## **Evaluating All Teachers of English Learners** and Students with Disabilities

In today's increasingly diverse classrooms, it is essential that all teachers are equipped to meet the needs of English learners (ELs) and students with disabilities (SWDs). This includes having the knowledge, skills, and dispositions to provide equitable and effective instruction.



### **Evaluating ALL Teachers of English Learners and Students With Disabilities: Supporting Great Teaching**

by Diane Staehr Fenner

↑ ↑ ↑ ↑ 4 out of 5

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Evaluating teachers of ELs and SWDs is a critical component of ensuring that they are meeting these needs. However, traditional evaluation methods often fail to capture the full range of skills and knowledge that these teachers need.

This guide provides a comprehensive framework for evaluating all teachers of ELs and SWDs. It includes best practices, assessment tools, and

strategies for ensuring that these teachers are providing high-quality instruction.

#### **Best Practices for Evaluating Teachers of ELs and SWDs**

When evaluating teachers of ELs and SWDs, it is important to use best practices that are:

- Valid and reliable: The evaluation methods should measure the skills and knowledge that are essential for teaching ELs and SWDs.
- Fair and unbiased: The evaluation methods should not discriminate against teachers based on their race, ethnicity, gender, or disability status.
- Transparent: Teachers should know what is being evaluated and how their performance will be assessed.
- Supportive: The evaluation process should provide teachers with feedback and support to help them improve their practice.

#### **Assessment Tools for Evaluating Teachers of ELs and SWDs**

There are a variety of assessment tools that can be used to evaluate teachers of ELs and SWDs. These tools include:

- Observations: Observations can provide valuable information about a teacher's instructional practices. Observers should look for evidence of the teacher's knowledge of ELs and SWDs, their ability to differentiate instruction, and their use of effective teaching strategies.
- Student work: Student work can provide evidence of a teacher's effectiveness in teaching ELs and SWDs. Evaluators should look for

evidence of student learning, student engagement, and student progress.

- Teacher self-reflections: Teacher self-reflections can provide insight into a teacher's beliefs and attitudes about teaching ELs and SWDs. Evaluators should look for evidence of the teacher's commitment to equity and inclusion, their willingness to learn and grow, and their ability to self-reflect.
- Interviews: Interviews can be used to gather information about a teacher's knowledge, skills, and experiences. Evaluators should ask questions about the teacher's understanding of ELs and SWDs, their instructional practices, and their professional development needs.

#### Strategies for Ensuring Equitable and Effective Instruction

In addition to using best practices and assessment tools, it is important to use strategies that ensure equitable and effective instruction for ELs and SWDs. These strategies include:

- Providing professional development: Professional development is essential for helping teachers develop the knowledge and skills they need to teach ELs and SWDs. Professional development should be tailored to the specific needs of the teachers and should include opportunities for hands-on learning.
- Creating a supportive school climate: A supportive school climate is
  one in which all students feel welcome and respected. This type of
  climate is essential for ELs and SWDs to succeed. Schools should
  create policies and practices that promote equity and inclusion.

 Using data to inform instruction: Data can be used to track student progress and identify areas where instruction needs to be improved.
 Schools should use data to make informed decisions about instructional practices and to ensure that all students are making progress.

Evaluating teachers of ELs and SWDs is a critical component of ensuring that these students are receiving the high-quality instruction they need to succeed. By using best practices, assessment tools, and strategies that ensure equitable and effective instruction, schools can create a learning environment in which all students can thrive.

This comprehensive guide provides a framework for evaluating all teachers of ELs and SWDs. It includes best practices, assessment tools, and strategies for ensuring that these teachers are providing high-quality instruction.

By following the recommendations in this guide, schools can ensure that all teachers are equipped to meet the needs of ELs and SWDs and that these students are receiving the education they deserve.



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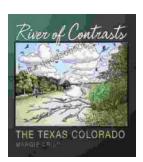
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