

Grade 7 Language Arts Curriculum

Conventions

Identify and use infinitives and participles and make clear references between pronouns and antecedents.

Identify all parts of speech and types and structure of sentences.

Demonstrate the mechanics of writing and appropriate English usage.

Identify hyphens, dashes, brackets, and semicolons and use them correctly.

Use correct capitalization.

Pre-Write and Draft

Create and organizational structure that balances all aspects of the composition and uses effective transitions between sentences to unify important ideas.

Support all statements and claims with anecdotes, descriptions, facts, and statistics, and specific examples.

Use strategies of note-taking, outlining, and summarizing to impose structure on composition drafts.

Develop essays that contain thesis, introduction, body and conclusion.

Revising and Editing

Revise writing to improve organization and word choice.

Research and Technology

Identify topics; ask and evaluate questions; and develop ideas leading to inquiry, investigation, and research.

Give credit for both quoted and paraphrased information in text citation, using MLA format.

Create documents by using word-processing skills and publishing programs.

Writing Applications

Write fictional or autobiographical narratives.

Write responses to literature based on interpretations exhibiting careful reading, understanding, and insight.

Write research reports, persuasive compositions, and summaries of reading materials.

Sentence Structure

Place modifiers properly and use the active voice.

Spelling

Spell derivatives correctly by applying the spellings of bases and affixes.

Listening and Speaking

Listening and Speaking Strategies

- Ask probing questions to elicit information, including evidence to support the speaker's claims and conclusions.
- Determine the speaker's attitude toward the subject.
- Respond to persuasive messages with questions, challenges, or affirmations.
- Organize information to achieve particular purposes and to appeal to the background and interests of the audience.
- Arrange supporting details, reasons, descriptions, and examples effectively and persuasively in relation to the audience.
- Use speaking techniques, including voice modulation, inflection, tempo, enunciation, and eye contact, for effective presentations.
- Provide constructive feedback to speakers concerning the coherence and logic of a speech's content and delivery and its overall impact upon the listener.
- Analyze the effect of the viewer of images, text, and sound in electronic journalism; identify the techniques used to achieve the effects in each instance studied.

Speaking Applications

- Deliver narrative presentations
- Establish a context, standard plot line and point of view.
- Describe complex major and minor characters and a definite setting.
- Use a range of appropriate strategies, including dialogue, suspense, and naming of specific narrative action.
- Deliver oral summaries of articles and books, including the main ideas of the event or article and the most significant details, in the student's own words.
- Deliver research presentations based on relevant and concise questions about the topic, which includes evidence generated through the formal research process.
- Cite reference sources appropriately.
- Deliver persuasive presentations which state a clear position in support of an argument or proposal.
- Describe the points in support of the argument and employ well-articulated evidence.