



## Explanation of ELL Parent Orientation Sample Powerpoint

The sample powerpoint presentation aims to provide some direction for an ELL parent orientation. Schools are free to use the powerpoint as a template, changing the existing information to fit their school.

When providing an orientation for ELL parents, keep in mind the following:

1. Set the stage to maximize comfort and minimize stress. Having snacks, coffee and tea available can be helpful. Ensure that school personnel are friendly and personable. Notice that the sample powerpoint is very positive in tone.
2. Keep the language very simple. Reduce jargon. Limit the text on each slide of the powerpoint. Don't feel a need to spell out all school procedures using technical language. Focus on only the most important information, and state it in simple, clear, language.
3. Tell parents how students get in to the ESOL program, why the program is necessary, and what it looks like (see slides 5–7).
4. Tell parents how they can help. Tell parents how they can communicate with you, and emphasize that you want to communicate with them (see slides 8–9).

The most important thing to remember is that this should be a time to build *relationships* with ELL parents. In many cultures, relationships are much more important than information. When relationships have been established, parents are much more likely to reach out to find out any information that they need.