



### **What is MSL?**

The terms Orton-Gillingham (OG) and Multisensory Structured Language Education (MSL) are generally interchangeable. More importantly, these approaches are the gold standards for the treatment and remediation of dyslexia. OG and MSL are unique and differ greatly from other programs because they are:

**Language-based:** Students study many facets of language including oral expression, written expression, handwriting, history, structure, syntax, and semantics. Instructors also teach the relationships between letters and sounds, spelling rules (orthography), and morphology (meaning of word parts).

**Simultaneously Multisensory:** All senses (seeing, hearing, touching, & moving) are activated at the same time while learning, clarifying, and reinforcing.

**Structured:** Lessons are intensive and planned based on a predetermined set of language concepts. The instructor implements carefully constructed lessons that adhere to a specific format.

**Sequential:** Lessons are taught using a specific order. All students learn the simplest, most common concepts first in order to build a foundation and then gradually tackle the more complex features.

**Cumulative:** Lessons are taught in a building block manner. Students learn how to navigate language by learning the simplest, most straightforward concepts first. Because each lesson gains complexity, the student uses all previously learned knowledge in order to understand newly learned concepts. Students do not advance further until concepts are mastered. If a student stumbles on a previously mastered concept the instructor reteaches before moving forward.

**Cognitive:** The “hows and whys” are carefully addressed in each lesson so the student can discover the logic behind each concept. Students are also taught how to self-question and rely on the linguistic logic they have learned when approaching problems independently. Students use knowledge of linguistic relationships to gain further understanding.

**Emotionally Sound:** Students are only assessed on materials they have been taught; therefore, the instructor can assess true progress, and the student does not have to fear learning. As a result, the student can experience academic success while feeling confident about language instruction.

**Diagnostic & Prescriptive:** The instructor constantly monitors and records student behavior and progress and uses that information to plan for future instruction.

**Direct and Explicit:** Concepts are taught in a straightforward manner. Students are given clear explanation and have the opportunity to discuss concepts. Instructors develop lessons that approach specific concepts individually so the student can focus and thoroughly understand one idea before moving on.

**Neurological:** Concepts are taught in a simultaneously multisensory manner so that all pathways of the brain are activated at the same time. This type of instruction actually creates and repairs pathways so as to make reading, writing, and spelling more manageable.

IMSLE are the ADA's accredited Australian training provider for MSL

**2015 course information can be requested by emailing:** [imsl.education@gmail.com](mailto:imsl.education@gmail.com)



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