

Standard 1: Speaking and Listening

Students will speak and listen effectively in a variety of situations including, but not limited to, responses to reading and writing.

Reading

Students will develop and apply effective communication skills through speaking and active listening.

8.1.R.1 Students will actively listen and speak clearly using appropriate discussion rules with control of verbal and nonverbal cues.

8.1.R.2 Students will actively listen and interpret a speaker's messages (both verbal and nonverbal) and ask questions to clarify the speaker's purpose and perspective.

8.1.R.3 Students will engage in collaborative discussions about appropriate topics and texts, expressing their own ideas clearly while building on the ideas of others in pairs, diverse groups, and whole class settings.

Writing

Students will develop and apply effective communication skills through speaking and active listening to create individual and group projects and presentations.

8.1.W.1 Students will give formal and informal presentations in a group or individually, providing textual and visual evidence to support a main idea.

8.1.W.2 Students will work effectively and respectfully within diverse groups, show willingness to make necessary compromises to accomplish a goal, share responsibility for collaborative work, and value individual contributions made by each group member.

Standard 2: Reading Foundations/Reading and Writing Process

Students will develop foundational skills for future reading success by working with sounds, letters, and text. Students will use a variety of recursive reading and writing processes.

Fluency

Students will recognize high-frequency words and read grade-level text smoothly and accurately, with expression that denotes comprehension.

8.2.F.1 Students will read high frequency and irregularly spelled grade-level words with automaticity in text.

8.2.F.2 Students will orally read grade-level text at an appropriate rate, smoothly and accurately, with expression that denotes comprehension.

Students will continue to review and apply earlier grade level expectations for this standard. If these fluency skills are not mastered, students will address skills from previous grades.

Reading

Students will read and comprehend increasingly complex literary and informational texts.

8.2.R.1 Students will summarize and paraphrase ideas, while maintaining meaning and a logical sequence of events, within and between texts.

8.2.R.2 Students will analyze details in literary and nonfiction/informational texts to evaluate patterns of genres.

8.2.R.3 Students will generalize main ideas with supporting details in a text.

Writing

Students will develop and strengthen writing by engaging in a recursive process that includes prewriting, drafting, revising, editing, and publishing.

8.2.W.1 Students will apply components of a recursive writing process for multiple purposes to create a focused, organized, and coherent piece of writing.

8.2.W.2 Students will plan (e.g., outline) and prewrite a first draft as necessary.

8.2.W.3 Students will develop drafts by choosing an organizational structure (e.g., description, compare/contrast, sequential, problem/solution, cause/effect, etc.) and building on ideas in multi-paragraph essays.

8.2.W.4 Students will edit and revise multiple drafts for organization, transitions to improve coherence and meaning, sentence variety, and use of consistent point of view.

8.2.W.5 Students will use resources to find correct spellings of words (e.g., word wall, vocabulary notebook, print and electronic dictionaries, and spell-check).

Standard 3: Critical Reading and Writing

Students will apply critical thinking skills to reading and writing.

Reading

Students will comprehend, interpret, evaluate, and respond to a variety of complex texts of all literary and informational genres from a variety of historical, cultural, ethnic, and global perspectives.

8.3.R.1 Students will analyze works written on the same topic and compare the methods the authors use to achieve similar or different purposes and include support using textual evidence.

8.3.R.2 Students will evaluate points of view and perspectives and describe how this affects grade-level literary and/or informational text.

8.3.R.3 Students will analyze how authors use key literary elements to contribute to the meaning of a text:

- setting
- plot
- characters (i.e., protagonist, antagonist)
- characterization
- theme
- conflict (i.e., internal and external)

8.3.R.4 Students will evaluate literary devices to support interpretations of literary texts:

- simile
- metaphor
- personification
- onomatopoeia
- hyperbole
- imagery
- tone
- symbolism
- irony

8.3.R.5 Students will evaluate textual evidence to determine whether a claim is substantiated or unsubstantiated.

Writing

Students will write for varied purposes and audiences in all modes, using fully developed ideas, strong organization, well-chosen words, fluent sentences, and appropriate voice.

8.3.W.1 NARRATIVE

Students will write narratives incorporating characters, plot (i.e., flashback and foreshadowing), setting, point of view, conflict, dialogue, and sensory details.

8.3.W.2 INFORMATIVE

Students will compose essays and reports about topics, incorporating evidence (e.g., specific facts, examples, details) and maintaining an organized structure and a formal style.

8.3.W.3 ARGUMENT Grade Level Focus

Students will introduce a claim, recognize at least one claim from an opposing viewpoint, and organize reasons and evidences, using credible sources.

8.3.W.4 Students will show relationships among the claim, reasons, and evidence and include a conclusion that follows logically from the information presented.

8.3.R.6 Students will analyze the structures of texts (e.g., compare/contrast, problem/solution, cause/effect, claims/evidence) and content by making complex inferences about texts to draw logical conclusions from textual evidence.

8.3.R.7 Students will make connections (e.g., thematic links, literary analysis) between and across multiple texts and provide textual evidence to support their inferences.

Standard 4: Vocabulary

Students will expand their working vocabularies to effectively communicate and understand texts.

Reading

Students will expand academic, domain-appropriate, grade-level vocabularies through reading, word study, and class discussion.

8.4.R.1 Students will increase knowledge of academic, domain-appropriate, grade-level vocabulary to infer meaning of grade-level text.

8.4.R.2 Students will use word parts (e.g., affixes, Greek and Latin roots, stems) to define and determine the meaning of increasingly complex words.

8.4.R.3 Students will use context clues to determine or clarify the meaning of words or distinguish among multiple-meaning words.

8.4.R.4 Students will infer the relationships among words with multiple meanings and recognize the connotation and denotation of words.

8.4.R.5 Students will use a dictionary, glossary, or a thesaurus (print and/or electronic) to determine or clarify the meanings, syllabication, pronunciation, synonyms, and parts of speech of words.

Writing

Students will apply knowledge of vocabularies to communicate by using descriptive, academic, and domain-appropriate abstract and concrete words in their writing.

8.4.W.1 Students will use domain-appropriate vocabulary to communicate ideas in writing clearly.

8.4.W.2 Students will select appropriate language to create a specific effect according to purpose in writing.

Standard 5: Language

Students will apply knowledge of grammar and rhetorical style to reading and writing.

Reading

Students will apply knowledge of grammar and rhetorical style to analyze and evaluate a variety of texts.

8.5.R.1 Students will recognize the use of verbals (e.g., gerunds, participles, infinitives) and clauses.

8.5.R.2 Students will recognize the use of active and passive voice.

8.5.R.3 Students will recognize and correct inappropriate shifts in verb tense.

8.5.R.4 Students will recognize the subject and verb agreement, and correct as necessary.

Writing

Students will demonstrate command of standard English grammar, mechanics, and usage through writing and other modes of communication.

8.5.W.1 Students will write using correct mechanics with a focus on commas, apostrophes, quotation marks, colons, and semi-colons.

8.5.W.2 Students will compose simple, compound, complex, and compound-complex sentences and questions to signal differing relationships among ideas.

8.5.W.3 Students will use verbals (e.g., gerunds, participles, infinitives) in writing.

8.5.W.4 Students will form and use verbs in the active and passive voice.

8.5.W.5 Students will form and use verbs in the indicative, imperative, interrogative, conditional, and subjunctive mood.

Standard 6: Research

Students will engage in inquiry to acquire, refine, and share knowledge.

Reading

Students will comprehend, evaluate, and synthesize resources to acquire and refine knowledge.

8.6.R.1 Students will use their own viable research questions and well-developed thesis statements to find information about a specific topic.

8.6.R.2 Students will follow ethical and legal guidelines for finding and recording information from a variety of primary and secondary sources (e.g., print and digital).

8.6.R.3 Students will determine the relevance, reliability, and validity of the information gathered.

Writing

Students will summarize and paraphrase, integrate evidence, and cite sources to create reports, projects, papers, texts, and presentations for multiple purposes.

8.6.W.1 Students will write research papers and/or texts independently over extended periods of time (e.g., time for research, reflection, and revision) and for shorter timeframes (e.g., a single sitting or a day or two).

8.6.W.2 Students will refine and formulate a viable research question and report findings clearly and concisely, using a well-developed thesis statement.

8.6.W.3 Students will quote, paraphrase, and summarize findings following an appropriate citation style (e.g., MLA, APA, etc.) and avoiding plagiarism.

8.6.W.4 Students will summarize and present information in a report.

Standard 7: Multimodal Literacies

Students will acquire, refine, and share knowledge through a variety of written, oral, visual, digital, non-verbal, and interactive texts.

Reading

Students will evaluate written, oral, visual, and digital texts in order to draw conclusions and analyze arguments.

8.7.R.1 Students will determine the intended purposes of techniques used for rhetorical effects in written, oral, visual, digital, non-verbal, and interactive texts to generate and answer interpretive and applied questions to create new understandings.

8.7.R.2 Students will analyze the impact of selected media and formats on meaning.

Writing

Students will create multimodal texts to communicate knowledge and develop arguments.

8.7.W.1 Students will select, organize, or create multimodal content that encompasses different points of view.

8.7.W.2 Students will utilize multimedia to clarify information and emphasize salient points.

Standard 8: Independent Reading and Writing

Students will read and write for a variety of purposes including, but not limited to, academic and personal.

Reading

Students will read independently for a variety of purposes and for extended periods of time. Students will select appropriate texts for specific purposes.

8.8.R Students will select appropriate texts for specific purposes and read independently for extended periods of time.

Writing

Students will write independently for extended periods of time. Students will vary their modes of expression to suit audience and task.

8.8.W Students will write independently over extended periods of time (e.g., time for research, reflection, and revision) and for shorter timeframes (e.g., a single sitting or a day or two), vary their modes of expression to suit audience and task, and/or analyze different perspectives.