

# Seal of Biliteracy



# 1. What is a Seal of Biliteracy?

An award given by a school, district or state to recognize graduating seniors who can demonstrate high levels of proficiency in English and at least one other language.



## 2. What is biliteracy?

The ability to communicate with a high level of proficiency in two languages.

### **Biliterate communication requires:**

- Literacy: the ability to read and write

AND

- Oracy: the ability to listen/comprehend and speak/sign.



# 3. What is proficiency?

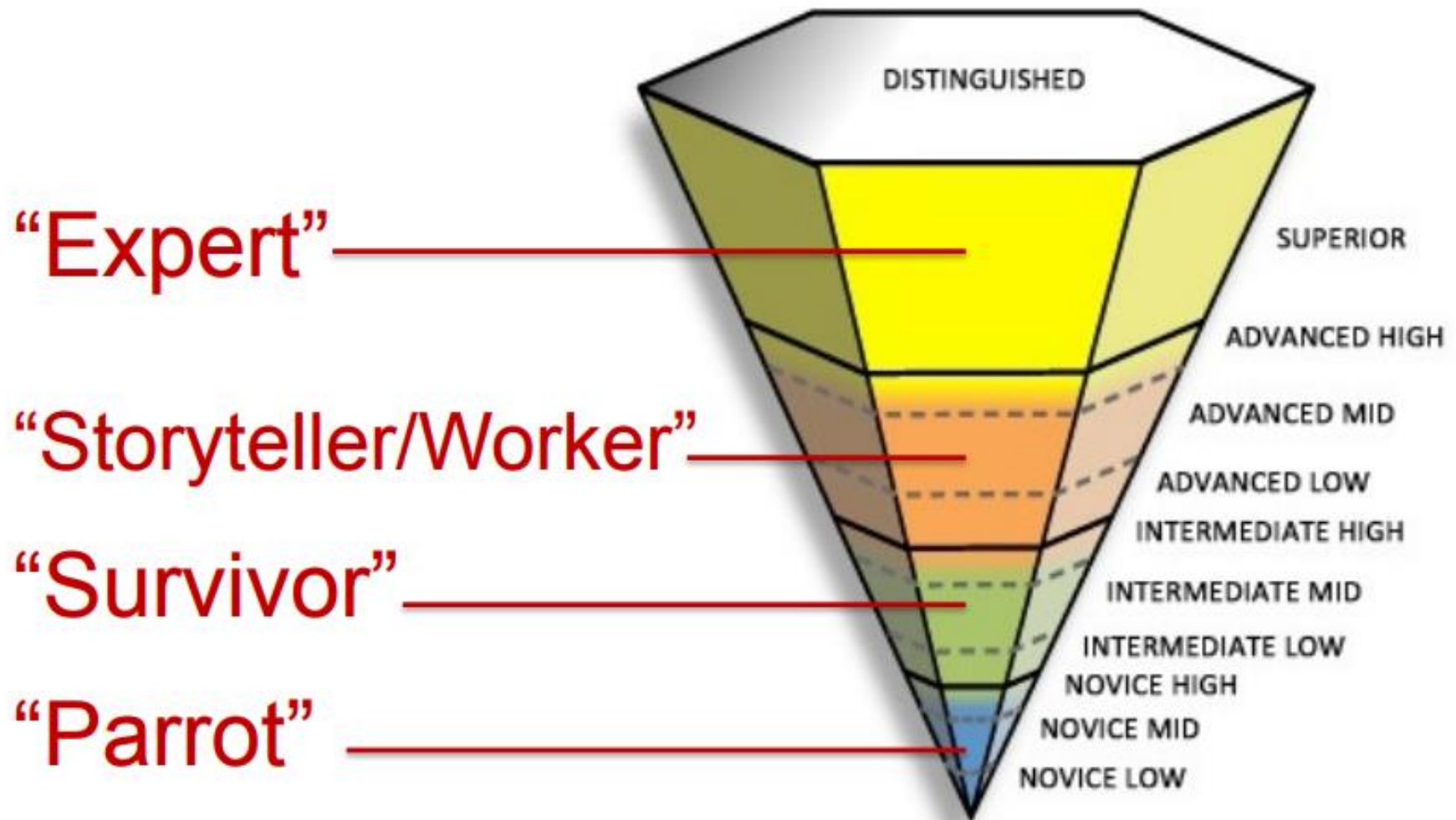
The ability of an individual to use culturally appropriate language to communicate spontaneously in non-rehearsed contexts with a high degree of competence.

## **Also:**

- The degree of skill with which a person can use language to comprehend, speak, read, write and sign in real-life situations.



# ACTFL Proficiency Levels



# ORAL PROFICIENCY LEVELS IN THE WORKPLACE

ACTFL Level	ILR	Language Functions	Corresponding Professions/Positions*	Examples of Who Is Likely to Function at This Level
<b>Distinguished</b>	<b>5</b>	<i>Ability to tailor language to specific audience, persuade, negotiate. Deal with nuance and subtlety.</i>	Foreign Service: Diplomat, Contract Negotiator, International Specialist, Intelligence Specialist	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Highly articulate, professionally specialized native speakers</li> <li>Language learners with extended (17 years) and current professional and/or educational experience in the target culture</li> </ul>
	<b>4</b>			
<b>Superior</b>	<b>3</b>	<i>Discuss topics extensively, support opinions, hypothesize. Deal with linguistically unfamiliar situations.</i>	University Language Professor, Financial Services Marketing Consultant, Foreign Area Officer, Lawyer, Judge, Court Interpreter	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Well-educated native speakers</li> <li>Educated language learners with extended professional and/or educational experience in the target language environment</li> </ul>
<b>Advanced High</b>	<b>2+</b>	<i>Narrate and describe in past, present, and future. Deal effectively with an unanticipated complication.</i>	Physician, Human Resources Communications Consultant, Financial Services Senior Consultant, Quality Assurance Specialist, Marketing Manager, Financial Advisor, Broker, Military Linguist, Translation Officer	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Language learners with graduate degrees in language or a related area and extended educational experience in target environment</li> </ul>
<b>Advanced Mid</b>			Banking and Investment Services Customer Service Representative, Fraud Specialist, Account Executive, Medical Interpreter, Patient Advocate, Court Stenographer, Court Interpreter, Human Resources Benefits Specialist, Technical Service Agent, Collections Representative, Estimating Coordinator	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Heritage speakers, informal learners, non-academic learners who have significant contact with language</li> <li>Undergraduate majors with year-long study in the target language culture</li> </ul>
<b>Advanced Low</b>			K-12 Language Teacher, Nurse, Social Worker, Claims Processor, Police Officer, Maintenance Administrator, Billing Clerk, Legal Secretary, Legal Receptionist, 911 Dispatcher, Consumer Products Customer Services Representative, Retail Services Personnel	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Undergraduate language majors</li> </ul>
<b>Intermediate High</b>	<b>1+</b>	<i>Create with language, initiate, maintain, and bring to a close simple conversations by asking and responding to simple questions.</i>	Fire Fighter, Utilities Installer, Auto Inspector, Aviation Personnel, Missionary, Tour Guide	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Language learners following 6-8 year sequences of study (e.g., AP) or 4-6 semester college sequences</li> </ul>
<b>Intermediate Mid</b>			Cashier, Sales Clerk (highly predictable contexts), Receptionist	
<b>Intermediate Low</b>				
<b>Novice High</b>	<b>0+</b>	<i>Communicate minimally with formulaic and rote utterances, lists, and phrases.</i>	<b>Typical OH K-12 Language Learner (2 years)</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Language learners following content-based language program in Grades K-6</li> </ul>
<b>Novice Mid</b>	<b>0</b>			<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Language learners following 2 years of high school language study</li> </ul>
<b>Novice Low</b>				

**Immersion (10-12 years)**

**AP / I.B. (4-5 years)**

**Honors Diploma Earner (3 years)**

**Typical OH K-12 Language Learner (2 years)**

\*The levels of proficiency associated with each of the positions above are minimal levels of oral proficiency based on task analyses. The minimal levels were determined by subject matter experts from companies and agencies who use ACTFL proficiency tests.

# Ohio Seal of Biliteracy

## English Proficiency Requirements

A student will be identified at the local level as meeting the requirements for a Seal of Biliteracy in English if the student has met one of the following ELA graduation qualifiers:

- Proficient level on Ohio's required state test(s) for high school English language arts (currently ELA I and ELA II); or
- Remediation-free scores on the English and reading sections of one of the state-recognized college readiness examinations (currently the ACT or SAT English and reading sections); or
- Earn a proficient level or higher on a Department-approved alternative assessment; or
- Earn a score of proficient on the Ohio English Language Proficiency Assessment (OELPA).



# Ohio Sub. Senate Bill 3 (2016)

“The state seal of biliteracy shall demonstrate the attainment of a high level of proficiency by a graduate of a public or chartered nonpublic high school in one or more languages in addition to English, sufficient for meaningful use in college and a career.”







# Seal of Biliteracy

## ↳ Steps:

- Information will be presented to Twinsburg High School seniors and placed on THS website.
- Initial interest expressed via Google form: <https://goo.gl/forms/a92LO96iCDFyg3Zk2>
- Confirmed interest in March.
- STAMP test administered on a delayed start Monday in April. **Student must attain Intermediate High level to obtain the Seal of Biliteracy.**
- Successful completion will be denoted on transcript!