Los Angeles Unified School District
Multilingual Multicultural Education Department
California English Language Development Standards
Independent Study Guide
Appendix C:
Theoretical Foundations and Research Base for
California's English Language Development Standards

Purpose: To help teachers define effective instructional experiences based on current research.

Key Points:	Key Terms:
• Teachers can provide structured and strategically supportive opportunities for students to develop more academic ways of interacting meaningfully. • Planned scaffolding is that which teachers prepare in advance during their lesson and curriculum planning in order to support access to academic content and linguistic development. • The Common Core Standards draw particular attention to domain specific and general academic vocabulary knowledge and usage due to the prevalence of these types of vocabulary in academic contexts.	• Academic Discourse • Scaffolding (*substantial, moderate, light)* • Academic Language • Academic Register

Essential Question for Reading: What do effective instructional classroom experiences for English Learners look like?

Theoretical Foundations
   • Key research findings indicate that ELD instruction should provide experiences for students that are interactive and _____, meaningful and _____, and intellectually rich and_____; are appropriately _____; value and build on _____; build both academic _____ and content _____.

Meaningful Interaction, Intellectual Challenge
   • Regarding meaningful interaction and intellectual challenge, what kinds of learning opportunities should students engage in?
   • What kinds of teacher supports will facilitate those learning opportunities?

Scaffolding
   • Explain how scaffolding differs by task and student proficiency levels.

Vocabulary, Grammar, Discourse-Level Understanding
   • What do comprehensive and multifaceted approaches to vocabulary instruction include?
   • What are the characteristics of academic registers, which are critical for school success in a variety of disciplines?
   • What has research shown to help students with reading comprehension and writing proficiency? What else can teachers do to support student learning?

Academic English
   • English is a resource to make meaning in a variety of disciplines. Besides vocabulary, what else does *academic language* consist of? Describe the important components of academic English.