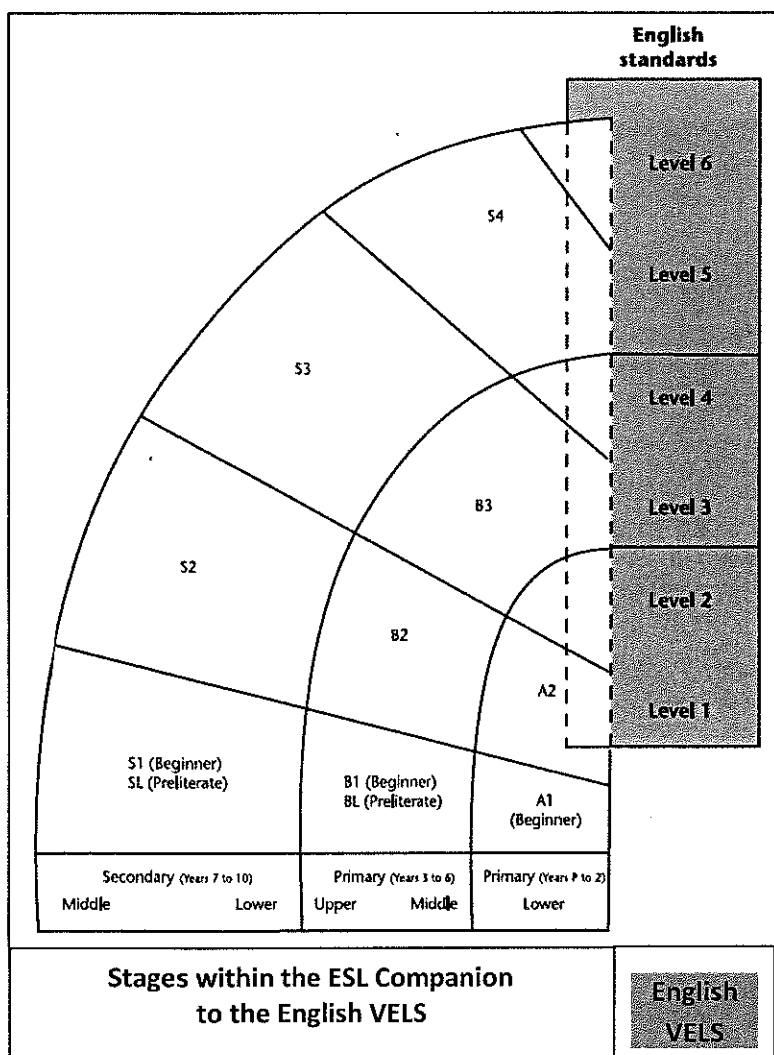


Student Progress in English Language Learning

Stages of the EAL Companion in relation to the English Standards



Stages of English Language Development

The grid at the left indicates the stages of student achievement measured against English language development as described on the *ESL Developmental Continuum*.

These stages describe pathways of English language learning as students progress in mainstream English.

The **A Band** relates to lower primary EAL students (Prep–Grade 2). This comprises 2 stages: A1 and A2. Each stage is further divided into 3 sub-stages.

The **B Band** relates to the middle/upper primary EAL students (Grade 3–Grade 6). This comprises 4 stages: BL, B1, B2 and B3. Each stage is further divided into 3 sub-stages.

The **BL Stage** describes the learning of middle/upper primary students who are not literate in their first language. Only students with interrupted or no schooling are assessed at the BL stage.

“EAL students are likely to take around 5 to 7 years to learn English for academic purposes to the same level as students who have been learning English all their lives.” From the English as a Second Language (ESL) Companion to the Victorian Essential Learning Standards , (pub. 2007, Victorian Curriculum Assessment Authority, State Govt Vic)

<http://vels.vcaa.vic.edu.au/support/esl/esl.html>

Stages of English language development are further outlined in the ESL Developmental Continuum , (pub. on-line 2007 DEECD State of Victoria

<http://www.education.vic.gov.au/studentlearning/teachingresources/esl/default.htm>