Some basics of how to accommodate work for ELs:

1. **Cut the reading down to smaller chunks.** If the assignment calls for a page of reading, identify a paragraph (or two) for the EL to focus on.
2. **Reduce the number of tasks or questions.** If the assignment calls for answering 50 questions, assign 25 (or fewer in some cases).
3. **Reduce the amount of paper or worksheets to complete.** ELs can feel buried with the amount of paper they receive everyday and overwhelmed with the amount of work to complete. If the EL has not finished the worksheet from the day before, allow them to work on that in class and do not give out another sheet at that time. **\*\*\*The key is to give them a focus.**
4. **Have ELs work with a partner, with the textbook, and/or a bilingual dictionary** (the phone is much faster for translating, however, a paper version can be supplied if phones are not allowed in your class).
5. **Provide guided notes for them to follow along with in class.** They use these notes that you provide to make their own notes, translate unknown words, and study.

*Know what your assessment is going to be and work backwards.* If you know what your assessment will be then you can assign the EL a specific, limited vocabulary list for them to be tested on; you can assign the specific text that targets that vocabulary; you can assign questions that come from the specific text; you can give them a focused study guide that has what you have been tailoring for them. The tailoring can be as easy as giving them the same worksheet as the rest of the class but highlighting (or identifying in some way) where you want them to focus.

The idea is to make their work and expectations more manageable. Identify what the largest concept(s) is for your unit and work backwards with assigning them more focused content, objectives, and tasks.

Thank you very much for your help! Your time and attention to the ELs is appreciated by the students, their families, and myself.

Samantha Sporer (Scherer)

You can view a PowerPoint on EL Classroom Support on my website under the *Contact* tab: **samanthasporer.weebly.com**