

English/Language Arts
Grade 8

Language

Students will be able to:

- Identify examples of irrelevance, redundancy, and ambiguity/plagiarism.
- Prepare and deliver presentations using prepared notes compiled from research.
- Describe the origins and meanings of common, learned, and foreign words used frequently in written English.
- Use appropriate resources to develop understanding of content and specific vocabulary (glossary, thesaurus, dictionary, etc.).
- Identify appropriate reference sources for specific information.
- Use pronouns appropriately (direct/indirect objects, predicate nominatives, predicate adjectives, and antecedent agreement).

Composition

Students will be able to:

- Demonstrate ability to take notes and to prepare a report (research citing multiple sources - a minimum of three).
- Produce multi-paragraph compositions of the following types:
 - Analytical response to literature (critique).
 - Narrative (personal reflection).
 - Creative (contemporary forms).
 - Letter (of application).
 - Journals (writing and content area).
- Use the following English language conventions:
 - Clauses.
 - Verbals.
 - MLA documentation.
 - Punctuation (ellipses).
- Edit and revise in accordance with Grade 8 English language conventions and rubrics.
- Create various forms of poetry.

Literature

Students will be able to:

- Identify and locate explicit information/details.
- Evaluate information to draw conclusions.
- Relate characteristics of genre to an author's purpose.
- Demonstrate understanding of character through artistic expression, essay, or discussion.
- Describe changes in character over the course of a story.
- Identify organizational patterns of text and relate to writing by taking notes, outlining, and sequencing.

- Focus and plan reading through use of strategies such as: setting purposes, generating essential questions, clarifying reading through re-reading and discussion, and paraphrasing.
- Identify examples of assonance, consonance, and rhythm in poetry.

Media

Students will be able to:

- Conduct a research project using a variety of research sources effectively.
- Analyze and describe the effect of color and sound contained within video media on the audience's emotions/attitudes.

Identify and explain the effective use of graphics in various media.