

## CHAPTER TWO

### Classroom Discussion and Activities on WIDA and CELLA

#### Florida Teacher Standards for ESOL Endorsement Domain 5: Assessment (ESOL Testing and Evaluation)

**Standard 1: Assessment Issues for ELLs** Teachers will understand and apply knowledge of assessment issues as they affect the learning of ELLs from diverse backgrounds and at varying English proficiency levels. Examples include *cultural and linguistic bias; testing in two languages; sociopolitical and psychological factors; special education testing and assessing giftedness; the importance of standards; the difference between formative and summative assessment; and the difference between language proficiency and other types of assessment* (e.g., standardized achievement tests). Teachers will also understand issues around accountability. This includes the implications of standardized assessment as opposed to performance-based assessments, and issues of accommodations in formal testing situation.

1. Go to the U.S. Department of Education website at: <http://www.ed.gov/nclb/landing.jhtml>.
  - a. Type in NCLB and review the features of this legislative Act.
  - b. Explain the implications of standardized assessment versus performance-based assessment.
2. Describe how the following affect learning for English learners:
  - a. cultural bias
  - b. linguistic bias
  - c. testing in two languages
  - d. sociopolitical factors (e.g., current social issues, community needs/wants, governmental policies)
  - e. psychological factors (e.g., thoughts, behaviors, attitudes, emotions, motivation, relationships)
  - f. special education
  - g. giftedness
3. Go to the WIDA Consortium website at <http://www.wida.us/>.
  - a. Review the standards and assessment tools.
  - b. Create a graphic organizer to demonstrate how these standards improve instruction and assessment practices (e.g., diagram, flow chart, table, concept map, or PowerPoint presentation).
4. Briefly explain how knowledge of assessment needs affects instruction for ELs. Include ways to accommodate ELs' language differences, giftedness, and special education needs.
5. Link the WIDA ELP Standards (<http://www.wida.us/standards/elp.aspx>) to the Florida ELP Standards (<http://www.fldoe.org/aala>). Go to: *Documents and Publications*. You may choose to list the connections or use any graphic organizer, such as a Venn diagram to show relationships.
6. Go to <http://fldoe.org/aala>.
  - a. On the left sidebar, click on CELLA.
  - b. Review the general information and links.
  - c. Write a brief summary of the implications of standardized assessment as opposed to performance-based assessment for ELs.
  - d. Describe ways for teachers to present CELLA assessment to parents of ELs and other stakeholders in the school community.

