

Grade Eight

The eighth-grade student will learn and apply interviewing techniques developing and delivering oral presentations in groups and individually. The student will demonstrate correct use of language, spelling, and mechanics by applying grammatical conventions in writing and speaking. Students will evaluate, analyze, develop and produce media messages. The student will plan, draft, revise, and edit writing, with emphasis on exposition and persuasion. The student will apply reading and writing skills in all subjects, as well as respond critically to literature. The student will continue development of vocabulary, with attention to connotations and figurative language. ~~The student will become a skillful interpreter of the persuasive strategies used in print and mass media.~~ The student will continue to develop an appreciation for literature-literary genres through a study of a wide variety of selections. The student will describe themes, make inferences or inferred main ideas, interpret cause-and effect relationships, differentiate between fact and opinion, and draw conclusions from a variety of literary and informational selections texts.

Oral Language Communication: Speaking, Listening, Media Literacy

- 8.1 The student will use interviewing techniques to gain information.
- Prepare and ask relevant questions for the interview.
 - Make notes of responses.
 - Compile, ~~and~~ accurately report, and publish responses.
 - Evaluate the effectiveness of the interview.
- 8.2 The student will develop and deliver oral presentations in groups and individually.
- Choose topic and purpose appropriate to the audience.
 - Choose vocabulary and tone appropriate to the audience, topic, and purpose.
 - Use appropriate verbal and nonverbal presentation skills.
 - Respond to audience questions and comments.
 - Differentiate between standard English and informal language. Use grammatically correct language.
 - Critique oral presentations.
 - Assume shared responsibility for collaborative work.
 - Use a variety of strategies to listen actively.
- 8.3 The student will analyze, develop, and produce creative or informational ~~mass~~ media messages.
- Evaluate the persuasive/informational technique being used in nonprint media including television, radio, video, and Internet.
 - Examine how values and viewpoints are included or excluded and how the media can influence beliefs, behaviors, and interpretations. Describe the possible cause-effect relationships between mass media coverage and public opinion trends. [Moved to SOL 9.2c]
 - Use media and visual literacy skills to create products that express new understandings. Evaluate sources, including advertisements, editorials, and feature stories, for relationships between intent and factual content. [Moved to SOL 8.3d]
 - Evaluate sources for relationships between intent and factual content.
 - ~~Monitor, analyze, and use multiple streams of simultaneous information.~~

Reading

- 8.4 The student will apply knowledge of word origins, ~~derivations, inflections,~~ analogies, and figurative language to extend vocabulary development within authentic texts.
- Identify and analyze an author's use of figurative language. Identify simile, metaphor, personification, hyperbole, and analogy. [Move to Curriculum Framework]
 - Use context, structure, and connotations to determine meaning and differentiate among multiple meanings of words and phrases.
 - Use roots, affixes, cognates, synonyms, and antonyms to determine the meaning of unfamiliar words and technical vocabulary.
 - Use dictionaries, thesauruses, and glossaries to determine definition, pronunciation, etymology, spelling, and usage of words.
 - Discriminate between connotative and denotative meanings and interpret the ~~connotative power of words~~ connotation.
 - Extend general and specialized vocabulary through speaking, listening, reading, and writing.
- 8.5 The student will read and analyze a variety of ~~narrative and poetic forms~~ fictional texts, narrative nonfiction, and poetry.
- Explain the use of symbols and figurative language.
 - Make inferences and draw conclusions based on explicit and implied information using evidence from text as support. ~~Describe inferred main ideas or themes, using evidence from the text as support.~~
 - ~~Describe~~ Identify Explain how authors use characters, conflict, point of view, voice, and tone to create meaning.
 - Understand the author's use of conventional elements and characteristics within a variety of genres. Compare and contrast the use of the poetic elements of word choice, dialogue, form, rhyme, rhythm, and voice. [Moved to SOL 8.5e]
 - Compare and contrast the author's use of word choice, dialogue, form, rhyme, rhythm, and voice in different texts. Compare and contrast authors' styles. [Moved to SOL 8.5f]
 - Compare and contrast authors' styles.
 - Identify and ask ~~significant~~ questions that clarify various viewpoints.
 - Identify the main idea.
 - Summarize text relating supporting details.
 - Identify an author's organizational pattern using ~~textural~~ textual clues, such as transitional words and phrases.
 - Identify cause-and effect relationships.
 - Use prior and background knowledge as a context for new learning.
 - Use reading strategies to monitor comprehension throughout the reading process.

- 8.6 The student will read, comprehend, and analyze a variety of ~~informational~~ nonfictional texts ~~sources~~.
- a) Draw on background knowledge and knowledge of text structure to understand selections.
 - b) Make inferences and draw conclusions based on explicit and implied information using evidence from text as support. ~~Analyze the author's credentials, viewpoint, and impact.~~ [Moved to SOL 8.6c]
 - c) Analyze the author's qualifications, viewpoint, and impact. ~~Analyze the author's use of text structure and word choice.~~ [Moved to SOL 8.6d]
 - d) Analyze the author's use of text structure and word choice. ~~Analyze details for relevance and accuracy.~~ [Moved to SOL 8.6e]
 - e) Analyze details for relevance and accuracy. ~~Read and follow instructions to complete an assigned task.~~
 - f) Differentiate between fact and opinion. ~~Summarize and critique text.~~ [Moved to SOL 8.6h]
 - g) Identify the main idea. ~~Evaluate and synthesize information to apply in written and oral presentations.~~ [Moved to SOL 8.6k]
 - h) Summarize the text identifying supporting details. ~~Draw conclusions based on explicit and implied information.~~ [Moved to SOL 8.6b]
 - i) Identify an author's organizational pattern using ~~textural~~ textual clues, such as transitional words and phrases. ~~Make inferences based on explicit and implied information.~~ [Moved to SOL 8.6b]
 - j) Identify cause- and effect relationships.
 - k) Evaluate, organize, and synthesize information for use in written and oral formats.
 - l) Use reading strategies to monitor comprehension throughout the reading process.

Writing

- 8.7 The student will write in a variety of forms, including ~~narrative, expository, persuasive, narration, exposition, persuasion,~~ and informational.
- a) Identify intended audience. ~~Use prewriting strategies to generate and organize ideas.~~ [Moved to SOL 8.7b]
 - b) Use prewriting strategies to generate and organize ideas. ~~Organize details to elaborate the central idea.~~ [Moved to SOL 8.7d]
 - c) Distinguish between a thesis statement and a topic sentence. ~~Select specific vocabulary and information.~~ [Moved to SOL 8.6e]
 - d) Organize details to elaborate the central idea and provide unity. ~~Revise writing for word choice, sentence variety, and transitions among paragraphs.~~ [Moved to SOL 8.7g]
 - e) Select specific vocabulary and information for audience and purpose. ~~Use available technology.~~ [Moved to new SOL 8.7h]
 - f) Use interview quotations as evidence.
 - g) Revise writing for clarity of content, word choice, sentence variety, and transitions among paragraphs.
 - h) Use computer technology to plan, draft, revise, edit, and publish writing.

- 8.8 The student will edit writing for correct grammar, capitalization, punctuation, spelling, sentence structure, and paragraphing.
- a) Use a variety of graphic organizers, including sentence diagrams, to analyze and improve sentence formation and paragraph structure.
 - b) Use and punctuate correctly varied sentence structures to include conjunctions and transition words.
 - c) Choose the correct case and number for pronouns in prepositional phrases with compound objects.
 - d) Maintain consistent verb tense across paragraphs.
 - e) Use comparative and superlative degrees in adverbs and adjectives.
 - f) Use quotation marks with dialogue and direct quotations.
 - g) Use correct spelling for frequently used words.

Research

- 8.9 The student will apply knowledge of appropriate reference materials to produce a research product.
- a) Collect and synthesize information from multiple sources including online, print and media.
 - b) Evaluate the validity and authenticity of texts.
 - c) Use technology as a tool to research, organize, evaluate, and communicate information.
 - d) Make sense of information gathered from diverse sources by identifying misconceptions, main and supporting ideas, conflicting information, point of view or bias.
 - e) Cite primary and secondary sources using Modern Language Association (MLA) or American Psychological Association (APA) style.
 - f) Publish findings and respond to feedback.
 - g) Define the meaning and consequences of plagiarism and following ethical and legal guidelines for gathering and using information.