At each grade, toward the end of a given level of English language proficiency, and with instructional support, English language learners will process…

### Discourse Level
- **Linguistic Complexity**
- **Sentence Level**
- **Word/Phrase Level**

#### Language Forms and Conventions
- **Vocabulary Usage**

#### Level 6 - Reaching
- Language that meets all criteria through Level 5 - Bridging

#### Level 5 Bridging
- Rich descriptive discourse with complex sentences
- Cohesive and organized related ideas
- Compound, complex grammatical constructions (e.g., multiple phrases and clauses)
- A broad range of sentence patterns characteristic of particular content areas
- Technical and abstract content-area language, including content-specific collocations
- Words and expressions with shades of meaning across content areas

#### Level 4 Expanding
- Connected discourse with a variety of sentences
- Expanded related ideas
- A variety of complex grammatical constructions
- Sentence patterns characteristic of particular content areas
- Specific and some technical content-area language
- Words or expressions with multiple meanings across content areas

#### Level 3 Developing
- Discourse with a series of extended sentences
- Related ideas
- Compound and some complex (e.g., noun phrase, verb phrase, prepositional phrase) grammatical constructions
- Sentence patterns across content areas
- Specific content language, including expressions
- Words and expressions with common collocations and idioms across content areas

#### Level 2 Emerging
- Multiple related simple sentences
- An idea with details
- Compound grammatical constructions
- Repetitive phrasal and sentence patterns across content areas
- General content words and expressions, including cognates
- Social and instructional words and expressions across content areas

#### Level 1 Entering
- Single statements or questions
- An idea within words, phrases, or chunks of language
- Simple grammatical constructions (e.g., commands, Wh- questions, declaratives)
- Common social and instructional forms and patterns
- General content-related words
- Everyday social and instructional words and expressions

…within sociocultural contexts for language use.