

Introduction

HOW TO USE THIS BOOK

While this book will be useful to the ELL professional, it is meant for the general K-12 teacher who has encountered or may encounter English Language Learner students in the classroom. A chapter is included for each of the ten languages most spoken by students who do not also speak English, beginning with the most common language and proceeding to the least common one. Each chapter includes the following resources:

- *Country of Origin Information*—Use this country and culture information to connect with ELL students and to show your appreciation for and interest in students' cultural backgrounds. Perhaps you will have a small celebration on an important holiday, or ask ELL students to share their traditions or religion with the rest of the class.
- *Useful Phrases*—Refer to these in basic communication with students and families. Included are words and phrases specifically useful in the school setting.
- *Student Dictionaries*—Use these reproducible picture dictionaries in the classroom, on the playground, and in content-area classes. You can copy and post these pages in your classroom to aid communication between your ELL students and the rest of the class. Encourage your English-speaking students as well as your ELL students to review these dictionaries.
- *Parent Letters*—It is likely that the parents of ELL students also speak little English, making the all-important communication with home difficult. Use these translated, reproducible parent letters to convey both caring and concern.

The reading tests included in Chapter 11 are *very* basic and do not replace the more detailed evaluations that will be administered by your district's ELL services. However, until these services are put in place, these tests can give you a basic picture of a student's reading skills (and prior schooling). Use them to determine if an ELL student struggles due to language unfamiliarity or to reading difficulties, and adjust your lessons and expectations accordingly.

The Vietnamese Language

The Vietnamese language is a combination of Mon-Khmer, Thai, and Chinese. While there are three main dialects (northern, central, and southern), they are mutually intelligible and differ mostly in pronunciation and in the use of a few dialect-specific phrases. For example, a Saigon *q* is like an English *w*, while a Hanoi *q* sounds as it would in English. There are over eighty million speakers of Vietnamese, located primarily in Vietnam, the United States, Cambodia, China, and France.

Vietnamese Religion and Culture

In Vietnam, family is very important. Traditionally, a married couple will live with and care for the husband's parents. Thus it is very important for a couple to have at least one son. While the people of Vietnam are traditionally Confucian or Mahayana Buddhist, the 1999 census found that 80 percent of Vietnamese did not consider themselves religious. Many of the religious 20 percent were followers of the so-called *Tam Giáo* ("triple religion"), which mixes Zen-tinged Mahayana Buddhism with Confucianism and Taoism. The largest minority religions are Roman Catholic, Hoa Hao, and Protestant, with the largest Protestant churches being the Evangelical Church of Vietnam and the Montagnard Evangelical Church. Vietnam has a rich history of art and architecture, with much of the latter influenced by Chinese and French styles.

Vietnamese Holidays and Other Important Days

The Vietnamese holidays follow the lunar calendar. Search "Vietnam Festival Calendar" online for the current year's dates.

Tet Nguyen Dan: The celebration of the lunar new year is held sometime in late January or early February.

Tet Khai Ha: Everyone celebrates the coming of spring.

Tet Han Thuc: People offer deceased ancestors cold food on the third day of the third lunar month.

Tet Doan Ngo: This holiday is known as "exterminating harmful insects," a time for cleansing.

Tet Trung Thu: This midautumn festival is held in September.

Tet Ha Nguyen: The new rice festival is celebrated on the first day of the tenth lunar month.

Tet Tao Quan: The festival of household gods heralds the end of the year and the coming of *Tet Nguyen Dan*.

Pronunciation and Alphabet

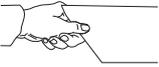
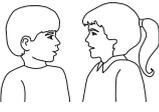
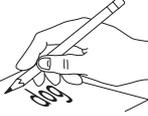
Vietnamese is written using an alphabet called *Quõn Ngu*, which adds diacritics to the Latin alphabet to indicate tones. There are six tones—no

Classroom Communication: Useful Phrases

<i>English</i>	<i>Hmong</i>	<i>Pronunciation Guide</i>
Sit down please.	Thov zaum.	Taw ⁵ zhow ⁸ .
The assignment is on the board.	Txoj hauj lwm nyob tim daim kab das.	Dsaw ² how ² lue ⁸ nyaw ¹ dee ⁸ dye ⁸ gaa ¹ daa ⁴ .
Pay attention!	Ua twb zoo mloog!	Ooha ³ due ¹ zhong ³ mlong ⁷ !
Good job.	Zoo.	Zhong ³ .
Excellent!	Zoo kawg nkaus!	Zhong ³ guh ⁷ ngau ⁴ !
Do you need help?	Koj puas xav tau kev pab?	Gaw ² bua ⁴ saa ⁵ tao ⁸ keng ⁷ baa ¹ ?
Do you understand?	Koj puas to taub?	Gaw ² bua ⁴ daw ³ dau ¹ ?
Do you understand the assignment?	Koj puas to taub txoj hauj lwm?	Gaw ² bua ⁴ daw ³ dau ¹ tzaw ² hau ² lue ⁸ ?
Thanks for listening.	Ua tsaug rau koj mloog.	Ooha ³ jao ⁷ drao ³ kaw ⁵ mlong ⁷ .
Open your book to page ____.	Thuav koj phau ntawv rau phab ____.	Tua ⁵ gaw ² pao ³ ndaw ⁵ drao ³ paa ¹ ____.
I know it's hard; do the best you can.	Kuv paub tias nyuab; ua raws li koj ua tau.	Gue ⁵ bau ¹ dee-uh ⁴ nyua ¹ ; ooha ³ druh ⁴ lee ³ gaw ² ooha ³ dao ³ .
How do you say ____ in Hmong?	Lus Hmoob hais ____ li cas?	Lew ⁴ Hmong ¹ hi ⁴ ____ lee ³ chuh ⁴ ?
What do you think about ____?	Koj xav li cas hais txog ____?	Gaw ² saa ⁵ lee ³ chuh ⁴ hi ⁴ tzaw ⁷ ____?
I would like you to ____.	Kuv xav kom koj ____.	Gue ⁵ saa ⁴ gaw ⁸ gaw ² ____.
Do you know how to ____?	Koj puas paub ua ____ ua li cas?	Gaw ² bua ⁴ bao ¹ ooha ³ ____ ooha ³ lee ³ chuh ⁴ ?
Is this easy or hard?	Ua qhov no yooj yim los nyuab?	Ooha ³ kaw ⁵ naw ³ yong ² yee ⁸ law ⁴ nyua ¹ ?
Quiet, please.	Thov, tswm seeb.	Taw ⁵ , jue ⁸ sheng ¹ .
Please be careful.	Thov xyuam xim.	Taw ⁵ shoua ⁸ see ⁸ .

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Assignment Words: Class Dictionary

<p>Assignment</p>  <p>課外作業 zi ding zok yip</p>	<p>Correct</p>  <p>正確 zeng kok</p>	<p>Design</p>  <p>正確 gai waak</p>	<p>Directions</p>  <p>指示 syut ming</p>
<p>To Discuss</p>  <p>討論 tou leon</p>	<p>To Draw</p>  <p>畫 waak</p>	<p>Due Date</p>  <p>截止日期 zit zi yat gei</p>	<p>Grade</p>  <p>成績 seng zik</p>
<p>To Help</p>  <p>協助 bong zo</p>	<p>Homework</p>  <p>家庭作業 gaa ting zok yip</p>	<p>To Listen</p>  <p>聽 teng</p>	<p>Permission Letter</p>  <p>同意函 heoi ho seon</p>
<p>Questions</p>  <p>問題 man tai</p>	<p>To Read</p>  <p>讀 dok</p>	<p>Stop</p>  <p>停止 ting zi</p>	<p>To Take Notes</p>  <p>記筆記 gei bat gei</p>
<p>Test</p>  <p>測驗 cak yim</p>	<p>To Turn In</p>  <p>交上 gaa</p>	<p>To Write</p>  <p>寫 se</p>	<p>Wrong</p>  <p>錯誤 cou ng</p>

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General Resources That School Offers

Dear Parent or Guardian,

The teachers and staff here at school hope to help you and your child in any way we can. The school offers translators and may also be able to help with school supplies and other services. Please feel free to stop by the school office anytime to explore the services available. If you work during the day, you can always call or send a note with your child. We hope to talk to you soon!

Sincerely,

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