

Service Level Agreement
(SLA)

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Definition

Second-language acquisition or **second-language learning** is the process by which people learn a second language.

Second language refers to any language learned in addition to a person's first language; although the concept is named *second* language acquisition, it can also incorporate the learning of third, fourth or subsequent languages.^[1] Second-language acquisition refers to what learners do; it does not refer to practices in language teaching.

There have been many theories of second-language acquisition that have been proposed, but none has been accepted as an overarching theory by all SLA researchers. Due to the interdisciplinary nature of the field of second-language, it is hard to pin down a precise starting date.

Early concepts in Second Language Acquisition research

1950s

interference: Weinreich

compound/coordinate bilingualism: Weinreich

Contrastive Analysis, transfer: Lado

habit-formation: Lado, Bloomfield etc

phrase structure grammar: Bloomfield etc

1960s

independent grammars assumption: school of Chomsky

Language Acquisition Device: Chomsky 1964

hypothesis-testing: Corder

1970s

interlanguage: Nemser, Selinker

Error Analysis: Corder, 1971