The English language learner proficiency standards address social and instructional strategies, as well as academic language in the content areas of language arts, mathematics, science, and social studies. The standards are then subdivided into listening, speaking, reading, and writing.

The Arizona language arts academic standards are broken down by grades K-5 and grades 6-12. The standards are categorized by the English language learner
proficiency standards subdivisions of listening, speaking, reading, and writing. Not until grades 6-12 is their specific standards for reading and writing for literacy in history, social studies, science, and technical subjects. It appears the standards become more content focused as the student progresses by grade.

Carnuccio (n.d.) summarizes the reasons they are both necessary in lesson preparation:

\* “To provide a curriculum/assessment resource anchored in academic content standards.
\* To establish a common yardstick to define and measure how ELLs acquire language across the domains of listening, speaking, reading, and writing.

\* To comply with federal law.”

Carnuccio, L.M. (n.d.). Using ELL tools effectively: WIDA standards for instruction and assessment. Retrieved August 15, 2012, from <http://www.nj.govj/education/bilingual/pd/pp/widappt.ppt>