**Picture of a Newcomer or Long-term English Language Learner**

The WIDA is an English language proficiency assessment given to all ELL students during the month of February. Students are tested in the areas of Reading, Writing, Speaking, and Listening. The highest proficiency score a student can receive in any domain is a 6. Once a student receives an overall score of 4.5 and at least a 4 in both Reading and Writing they will no longer be pulled out for support services. They will, however, continue to need Tier 1 support within their classes.

Student WIDA reports include “Can Do” statements for each domain based on their proficiency level. These Can Do statements are just a guide to help teachers within the classroom. Some students may still struggle with the suggested skills at that proficiency level. See sample Student WIDA Report below.

**Supporting ELLs in Class:**

* Where possible provide abridged or leveled reading, which contains illustrations or pictorial representations, to support class content.
  + Graphic novels, Newsela and Smithsonian Tween Tribune also has leveled content.
* Amend written assignment expectations
  + Bulleted or outline responses as opposed to full sentences/essays
  + Use sentence stems and word boxes
  + Provide graphic organizers
  + Allow students to demonstrate they have learned the new material in a variety of ways.
    - [15 fast and formative assessment activities](file:///Users/catherine.amicucci/One%20Drive/ELL%20Materials/Monthly%20ELL%20Tips/%09https:/www.wabisabilearning.com/blog/15-assessment-activities-fast-formative)
* Provide opportunities for small group discussion, allowing for ELL students to observe and participate with fluent English speakers.
* Combine oral presentations with visual/pictorial representations or artifacts

