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ine: How-To Articles: ning Styles for English Language **ESL/Bilingual Classrooms**

ween ESL and ELL?

difference between ESL and ELL. I've finally found an y released book Classroom Instruction that Works for ne Hill and Kathleen Flynn clearly delineate the terms while or today's ELL teacher and school (ACSD 2006). Hill and rograms that are traditionally specialized. Teachers who dents in acquiring English as a Second Language or ESL. apported by federal funding.

Left Behind Act, and the passage of legislation demanding ur children, the term ELL has evolved. ELL means "English applies to ELLs in general education classrooms. The ulled aside for individualized ESL support or lessons as in neir teachers make the curriculum accessible to them by their content instruction. If you're curious about the book ies linked to high academic achievement in ELLs identified my article, "A review of Classroom Instruction that Works for

Like most terms used to define a big concept, agreement depends on where you are and the culture of your school. I like this explanation because it is one that I've seen play out in my community. However, it's dangerous to make the assumption that all people buy-in to this or a similar distinction between the two terms. Take the term "bilingual education" as a comparison. If you ask teachers to explain how their school approaches bilingual education you'll get competing answers. Some will say bilingual education is making students biliterate. Others will say it means making them bi-cultural and bi-literate. And yet others will insist that it means getting students proficient in English as fast as possible. Therefore, it is wise to seek to understand what a school means when it applies the term "ESL" to its second language learning population. Furthermore, it's essential that we teachers understand the approach that the school is using to educate the ELL community of which we are a part. If we can come to a common understanding about the direction of our ELL program and the goals we are trying to achieve, then our approaches will be unified and our results effective.

If you have a comment or suggestion, please e-mail me.

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