD EO course Profile is not available, as the course was added to the revised Secondary ESL/ELD Curriculum in 2007.

NOTE: Course profiles for ELD courses AO-DO were created in 2001. They may not correspond with the 2007 ESL/ELD Curriculum, but they are a starting point. They are posted at ...

<http://www.curriculum.org/csc/library/profiles/profiles.shtml>

... and listed under Course Profiles Grades 9-11 (respectively), Public Schools, English as a Second Language and English Literacy Development.

Assessment and Evaluation

The current categories of knowledge and skills are: Knowledge and Understanding, Thinking, Communication and Application. Outlined in the *The Ontario Curriculum, Grades 9-12. English as a Second Language and English Literacy Development, 2007*, they appear as follows:

Categories of Knowledge and Skills

The categories, defined by clear criteria, represent four broad areas of knowledge and skills within which the subject expectations for any given course are organized. The four categories should be considered as interrelated, reflecting the wholeness and interconnectedness of learning.

The categories of knowledge and skills are described as follows:

Knowledge and Understanding (K/U)

- Subject-specific content acquired in each grade (knowledge) and the comprehension of its meaning and significance (understanding)

Thinking (T)

- The use of critical and creative thinking skills and/or processes

Communication (C)

- The conveying of meaning through various forms

Application (A)

- The use of knowledge and skills to make connections within and between various contexts

The ESL Subject Council votes to decide on category weightings for ESL classes. The two tables on the next page outline the current category weightings for all ESL/ELD courses, as well as weightings for the final 30% of the course mark.

Revised Category Weightings				
	K/U	T	C	A
Level 1				
ESLAO	25	25	25	25
ELDAO	25	25	25	25
Level 2				
ESLBO	25	25	25	25
ELDBO	25	25	25	25
Level 3				
ESLCO	25	25	25	25
ELDCO	25	25	25	25
Level 4				
ESLDO	25	25	25	25
ELDDO	25	25	25	25
Level 5				
ESLEO	25	25	25	25
ELDEO	25	25	25	25

Revised Final 30% Values		
Course Code	Exam	Culminating Performance Task
Level 1		
ESLAO	15	15
ELDAO	15	15
Level 2		
ESLBO	15	15
ELDBO	15	15
Level 3		
ESLCO	20	10
ELDCO	20	10
Level 4		
ESLDO	20	10
ELDDO	20	10
Level 5		
ESLEO	20	10

ELDEO	20	10
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