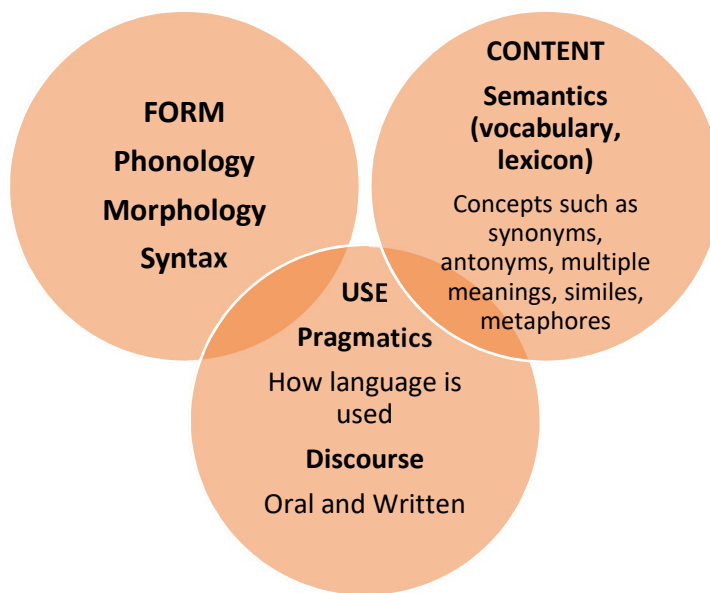## English Language Components and Literacy Development

English is a morphophonemic language that includes both sound and meaning. Language proficiency and the achievement of grade-level literacy skills are strongly correlated to one another. Explicit teaching of all language components during English Language Development (ELD) instruction is crucial to the attainment of English proficiency in listening, speaking, reading, and writing.

FORM
Phonology
Morphology
Syntax

CONTENT
Semantics (vocabulary, lexicon)
Concepts such as synonyms, antonyms, multiple meanings, similes, metaphores

USE
Pragmatics
How language is used
Discourse
Oral and Written

Bloom & Lahey, (1978); Soifer, (1999)

Language Components	For more information…
Phonology - the rule system within a language by which phonemes can be sequenced, combined, and pronounced to make words Phonemes must be taught in context. Familiarize English learners with sounds and sound combinations through read-alouds, participatory chants, poems, rhymes, call and response, children and folksongs When English learners can hear and attend to these sounds, they are ready to match them with graphic representations. **Examples** The /th/ of thank and /th/ of this The /j/ of jello, edge, giant The /z/of zero, has The /v/ of voice, very	American Speech and Hearing Association Phonemic Inventories in Multiple Languages Colorin Colorado What Does Research Tell Us About Teaching Reading to English Language Learners? Echevarria, Dr. Jana and Bear, Donald Language Transfers: The Interaction Between English and Students' Primary Languages
Morphology - the study of the structure of words, particularly the smallest units of meaning in words: morphemes **Examples** Nat- is a root. **Nature** is a noun; **natural** is an adjective; **naturalist** is a noun; **naturally** is an adverb.	The Mini-Matrix Maker provides support in visualizing word structure. Kieffer, Michael J., Lesaux, Nonie K. Breaking Down Words to Build Meaning: Morphology, Vocabulary, and Reading Comprehension in the Urban Classroom - how to incorporate instruction on word structure to improve reading comprehension and speed language development.
Orthography - the writing system of a language Spelling supports literacy instruction. It is important for English learners to understand how the spelling system works and see how some spelling rules are predictable. **Examples** Every English word ending in /v/ is spelled with - **ve.**	Moats, Luisa How Spelling Supports Reading Explores the nature of the English language's writing/spelling system to understand the sequence in which we need to teach orthography. This crucial information is needed to map ELD instruction to match grade level requirements.

Semantics - the meaning of words and the relationships among words as they are used to represent knowledge of the world To know a word means knowing it in the following dimensions: • The ability to define a word • The ability to recognize when to use that word • Knowledge of its multiple meanings • The ability to decode and spell that word **Examples** The word **table** has multiple meanings. The words **order** and **sequence** have similar meanings.	Colorin Colorado Selecting Vocabulary to Teach English Learners Empowering ELLs Vocabulary Instruction Colorin Colorado Selecting Vocabulary to Teach English Learners
Syntax - the system of rules governing permissible word order in sentences Grammar is an important component in the development of literacy skills and language proficiency. **Examples** Our district recruits new teachers" is a sentence; "New teachers our district recruits" is not a sentence.	Empowering ELLs Teaching Grammar in Context provides effective strategies to make ELD instruction more dynamic and connected to the context in which language is developed. Echevarria, Dr. Jana and Bear, Donald Language Transfers: The Interaction Between English and Students' Primary Languages
Discourse - organizational conventions in longer segments of oral or written language **Examples** Paragraph structure; cohesive ties; genre; conventions such as story structure 	Evidence-based language and literacy practices to enhance the Language Instruction Education Programs in the development of listening, speaking, reading, and writing. TESOL Statement on Language and Literacy Development for Young English Language Learners, Teachers of English to Speakers of Other Languages Reading Rockets What Does Research Tell Us About Teaching Reading to English Language Learners? Colorin Colorado Reading 101: Teaching English Language Learners Colorin Colorado Writing Instruction for English Language Learners
Pragmatics - the social and cultural contexts in communication and its influence on language interpretation **Examples** To one person I say, "That is my seat!" To another, I say, "Excuse me, my ticket has that seat number."	Edutopia 6 Essential Strategies to Teach English Language Learners Herrmann, Erik Language Register: What is it and why does it Matter in Education?

PaTTAN ELD Nugget