

Historical Perspective on the Education of English Language Learners

**A Course Module
by Dr. Laurie Weaver**

Module Objectives for the Administrator

1. Review the historical background for educating non-English speakers in the United States.
2. Describe current trends in the education of second language learners.
3. Identify second language education program models.

Pre-Test

Answer True/False

1. Bilingual education in the US began in the 1960s.
2. American Indians traditionally established their own schools.
3. Language assimilation means to replace the first language (L1) with a second language (L2).
4. The use of colonial languages other than English decreased in the 1700 and 1800s because fewer speakers of those languages were making the voyage to the New World.
5. Nativism refers to naturalizing immigrants as US citizens.
6. The cultural deficiency theory proposes that the underachievement of some students in schools is because their cultural does not support education.
7. The launching of the Russian rocket Sputnik greatly affected US education.
8. ESL programs teach students in their L1.
9. The most common type of bilingual program in the US focuses on developing the students' L1 and L2 to a high level.
10. ESL can be taught as a push in or pull out class.

Post-Test

1. Bilingual education in the US began in the 1960s. **Answer: False**
2. American Indians traditionally established their own schools. **Answer: False**
3. Language assimilation means to replace the first language (L1) with a second Language (L2). **Answer: True**
4. The use of colonial languages other than English decreased in the 1700 and 1800s because fewer speakers of those languages were making the voyage to the New World. **Answer: True**
5. Nativism refers to naturalizing immigrants as US citizens. **Answer: False**
6. The cultural deficiency theory proposes that the underachievement of some students in schools is because their cultural does not support education. **Answer: True**
7. The launching of the Russian rocket Sputnik greatly affected US education. **Answer: True**
8. ESL programs teach students in their L1. **Answer: False**
9. The most common type of bilingual program in the US focuses on developing the students' L1 and L2 to a high level. **Answer: False**
10. ESL can be taught as a push in or pull out class. **Answer: True**