

8th Grade English Language Arts

The purpose of this document is to clarify what students should know and be able to do each quarter (Q).

Competencies	Q1	Q2	Q3	Q4
C1-Making Meaning of Text				
The student is aware of and understands his/her own thought processes, including monitoring, connecting, interacting,	Х	Х	х	Х
summarizing, and responding, while reading increasingly complex texts.2A Uses Resources;				
C2A-Reading and Talking about Text	х	x	x	x
The student reads and discusses diverse texts, including self-selected texts, in order to deepen understanding.	^	^	^	^
C2B-Reading and Writing about Text	x	x	x	x
The student reads and writes about diverse texts, including self-selected texts, in order to deepen understanding.			^	^
C3-Critical Thinking	х	x	x	x
The student predicts, infers, analyzes, synthesizes, and evaluates while reading and writing increasingly complex texts.	^	^	^	^
C4-Author's Purpose and Craft				
The student, as a reader and writer, analyzes, within and across a variety of diverse texts, an author's choices and how they			х	Х
influence and communicate meaning.				
C5-Writing Process	v	v	v	v
The student uses the recursive writing process and considerations of craft to compose multiple texts.	X	X	X	X
C6-Inquiry		v		v
The student engages in both short-term and sustained inquiry processes for a variety of purposes.		X		X

Learning Progression for Competency 1: Making Meaning of Text

The student is aware of and understands his/her own thought processes, including monitoring, connecting, interacting, summarizing, or responding, while reading increasingly complex texts.

Developing	Progressing	Proficient	Advanced
When assisted, uses a print or digital resource to look up the meaning of new words	Uses a print or digital resource to look up the meaning of new word	 Self-selects the best strategies from below to help determine the meaning of new words: word parts (including Latin and Greek roots), print or digital resources (for definition, pronunciation, part of speech, and word origin), or context clues 	Independently and routinely, uses word parts and outside resources to determine meaning of words, but relies primarily on inferences from context clues; gleans new words from extensive reading
		Tries new words in written work and in speaking	Uses new words <u>correctly</u> in speaking and writing
 States a reason for reading: Assigned texts, OR Self-selected text 	 Establishes purpose for reading: Assigned texts, OR Self-selected text 	 Establishes purpose for reading: Assigned texts, AND Self-selected text 	Establishes an <u>authentic</u> purpose for reading: • Assigned texts, AND • Self-selected text
Generates questions, <u>when assisted</u> , about text: • Before, • During, OR • After reading to gain understanding	Generates questions, <u>when assisted</u> , about text: Before, During, OR After reading to deepen understanding and gain information	Generates questions, <u>independently</u> , about text: • Before, • During, AND • After reading to deepen understanding and gain information	Independently and routinely, generates questions about text: • Before, • During, AND • After reading to deepen understanding and gain information
Attempts to creates mental images but is <u>unable</u> to use those images to understand the text	Creates mental images while reading that help with the <u>literal</u> meaning of the text	Creates mental images to deepen understanding	Creates mental images to deepen understanding of <u>abstract</u> or <u>complex</u> ideas or texy
Makes connections, <u>when assisted</u> , to: • Personal experiences, • Ideas in other texts, OR • Society, to develop an understanding of the text	Makes connections, <u>when assisted</u> , to: • Personal experiences, • Ideas in other texts, AND • Society, to develop and deepen understanding of the text	Makes connections, independently, to: • Personal experiences, • Ideas in other texts, AND • Society, to develop and deepen understanding of the text	Makes connections, <u>independently</u> and <u>routinely</u> , in <u>complex</u> text to: • Personal experiences, • Ideas in other texts, AND • Society, to develop and deepen understanding of the text

Monitors comprehension and make adjustments, when assisted, such as: • Re-reading, • Using background knowledge, • Asking questions, OR • Interacting with text when understanding breaks down before, during, OR after reading	 Monitors comprehension and make adjustments, <u>when assisted</u>, such as: Re-reading, Using background knowledge, Asking questions, OR Interacting with text when understanding breaks down before, during, AND after reading 	 Monitors comprehension and make adjustments, <u>independently</u>, such as: Re-reading, Using background knowledge, Asking questions, AND Interacting with text when understanding breaks down before, during, AND after reading 	Monitors comprehension and make adjustments, independently and routinely, while reading complex texts such as: • Re-reading, • Using background knowledge, • Asking questions, AND • Interacting with text when understanding breaks down before, during, AND after reading
Attempts to make personal connections to a text but is <u>unable</u> to describe the connections Attempts to paraphrases or summarize with <u>inaccuracies that</u> <u>change meaning</u> and/or <u>order</u>	Attempts to describe personal connections to a variety of sources, including self-selected texts, but the description is <u>not fully</u> elaborated Attempts to paraphrase and summarize with some <u>minor</u>	Responds to text by describing personal connections to a variety of sources, including self-selected texts Paraphrases and Summarizes texts in ways that maintain meaning and	Responds to a text by describing personal connections to a variety of <u>complex</u> sources, including self- selected texts Paraphrases and Summarizes <u>complex</u> texts in ways that maintain meaning
Interacts, in a <u>limited</u> manner, with sources in ways such as, • Notetaking, • Annotating, • Freewriting, or • Illustrating but is <u>not able</u> to use the limited interactions in a way that brings meaning to the text	inaccuracies in meaning and/or order Interacts with sources in ways such as, • Notetaking, • Annotating, • Freewriting, or • Illustrating that helps bring <u>some</u> meaning to the text	logical order Interacts with sources, <u>independently</u> , in meaningful ways such as, • Notetaking, • Annotating, • Freewriting, or • Illustrating	and logical order Interacts, <u>independently</u> and <u>routinely</u> , with sources in meaningful ways such as, • Notetaking, • Annotating, • Freewriting, or • Illustrating

Success Criteria for Proficient in Making Meaning of Text:

- self-select the best strategy from below to determine the meaning of new words:
 - o word parts (including Latin and Greek roots),
 - \circ print or digital resources (for definition, pronunciation, part of speech, and word origin), or
 - o context clues.
- try new words in written work and discussions.
- establish and explain the purpose for reading an assigned text.
- establish and explain the purpose for reading a self-selected text.
- generate questions, independently, about text:
 - \circ $\;$ before reading, to deepen my understanding and gain information,
 - \circ during reading, to deepen my understanding and gain information, and
 - \circ $\;$ after reading, to deepen $\;$ my understanding and gain information.
- create mental images to deepen understanding.
- make connections, independently, to:
 - \circ personal experiences, to develop and deepen understanding of the text,
 - \circ ~ ideas in other texts, to develop and deepen understanding of the text, AND
 - \circ $\;$ Society, to develop and deepen understanding of the text.
- monitor comprehension and make adjustments, independently, such as:
 - o re-reading when understanding breaks down before, during, AND after reading,
 - \circ using background knowledge when understanding breaks down before, during, AND after reading,
 - \circ ~ asking questions when understanding breaks down before, during, AND after reading, and
 - \circ interacting with text when understanding breaks down before, during, AND after reading.
- respond to text by describing personal connections to a variety of sources, including self-selected texts.
- paraphrase texts in ways that maintain meaning and logical order.
- summarize texts in ways that maintain meaning and logical order.
- interact with sources, independently, in meaningful ways such as,
 - \circ notetaking,
 - \circ annotating,
 - $\circ \quad \text{freewriting, or} \quad$
 - o illustrating

Learning Progression for Competency 2A: Reading and Talking about Text

The student reads, discusses or writes about diverse texts with peers in order to deepen understanding.

Developing	Progressing	Proficient	Advanced
Listens, buts	Listens actively to paraphrase a	Listens actively to paraphrase a	Listens actively to
 Repeats ideas, OR 	message by asking clarifying	message by:	 Paraphrase a message, AND
Asks questions	questions	Ask clarifying questions, ANDMaking comments	 Ask clarifying questions that build on other's ideas
Participates in student-led discussions by:	Participates in student-led discussions by:	Participates in student-led discussions by:	Participates collaboratively in student-led discussions by:
Following agendas,Voting on key issues	 Planning agendas and deadlines, Setting time limits for speakers,	 Planning agendas with clear goals and deadlines, 	 Planning agendas with clear goals and deadlines,
	 Voting on key issues 	 Setting time limits for speakers, 	 Setting time limits for speakers,
		 Taking notes, 	 Taking notes,
		 Voting on key issues 	 Voting on key issues
Uses text evidence that <u>is incorrect</u> or does not use evidence to support an appropriate response	Uses text evidence that is <u>too general</u> or <u>vague</u> to support an appropriate response	Uses text evidence to support an appropriate response	Uses precise text evidence from across the text to support an appropriate response
Attempts to respond using newly acquired vocabulary but response demonstrates a <u>lack o</u> f or <u>misunderstanding</u> of the vocabulary	Responds using newly acquired vocabulary as appropriate with <u>some inaccuracies</u>	Responds using newly acquired vocabulary as appropriate	Responds using newly acquired vocabulary in a manner that demonstrates a <u>thorough</u> <u>understanding</u> of new vocabulary
<u>Discusses</u> the <i>explicit</i> meanings of text with appropriate:	<u>Discusses</u> the <i>explicit</i> meanings of text with appropriate:	<u>Discusses</u> the <i>implicit</i> meanings of a text with appropriate:	<u>Discusses</u> the <i>implicit</i> meanings of two texts with appropriate:
 vocabulary, 	 register, 	 register, 	 register,
• tone, OR	 vocabulary, 	 vocabulary, 	 vocabulary,
voice	• tone, OR	• tone, AND	• tone, AND
	voice	voice	voice
Does not reflect or adjust responses when new evidence is presented	Reflects on responses as new evidence is presented	Reflects on AND adjusts responses as new evidence is presented	Reflects on, evaluates, AND adjusts responses as new evidence is presented
Identifies the authors' claims	Agrees or disagrees with the author's claims	Defends or challenges the authors' claims using relevant text evidence	Defends or challenges the author's claims using relevant and precise text evidence

Success Criteria for Proficient in Reading and Talking about Text:

- listen actively to paraphrase a message.
- paraphrase a message by ask clarifying questions and making comments.
- participates in student-led discussions by asking for suggestions from other group members.
- participates in student-led discussions by asking for suggestions from other group members.
- participates in student-led discussions by considering suggestions from other group members.
- participates in student-led discussions by taking notes during discussions.
- participates in student-led discussions by identifying points of agreement and disagreement.
- use text evidence to support an appropriate response.
- respond using newly acquired vocabulary as appropriate.
- discuss the *implicit* meanings of a text with appropriate:
 - o register,
 - \circ vocabulary,
 - o tone, AND
 - \circ voice.
- reflect on AND adjust responses as new evidence is presented.
- defend or challenge the authors' claims using relevant text evidence.

Learning Progression for Competency 2B: Reading and Writing about Text

The student reads, discusses or writes about diverse texts with peers in order to deepen understanding.

Developing	Progressing	Proficient	Advanced
Writes responses that demonstrates an understanding of <u>one</u> text	Writes responses that demonstrate understanding of texts <u>within genres</u>	 Writes responses that demonstrate understanding of texts including: comparing sources within genres comparing sources <u>across genres</u> 	 Writes responses that demonstrate understanding of <u>more complex</u> texts including: comparing sources within genres comparing sources across genres
Uses text evidence that <u>is incorrect</u> or does not use evidence to support an appropriate response	Uses text evidence that is <u>too general</u> or <u>vague</u> to support an appropriate response	Uses text evidence to support an appropriate response	Uses precise text evidence from across the text to support an appropriate response
Attempts to respond using newly acquired vocabulary but response demonstrates a <u>lack o</u> f or <u>misunderstanding</u> of the vocabulary	Responds using newly acquired vocabulary as appropriate with <u>some</u> inaccuracies	Responds using newly acquired vocabulary as appropriate	Responds using newly acquired vocabulary in a manner that demonstrates a <u>thorough</u> <u>understanding</u> of new vocabulary
 Writes about the <i>explicit</i> meanings of text with appropriate: vocabulary, tone, OR voice 	Writes about the <i>explicit</i> meanings of text with appropriate: register, vocabulary, tone, OR voice	 Writes about the <i>Implicit</i> meanings of a text with appropriate: register, vocabulary, tone, AND voice 	 Writes about the <i>implicit</i> meanings of two texts with appropriate: register, vocabulary, tone, AND voice
Does not reflect or adjust responses when new evidence is presented	Reflects on responses as new evidence is presented	Reflects on AND adjusts responses as new evidence is presented	Reflects on, evaluates, AND adjusts responses as new evidence is presented
Identifies the authors' claims	Agrees or disagrees with the author's claims	Defends or challenges the authors' claims using relevant text evidence	Defends or challenges the author's claims using relevant and precise text evidence

Success Criteria for Proficient in Reading and Writing about Text:

- write responses that demonstrate understanding of texts including comparing sources within genres.
- write responses that demonstrate understanding of texts including comparing sources across genres.
- use text evidence to support an appropriate response.
- respond using newly acquired vocabulary as appropriate.
- can write about the *Implicit* meanings of a text with appropriate:
 - \circ register,
 - \circ vocabulary,
 - \circ tone, AND
 - \circ voice.
- reflect on AND adjust responses as new evidence is presented.
- defend or challenge the authors' claims using relevant text evidence.

Learning Progression for Competency 3: Critical Thinking

The student thinks critically, including predicting, inferring, analyzing, synthesizing, or evaluating, while reading and writing increasingly complex texts.

Developing	Progressing	Proficient	Advanced
Makes predictions using text	Makes predictions using text	Makes predictions AND	Makes predictions AND corrects or
features, characteristics of genre, OR	features, characteristics of genre,	corrects or confirms predictions	confirms predictions using text
structures	AND structures	using text features, characteristics of	features, characteristics of genre,
		genre, and structures (in grade-level texts)	and structures in <u>complex</u> texts
Attempts to make an inference but	Makes an inference but does not	Makes inferences and uses evidence	Makes insightful inferences and uses
the inference is unclear or not	choose appropriate evidence to	to support understanding/response	precise evidence from across the
supported by the text	support understanding/response		text(s) to support
			understanding/response
Identifies details read to determine	Understands details read to	Evaluates details read (from grade-	Evaluates details read from complex
key ideas	determine key ideas	level texts) to determine ideas	texts to determine key ideas
Makes connections between texts	Makes connections (from grade-level	Synthesizes information (from grade-	Synthesizes information from
	texts) to create new understanding	level texts) to create new	<u>complex</u> texts to create new
		understanding	understanding

Success Criteria for Proficient in Critical Thinking:

- make predictions using text features, characteristics of genre, and structures (in grade-level texts).
- correct or confirm predictions using text features, characteristics of genre, and structures (in grade-level texts).
- make inferences and use evidence to support understanding and responses.
- evaluate details from grade-level texts to determine ideas.
- synthesize information from grade-level text to create new understanding.

Learning Progression for Competency 4: Author's Purpose and Craft

The student, as a reader or writer, thinks critically, within and across a variety of diverse texts, to analyze an author's choices and how they influence and communicate meaning.

Developing	Progressing	Proficient	Advanced
Identifies the author's purpose OR message within a text	<u>Identifies</u> the author's purpose AND message within a text	Explains the author's purpose AND message within a text	Explain the author's purpose AND message <u>across</u> texts
Identifies the use of text structure but cannot explain how the use of text structure contributes to the author's purpose	Explains the use of text structure and attempts to connect it to the author's purpose	Analyzes how the use of text structure contributes to the author's purpose	Analyzes, <u>across text,</u> how the use of text structure contributes to the authors' purposes
Identifies the author's use of print and graphic	Identifies the author's use of print and graphic features and attempts to connect them to a specific purposes	Analyzes the author's use of print and graphic features to achieve specific purposes	Compares how authors' uses of print and graphic features achieve specific purposes
<u>Defines</u> examples of figurative language but cannot identify the use or connect to purpose	<u>Identifies</u> the author's use of figurative language but cannot explain how they achieve a specific purposes	Describes how the author's use of figurative language achieves a specific purposes	Describes, <u>across texts</u> , how the author's use of figurative language achieves a specific purposes
<u>Defines</u> literary devices but cannot identify the use or connect to purpose (including, omniscient and limited point of view)	<u>Identifies</u> the use of literary devices but cannot explain how they are used to achieve a specific purpose (including, omniscient and limited point of view)	Identifies the use of literary devices to achieve a specific purpose (including, omniscient and limited point of view)	Identifies, <u>across texts</u> , <u>how</u> the use of literary devices achieve a specific purpose(including, omniscient and limited point of view)
<u>Identifies</u> the author's use of language but cannot explain how it contributes to mood OR voice	<u>Describes</u> how the author's use of language contributes to mood OR voice	Analyzes how the author's use of language contributes to mood AND voice	Analyzes, <u>across texts</u> , how the author's use of language contributes to mood AND voice
Identifies rhetorical devices and logical fallacies	Explains the differences between rhetorical devices and logical fallacies	Explains the purposes of rhetorical devices and logical fallacies	Analyzes the use of rhetorical devices or logical fallacies

Success Criteria for Proficient in Author's Purpose and Craft: The student can:

- explain the author's purpose AND message within a text.
- analyze how the use of text structure contributes to the author's purpose.
- analyze the author's use of print and graphic features to achieve specific purposes;
- describe how the author's use of figurative language achieves a specific purpose.
- identify the use of literary devices (including, omniscient and limited point of view) to achieve a specific purpose.
- analyze how the author's use of language contributes to mood AND voice.
- explain the purposes of rhetorical devices and logical fallacies.

Learning Progression for Competency 5: Writing Process

The student uses the recursive writing process and considerations of craft to compose multiple texts.

Developing	Progressing	Proficient	Advanced
Plans a first draft when assigned a genre, topic, purpose, and audience and uses an <u>assigned</u> strategy such as discussion, background reading, OR personal experiences	Plans a first draft when assigned a genre, but has difficulty selecting a: o topic, o purpose, OR o audience and uses a range of <u>assigned</u> strategies such as discussion, background reading, and personal experiences	When assigned, plans a first draft by selecting a genre appropriate for a particular: o topic, o purpose, AND o audience using a range of <u>assigned</u> strategies such as discussion, background reading, and personal experiences	Initiates the planning of a first draft by selecting a genre appropriate for a particular:
Develops drafts that lack 3 or 4 of the following: o focus, o structure, o coherence, OR o depth	Develops drafts that lack 1 or 2 of the following: o focus, o structure, o coherence, OR o depth	 Develops drafts into: focused, structured, AND coherent pieces of writing by: using a structure appropriate for audience and purpose developing an engaging idea reflecting depth of thought with specific facts and details 	Initiates the development of drafts into: • • focused, • structured, AND • coherent pieces of writing by: • • using a structure appropriate for audience and purpose • • developing an engaging idea reflecting depth of thought with specific facts and details
Revises drafts that still lack 4 or more of the following: Clarity Development Organization Style Word choice, OR Sentence variety	Revises drafts that still lack 1 to 3 of the following: Oclarity Development Organization Style Word choice, OR Sentence variety	Revises drafts for:OlarityDevelopmentOrganizationStyleWord choice, ANDSentence variety	Initiatesrevisions of drafts forOlarityDevelopmentOrganizationStyleWord choice, ANDSentence variety

Edits drafts, using standard English	Edits drafts, using standard English	Edits drafts, using standard English	Initiates the editing of drafts, using
conventions, with success in one to six	conventions, with success in seven to	conventions, with success in all eleven	standard English conventions, with
of the highlighted areas below:	ten of the highlighted areas below:	areas highlighted below:	success in more than the eleven areas
 Complex sentences 	○ Complex sentences	 Complex sentences 	highlighted below:
 Subject-verb agreement 	 Subject-verb agreement 	 Subject-verb agreement 	 Complex sentences
 Comma splices 	 Comma splices 	 Comma splices 	 Subject-verb agreement
○ Run-ons	o Run-ons	○ Run-ons	 Comma splices
○ Fragments	○ Fragments	○ Fragments	○ Run-ons
 Consistent use of verb tense 	 Consistent use of verb tense 	 Consistent use of verb tense 	○ Fragments
 Prepositions 	 Prepositions 	• Prepositions	 Consistent use of verb tense
 Subordinating conjunctions 	 Subordinating conjunctions 	 Subordinating conjunctions 	 Prepositions
 Correlating conjunctions 	 Correlating conjunctions 	 Correlating conjunctions 	 Subordinating conjunctions
 Capitalization 	 Capitalization 	• Capitalization	 Correlating conjunctions
 Punctuation marks, including 	 Punctuation marks, including 	 Punctuation marks, including 	 Capitalization
 Commas in complex sentences, 	 Commas in complex sentences, 	 Commas in complex sentences, 	 Punctuation marks, including
\circ Commas with transitions,	\circ Commas with transitions,	 Commas with transitions, 	• Commas in complex sentences,
 Commas with introductory 	 Commas with introductory 	 Commas with introductory 	 Commas with transitions,
phrases,	phrases,	phrases,	 Commas with introductory
○ Spelling	○ Spelling	• Spelling	phrases,
			○ Spelling
Submits an incomplete written work	Submits a complete written work	Publishes written work for	Seeks authentic ways, including
·		appropriate audiences	outside the classroom, to publish
			written work for appropriate
			audiences

Success Criteria for Proficient in the Writing Process:

- plan a first draft by selecting a genre appropriate for a particular:
 - \circ topic,
 - o purpose, AND
 - $\circ \quad \text{audience.}$
- plan a first draft using a range of assigned strategies such as discussion, background reading, and personal experiences.
- develop drafts into:
 - \circ focused,
 - o structured, AND
 - \circ coherent pieces of writing.
- develop a structure appropriate for audience and purpose.
- develop an engaging idea reflecting depth of thought with specific facts and details.
- revise drafts for:
 - \circ clarity
 - \circ development
 - \circ organization
 - o style
 - \circ word choice, AND
 - \circ sentence variety.
- edit drafts, using standard English conventions, with success in all eleven areas highlighted below:
 - \circ complex sentences,
 - \circ subject-verb agreement,
 - \circ comma splices,
 - o run-ons,
 - o fragments,
 - o consistent use of verb tense,
 - \circ prepositions,
 - \circ subordinating conjunctions,
 - o correlating conjunctions,
 - \circ capitalization,
 - \circ punctuation marks, including,
 - o commas in complex sentences,
 - \circ commas with transitions,
 - \circ commas with introductory phrases,
 - \circ spelling.
- publish written work for appropriate audiences.