

Second Language Acquisition

Assessment Component

1. What is second language acquisition? Identify some essential components needed for learning a second language.
2. How does the language learner's prior knowledge in their first language help them in the process of learning a second language?
3. What are some individual differences that may affect second language acquisition?
4. Why would knowing the natural order of strategies for developing a second language be important information for teachers?
5. Name the theories of second language acquisition and list some identifying characteristics of each.
6. What is the difference between automatic processing and controlled processing in language learning?
7. What does the acronym LAD stand for? What does this acronym imply for language learning?
8. Name Krashen's Five Hypotheses for second language learning.
9. Why is it important for teachers to know how these hypotheses relate to the effective development of a second language?
10. Explain the following terms: 1) context-embedded; 2) context-reduced; 3) cognitively undemanding; and 4) cognitively demanding. Give one example for each term.
11. Name the components of communicative competence.
12. What is the difference between competence and performance? Explain.

13. Why is it important to provide second language learners opportunities for input and interaction in the target language?
14. What is the role of the first language in second language acquisition?
15. Explain the process of language transfer. How does this transfer impact second language acquisition?
16. How can Selinker's language continuum relate to the language categories assigned to English language learners? Explain.
17. Why is error analysis important in second language acquisition?
18. What are the implications for the bilingual/ESL teacher?
19. What is the difference between error analysis and contrastive analysis? Why are both important for the bilingual/ESL teacher?
20. Name the components of the Prism Model of Language Acquisition for School.
21. Explain each of the components with at least two characteristics.