

Language Pattern: Encoding

ELPS 4 (A) apply relationships between sounds and letters of the English language to represent sounds when writing

Proficiency Level Descriptors	General	Content Specificity
1 Pre-Production	scribble, draw pictures, and copy words to connect oral language to print	ELAR: initial letter sounds
2 Beginning	match sounds in words to write phonetically spelled words	ELAR: letters representing initial sounds
3 Intermediate	match sounds to letters or combinations of letters to spell with increasing accuracy, write phrases that may include invented spelling	ELAR: encode words by sounding out phonemes
4 High Intermediate	write words by sounding out phonemes or letter clusters	ELAR: write words, pattern phrases, and short sentences using phonological knowledge
5 Advanced	write words by sounding out phonemes or letter clusters with increasing accuracy	ELAR: write multisyllabic words by sounding out phonemes with increasing accuracy

Language Pattern: Phonology

ELPS 4(B) spell words following conventional spelling patterns and rules

Proficiency Level Descriptors	General	Content Specificity
1 Pre-Production	copy or trace information	ELAR: sight words and consonant-vowel-consonant (CVC) words
2 Beginning	connect sounds to letters by relying on phonetic patterns	ELAR: identify and spell sight words and CVC words
3 Intermediate	connect sounds to letters, including letter clusters and different syllable patterns, with increasing consistency	ELAR: spell words with digraphs or consonant clusters
4 High Intermediate	spell content-area and high-frequency words with increasing accuracy	ELAR: spell words with vowel teams, silent e, and compound words
5 Advanced	spell content-area and high-frequency words using linguistic spelling patterns accurately	ELAR: spell multisyllabic words using spelling patterns and rules

Language Pattern: Vocabulary

ELPS 4(C) write using high-frequency words and content-area vocabulary

Proficiency Level Descriptors	General	Content Specificity
1 Pre-Production	illustrate or copy print to show understanding of content-area vocabulary in either primary language or English	Math: mathematical symbols Science: academic terms or cognates Social Studies: academic terms that are cognates
2 Beginning	write using a combination of primary language and English high-frequency words to show understanding of content-area vocabulary	Math: mathematical words and symbols Science: academic terms or cognates Social Studies: academic terms or cognates
3 Intermediate	write phrases by using high frequency words, cognates, or content-area vocabulary	Math: mathematical phrases and symbols Science: phrases with academic terms or cognates Social Studies: phrases with academic terms or cognates
4 High Intermediate	write sentences by using high-frequency words, cognates, and content-area vocabulary with increasing accuracy	Math: mathematical phrases, symbols, and equations Science: sentences with frequently used academic terms or cognates Social Studies: sentences with frequently used academic terms or cognates
5 Advanced	write sentences using content area vocabulary with accuracy, write sentences, using content, compatible, academic terms, such as <i>observe, infer, and predict</i>	Math: content-specific mathematical vocabulary and symbols Science: content-specific academic terms Social Studies: content-specific academic terms

Language Pattern: Language Structures: Semantics/Syntax

ELPS 4(D) write using a variety of grade-appropriate sentence lengths and types and connecting words

Proficiency Level Descriptors	General	Content Specificity
1 Pre-Production		ELAR: sentence structure
2 Beginning		ELAR: words and spacing in phrases
3 Intermediate		ELAR: simple high-frequency sentence patterns (e.g., subject-verb)
4 High Intermediate		ELAR: simple sentence patterns (e.g., subject-verb-object)
5 Advanced		ELAR: a variety of sentence patterns using connecting words

Language Pattern: Grammar

ELPS 4(E) write formal or informal text using conventions such as capitalization and punctuation and grammatical structures such as subject-verb agreement and verb tense

Proficiency Level Descriptors	General	Content Specificity
1 Pre-Production	copy words following capitalization and punctuation conventions	ELAR: nouns, adjectives, and verbs
2 Beginning	write words that use uppercase and lowercase letters, including personal information such as first and last names	ELAR: common nouns and adjectives
3 Intermediate	write phrases using standard English conventions	ELAR: familiar parts of speech in phrases
4 High Intermediate	write sentences using standard English conventions with increasing accuracy	ELAR: common parts of speech in sentences
5 Advanced	write a variety of sentence types, using standard English conventions with increasing accuracy	ELAR: a variety of parts of speech in sentences

Language Pattern: Grammar

ELPS 4(E) write formal or informal text using conventions such as capitalization and punctuation and grammatical structures such as subject-verb agreement and verb tense

Proficiency Level Descriptors	General	Content Specificity
1 Pre-Production		ELAR: capitalization and punctuation conventions
2 Beginning		ELAR: simple present tense verbs
3 Intermediate		ELAR: present tense verbs with subject-verb agreement
4 High Intermediate		ELAR: past or present tense verbs with subject-verb agreement
5 Advanced		ELAR: past, present, or future tense verbs with subject-verb agreement

Language Pattern: Discourse

ELPS 4(F) write to narrate, describe, explain, respond, or persuade, with detail in the content areas

Proficiency Level Descriptors	General	Content Specificity
1 Pre-Production	illustrate or copy text to show understanding of academic content	Math: mathematical content Science: science and engineering content Social Studies: social studies content
2 Beginning	write using a combination of illustrations and text to narrate, describe, explain, or persuade using acquired information or personal experiences	Math: mathematical language in word problems Science: science and engineering language Social Studies: cause and effect and chronology
3 Intermediate	write using frequently modeled content- area language to narrate, describe, explain, or persuade using acquired information or personal experiences	Math: mathematical thinking and solutions Science: scientific and engineering language with details Social Studies: cause and effect, chronology, or comparison
4 High Intermediate	write using common content-area language to narrate, describe, explain, or persuade using acquired information or personal experiences	Math: mathematical thinking and solutions with relevant details Science: scientific and engineering content with details Social Studies: sentences using cause and effect, chronology, or comparison
5 Advanced	write using precise content-area language to narrate, describe, explain, or persuade using acquired information or personal experiences	Math: mathematical thinking and solutions using precise mathematical language Science: precise science and engineering language Social Studies: precise social studies language using cause and effect, chronology, comparison, or perspective

Language Pattern: Discourse

ELPS 4(F) write to narrate, describe, explain, respond, or persuade, with detail in the content areas

Proficiency Level Descriptors	General	Content Specificity
1 Pre-Production	illustrate or copy descriptive language	
2 Beginning	write descriptive words to add details to written text or pictures	
3 Intermediate	write an idea with specific and relevant details using descriptive phrases	
4 High Intermediate	write to explain an idea with specific and relevant details, using simple sentences with increasing accuracy	
5 Advanced	write to explain an idea with specific and relevant details using a variety of sentence types, write using descriptive, literal, or figurative language to compose text	