

Discussion Questions for *The 6 Principles for Exemplary Teaching of English Learners: K–12, Second Edition*

Chapter 4

1. Describe some ways that you informally share strategies and best practices for working with multilingual learners of English. Discuss how you can support your colleagues in implementing these strategies.
2. Create a list of techniques and strategies that all teachers in your program or school should know regarding best practices for working with multilingual learners of English.
3. What professional development does your school, district, or program provide for teachers who work with multilingual learners of English? Is it accessible to all teachers? Do all participate? Is additional professional development needed? If it is not sufficient, discuss what professional development you and your colleagues can plan in order to share your collective expertise and learn from each other.
4. Describe procedures for determining if a multilingual learner of English is suspected of having special needs. What is working well? What is not? Are there any actions you can take to further explore this issue and/or develop or improve the protocols currently in place?
5. If you work in a secondary school setting, are there appropriate courses available (such as sheltered content courses) for newcomer learners of English? If not, what can you do to promote such courses?
6. Some of your students and/or their family members may be undocumented. Find out which community services are available for undocumented families. For example, research resources for undocumented students to obtain financial aid for college or to seek legal services.
7. In which schoolwide or districtwide committees (e.g., curriculum revision, instructional materials selection, assessment development) do you participate? Are the needs of multilingual learners of English addressed during these committee meetings? Give an example. Think of issues or concerns related to these learners that you might want to bring up the next time you are a participant on one of these committees.
8. Which role(s) discussed in this chapter do you already carry out? How might information in this chapter be helpful to you?