

## iPad apps for ELLs

Name of app	Info about the app	Cost/comments
<p>Google Translate</p> 	<p>You can translate words and phrases between more than 60 languages using Google Translate. For most languages, you can <u>speak</u> your phrases and <u>hear</u> the corresponding translation (which you can't do on the <a href="#">web-based version</a>). The voice recognition is not perfect, but as long as you speak slowly and clearly, the results are impressive. Note, however, that you will need an internet connection to use Translate. Take care, though! Translation apps are flawed! Multiple meaning words and idioms often translate badly, sometimes leading to offensive run-ins!</p>	<p>Free</p>
<p><b>A+ Spelling</b></p> 	<p>Totally customizable! Put in your own spelling lists for specific students/units. Add a word and record your voice with incredible ease, or have students record their voice, for each word on the list. Then the app will help students study, then test. Setup your own spelling tests in minutes. You decide which words to add and practice. Track your kids progress and quickly see how they are doing for each test they took as well as which words if any they are struggling with. Multiple play modes keep kids engaged. Grades 1-12.</p>	<p>Free</p>
<p><b>Bluster!</b></p> 	<p>Rhyming, prefixes, suffixes, synonyms, homophones, adjectives and more. 800 words included. Single student can play alone, or two students can play together collaboratively (team mode) or competitively (head to head). Grades 2-8.</p>	<p>Free</p>
<p><b>ABC Sight Words</b></p> 	<p>Students choose their grade level (K-3) and then practice 300+ Dolch sight words. TWO Learning Modules:            1. WORD FLASHCARDS - SEE the spelling, HEAR the audio, and LEARN the word.            2. WRITING WORDS - Practice spelling the words by writing the words in a trace letter-by-letter format.</p>	<p>Free; upgraded version is 2.99</p>
<p><b>Sentence Builder</b></p> 	<p>A fun new sentence builder app to learn about words, sentences, pronunciation, grammar, and punctuation. Students move the words around to build the sentence themselves. Start with the built-in sentences. Then create your own sentences, use your own images, and use your voice to record your own sentences and words. Each word can be clicked for the sound of the word, and words can be rearranged to make a proper sentence. The app starts with simple sentences and progresses to more complex sentences. Sentences focus on daily life situations, with many references to numbers, colors, and dialogue. Ideal for self-paced learning. It teaches kids grammar, sentence structure, and develops listening skills. Excellent for ELLs. Grades K-5.</p>	<p>Free; upgraded version is 3.99</p>
<p><b>1000 Sight Words Superhero</b></p> 	<p>The most common 1000 words are used 13 times more frequently than the next most common 1000 words! Mastering this relatively small group of words yields a high rate of return when it comes to reading and writing. How will this app help? (1) Baby steps: We do not want to overwhelm a kid with 1000 words. This app divides the words into small manageable sets (50 sets) of 20 words each. (2) Organized approach: You can put a checkmark against the words that you have learnt, allowing you to focus on the words that need practice. (3) Tracking progress: Against each set will be shown the number of words that have been learnt so far. (4) Motivation: Once all 20 words in a set have been checked a checkmark is shown against that set. (5) QUIZ: This app provides a special review screen which shows all the words in a set with all the checkmarks on one screen. This will help to get you a quick snapshot of where your child stands and quiz the child on the words learnt so far. (6) MULTIPLE PROFILES: You can setup up to three children and the app will maintain three separate profiles of checkmarks.</p>	

<p><b>Sentence Maker</b> (from Grasshopper Apps)</p> 	<p>Students drag the words on screen to make a sentence or sometimes just a label. Several levels of support available - hearing the sentence to be created, seeing a picture that goes with it, feedback when the sentence is created correctly. Also reinforces capital letters, spaces between words, periods at the end. Comes with a selection of short sentences and pictures, but is customizable. Add your own sentences and pictures. Record the audio to go with them. Choose which sentences you want your student to be using. Kindergarten to upper grades for beginning ELLs.</p>	<p>Free; Upgraded version 0.99</p>
<p><b>Kidioms</b></p> 	<p>If there is one thing ESL students tend to struggle with more than anything else it is sorting out the meaning behind common phrases and idioms we often use without even realizing it. With this app, students are introduced to an idiom in a digital notebook. The app then gives students an example with a graphic. This app is perfect for meeting the specific needs of the ESL student while also helping them acquire vital Common Core Standard knowledge for third to fifth graders. The app includes games for practice to reinforce concepts learned.</p>	<p>1.99</p>
<p><b>Feel Electric!</b></p> 	<p>Emotional vocabulary and self-expression. Adjectives. Hosted by Electric Company cast members Jessica Ruiz and Danny Rebus, "Feel Electric!" features three fast-paced games, a digital diary to record daily moods, a zany story maker, and more. Teaches new adjectives and reinforces familiar adjectives that describe emotions/feelings. Grades 3-8.</p>	<p>Free</p>
<p><b>ESL Express</b></p> 	<p>Often, students experience difficulty when two or more words have similar sounds, therefore instruction in specific meaning and spelling is needed. This app works with students to learn the many pairs of similar English words, improving grammar and comprehension.</p>	<p>Free; upgraded version is 0.99</p>
<p><b>Word Bingo</b></p> 	<p>This game features play with the Dolch Word List. Students can choose from Pre Primer to third grade level on the game. There are three different modes in which students can play moving them to higher levels of difficulty as they browse the lists of sight words. This app is a fun way to practice skills that may not be so interesting otherwise.</p>	<p>0.99</p>
<p><b>Rainbow Sentences</b></p> 	<p>This app is another one designed to aid students with grammar skills by using color coded visual cues to help form well-structured sentences. The who, what, where and why parts of sentences are color-coded allowing students to begin recognizing patterns in sentence formation. Another great reinforcement tool for those struggling to learn the nuances of English grammar.</p>	<p>7.99</p>
<p><b>Comparative Adjectives</b></p> 	<p>An app from <a href="http://GrasshopperApps.com">GrasshopperApps.com</a> with 350 pictures included to illustrate comparative adjectives. You can turn individual concepts on or off and introduce one new adjective at a time or mix them all up together. You cannot add new pictures to this app, as you can with some other Grasshopper Apps.</p>	<p>Free</p>
<p><b>English Idioms Illustrated</b></p> 	<p>This beautifully-illustrated app from <a href="http://ProfessorPotts.com">Professor Potts</a> (aka Aidan Potts) explores the story behind more than 160 idioms from "Achilles' heel" to "Wrong side of bed", as well as explaining what they mean. The first 23 idioms are included for free and the rest are available at a small price. You can see a selection of the illustrated idioms on the <a href="http://LearnEnglishIdioms.com">Learn English Idioms microsite</a>.</p>	<p>Free</p>
<p><b>Newsy for iPad</b></p> 	<p>For older students, this video news sites (also found at <a href="http://Newsy.com">Newsy.com</a>) is not specifically designed for learners of English, but the transcripts and on-screen extracts from source articles make the short video reports much more accessible than they would otherwise be. The videos are organized into categories (World, US, Politics, Business ...), so you can easily find something of interest. However, the beautifully-designed <a href="http://Newsy.com">Newsy app</a> is something else again. It works brilliantly on the iPad—and it's free!</p>	<p>Free</p>

<p>Speech With Milo: Adjectives</p> 	<p>Animated flashcards. Milo the mouse illustrates 55 different adjectives. “Speech with Milo” apps were created by a licensed Speech-Language Pathologist. This application is intended for children ages 2-10 in order to teach basic descriptive words.</p>	<p>2.99</p>
<p>Speech With Milo: Prepositions</p> 	<p>Animated flashcards. Milo the mouse demonstrates 23 location words such as “inside,” “above,” and “behind.” (Also available in a Spanish version.)</p>	<p>2.99</p>
<p>Speech With Milo: Verbs</p> 	<p>Animated flashcards. Milo the mouse performs over 100 actions, such as “bounce,” “count,” and “play”. (Also available in a Spanish version.)</p>	<p>2.99</p>
<p>Irregular Verbs Fun Deck</p> 	<p>A digital version of a pack of cards; 52 illustrated picture cards plus audio of each card’s text. Select the cards you want students to see, and have your students fill in the blank to practice irregular past, present infinitive, and future tense verbs. The app tracks the total score for up to 5 students at a time, but not the specific items that the students do not get right. The app resets all data to zero at the start of each new game, but at the end of a game you can email yourself any data you want to keep. In the automatic scoring mode, the app only presents two verb forms - students choose between ‘run’ or ‘ran’ for e.g., and are never shown examples of misapplied rules like ‘runned’. In manual mode, students choose (say) their own answer and then the teacher taps the correct or incorrect button.</p>	<p>2.99</p>
<p>Using I and Me Fun Deck</p> 	<p>Select the cards you want students to see, and have your students fill in the blank to practice the personal pronouns “I” and “me.” The prompts include statements like, “___ wrote a story about lions” and “The story about lions was written by ___.” Track correct and incorrect responses for up to five players at a time. Score responses manually or automatically. Manually or automatically advance to the next card/player. There are some odd sentences, but the pictures provide the opportunity for language work too. (“Why is the ice cream green? What flavor do you think it might be?”)</p>	<p>Free</p>
<p>iWriteWords</p> 	<p>iWriteWords teaches your child handwriting while playing a fun and entertaining game. Help Mr. Crab collect the numbered balls by dragging him with your finger - and drawing the letter at the same time. Once all the letters in the word are drawn properly, a cute drawing appears. Slide the letters into the spinning hole and advance to the next level.</p>	<p>Free version is an intro; Real version 2.99</p>
<p>Alien Buddies</p> 	<p>Packed with four engaging activities (matching, puzzles, dot to dot and stickers) with varied difficulty levels and visual and audio modes to reinforce colors, shapes, numbers and letters. Grades K-2.</p>	<p>1.99</p>

<p>Professor Garfield Fact or Opinion</p> 	<p>Part story, part game, and part online safety lesson. When Garfield's friend receives an "F" on his report about goats for using opinions instead of facts, Professor Garfield steps in to explain the differences between a fact and an opinion (particularly with regard to the Internet), how to read with a questioning mind, and how a fact can be verified. Grades 3-8, or ELL level intermediate.</p>	<p>Free</p>
<p>Longman Advanced American Dictionary</p> 	<p>For middle and upper grades, this is the best dictionary I've found for ELLs. Definitions do not require more definitions to understand! There is a less-expensive version but it is without the audio pronunciations. 185,000 words, phrases, meanings, examples in context, synonyms, antonyms, related words, 5000 etymologies, 5000 verb conjugation tables, ability to bookmark, more.</p>	<p>19.99</p>
<p>Science Vocabulary</p> 	<p>Designed for students ages 8-11. This app teaches science vocabulary through categories, then alphabetized list on the left and high-resolution photos that fill the rest of the screen. Photos help convey the meaning of abstract concepts in life science, earth science, and physical science. Good app for visual learners, auditory learners, and tactile learners.</p>	<p>1.99</p>
<p>Starfall All About Me</p> 	<p>Your child will love creating and interacting with his or her Me Character. Players learn essential vocabulary while making choices about everyday objects, body parts, pets, and household environments. This app is excellent for emerging readers and English language learners.</p>	<p>1.99</p>
<p>Starfall ABCs</p> 	<p>This could be it! Starfall ABC is a simple and fun app that introduces young children to their first letters and words. It is based on the "ABCs" part of the <a href="http://Starfall.com">Starfall.com</a> website, and aims to provide an accessible and fun way to teach children the alphabet and basic spelling using colorful images, cute characters and audio effects.</p>	<p>2.99</p>
<p>Starfall Learn to Read</p> 	<p>Each numbered section features a vowel sound and its related spelling. Your child will hear, touch, read and eventually master this sound-spelling through a variety of engaging activities, movies, and songs. Encourage your child to play and explore! Your child will come to recognize the relationship between spoken and written language while having fun learning to read. This app is excellent for emerging readers and English language learners.</p>	<p>2.99</p>
<p>Speech Tutor</p> 	<p>This is a unique application, geared to help students learn proper sounds and pronunciation of American/English words. The app shows a person from "Side View" and "Front View" modeling each sound production, and can be viewed at three different speeds or even paused in mid-action. The app also features a palate diagram, which helps students see even where tongue placement should be. Though it is geared toward ESL students, this app would also be amazingly useful for students with speech impediments.</p>	<p>4.99</p>
<p>SentenceBuilder for iPad</p> 	<p>This app is designed to help elementary-aged children build grammatically correct sentences. Focus is placed on connector words that many ESL students struggle to master. The game features pictures and varied game play levels and even can be transferred to a "teenager" made from older students struggling with grammar and syntax. A must have for the ESL classroom.</p>	<p>5.99</p>

<p>Simplex Phonics</p> 	<p>This app teaches more than 450 high-frequency words, available in 42 different lists, and arranged by difficulty. With each list comes a lesson teaching one of the basic building blocks of English spelling, including phonograms, sounds and spelling rules. A great practice app for both home and school.</p>	<p>4.99, but there is also a free "lite" version</p>
<p>BT Sightwords</p> 	<p>Teaches students the 311 most common words in children's books. Students are able to see, listen to, and interact with the words. Move tiles to properly order letters in words, write on lines, more.</p>	<p>Free version; Upgraded version is 0.99</p>
<p>Preposition Builder</p> 	<p>This app focuses on teaching students how different prepositions can alter the overall meaning of a sentence. To play the game, students drag prepositions to complete a sentence about the image viewed. The great thing about this app is, if the student chooses the wrong answer, the image and sentence change to show the student the meaning of the sentence they created. This is a powerful tool for correcting common problems ESL students have with English preposition usage. Each level of the game is part of an unfolding larger story which keeps student wanting to come back and master the skills to find out what happens. Another must have for the ESL classroom.</p>	<p>7.99</p>
<p>Learn English – Vocabulary (Hello-Hello)</p> 		<p>Free, with in-app purchases</p>
<p>Vocabulary Trainer – English/Spanish</p>	<p>Can work both English → Spanish and Spanish → English. Fun for a few minutes at a time to review and also to learn vocabulary.</p>	<p>Free version; Paid version \$4.99</p>
<p>Grammar App HD</p> 	<p>SYLLABUS COVERED: Parts of Speech, Articles and Tenses----</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▶ Review Of The Articles; Present Tense; Past Tense; Future Tense; Verbs; Am, Are, and Is; Active Verbs With Passive Meaning; Phrasal Verbs &amp; Prepositional Idioms; Modal Verbs; Adjectives &amp; Adverbs; Gradable &amp; Ungradable Adjectives; Adjectives &amp; Adverbs; The Infinitive Without 'to'; Large &amp; Small Quantities; Prepositions &amp; Pronouns; More Prepositions Of Time; Review Of Prepositions; Personal Pronouns ; Possessives; Countable &amp; Uncountable Nouns; Articles &amp; Determiners; A, An, &amp; Some; To, At, &amp; In - Expressing Place &amp; Time; Tell, Say, &amp; Ask; Determiners; Interjections; Confusing Words; Punctuation</li> </ul>	<p>\$0.99</p>

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FYI – I plan to reorganize this list by these categories:

- Age appropriate for ... Pre-K/K, Grades 1-2, Gr 3-5, Gr 6-8, Gr 9-12, Gr K-5, Gr 6-12, All Grades...
- Language element(s) covered – like grammar, vocabulary, sight words, phonics, other...
- Icon, name
- Info summary
- Cost(s)

If you have any recommendations for useful iPad apps, please feel free to share with me, and I can add to this!