



Grade 8 English Language Arts

Major Learning Targets for This Grade

Reading

Students will analyze where materials on the same topic disagree on matters of fact, interpretation, or point of view.

Students will plan and conduct research projects that include several steps and use many credible documented print and digital sources.

Students will analyze the purpose of information presented in diverse media (e.g., print, TV, web) and evaluate its social, political, or commercial motives.

Writing

Students will cite the evidence that most strongly supports an analysis of what is explicitly stated and/or implied from a book, article, poem, or play.

Students will build writing around strong central ideas or points of view; supporting the ideas with sound reasoning and evidence, precise word choices, smooth transitions, and different sentence structures.

Students will plan and conduct research projects that include several steps and use many credible documented print and digital sources.

Language

Students will use strong active verbs to create a clear picture for the reader (e.g., walk, skip, meander, lurch, limp).

Students will interpret figures of speech (e.g., irony, puns) and develop a large vocabulary of general academic words and phrases.

Speaking and Listening

Students will present findings and claims to others, emphasizing key points with relevant evidence and sound reasoning, adapting speech to the audience and the formality of the setting, and respond to questions and comments with relevant observations and ideas.

