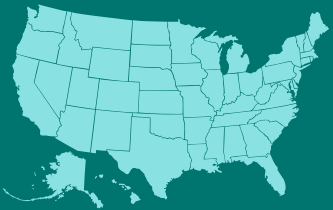


SUPPORTING SPANISH-ENGLISH BILINGUAL STUDENTS IN THE ENGLISH CLASSROOM



- 5.3 million ML students
- 77% ML are Spanish speakers

Spanish-dominant students make up a large part of the multilingual population in U.S. classrooms. Although all students need to develop similar language skills, Spanish-dominant students benefit when teachers leverage these transferable language skills and address key linguistic differences. Read the [full report](#) to learn more about the examples provided here.



Phonology & Orthography

Provide additional support with unpredictable English sounds and spellings:

- Phonemes that can be spelled multiple ways
 - /k/ = **music, kit, chorus, and lock**
- Consonants that represent multiple sounds
 - **g = different sounds:**
 - /g/ in **guess**
 - /j/ in **age**
- English digraphs, blends, and diphthongs that are not present in Spanish
 - **sh, th, ph, str, sl, kn, wr, ck, ng, and gh**



Grammar, Sentence Structure, and Writing Mechanics

Focus on key grammatical and structural differences between English and Spanish:

- Demonstrate the use of apostrophes in English reading and writing that are not used in Spanish
 - Possessive nouns
 - **the dog's ears**
 - Contractions
 - **we'll, I'm, don't, shouldn't**
- Analyze the structure of spoken and written language
 - Adjectives preceding nouns vs. adjectives following nouns in Spanish
 - **a red house** vs. **una casa roja**
- Identify, recognize, and produce proper nouns within written sentences
 - Capitalization of proper nouns that are not capitalized in Spanish
 - **days of the week, months, languages**



Vocabulary

Build understanding through explicit instruction and by connecting related words:

- Focus instruction on academic vocabulary
- Teach students to recognize cognates
 - Teachers fluent in Spanish and English can bridge understanding by drawing attention to shared cognates & clarify false cognates
 - **family & familia, energy & energía**
 - **exit and éxito**
- Read aloud Spanish-English dual-language books for exposure to vocabulary in both languages