

The Trap

Characteristics shared by Students with Learning Disabilities & ELLs:

- Short attention span
- Distractible
- Daydreams
- Appears confused
- Speaks infrequently
- Uses gestures
- Speaks in single words and phrases
- Comments inappropriately
- Has poor recall
- Has poor comprehension
- Has poor vocabulary
- Has poor pronunciation
- Has poor syntax
- Confuses similar sounding words
- Has difficulty sequencing ideas and events

For ELLs without disabilities, these characteristics will appear only when the second language is being used. All these characteristics are typical in the second language acquisition process.

Adapted from Ortiz & Maldono, 1986, (as cited in Kayser, 19989b) and Roseberry-McKibben, 1905 and ISBE Resource Manual for Serving ELLs with Disabilities, 2002