

Language Arts Assessment Framework
Grade 8

BOLD=Eligible for CRT

Italics=Classroom Assessment Only

Underlining=Performance standard moved to another Benchmark

ALL CAPS=Performance standard moved from another Benchmark

Strand: READING AND LISTENING FOR COMPREHENSION:

Content Standard I: Students will apply strategies and skills to comprehend information that is read, heard, and viewed.

5-8 Benchmark I-A: Listen to, read, react to, and interpret information

1. *Narrate a personal account that:*

- *establishes a point of view and sharpens focus*
- *uses remembered feelings*
- *selects details that best illuminate the topic*
- *connects events to self and society*

2. *Interact in group activities and/or seminars to:*

- *share personal reactions to questions raised*
- *give reasons and cite examples from texts to support opinions*
- *clarify, illustrate, or expand on a response*
- *ask classmates for similar expansion*

3. *Compare, contrast, and evaluate for details, main ideas, themes, actions, and main character from oral selections.*

5-8 Benchmark I-B: Gather and use information for research and other purposes

1. **Use information for specific tasks by:**

- **analyzing and evaluating information** *to extend ideas*
- **analyzing and evaluating themes and central ideas** *in relation to personal and societal issues*
- *creating a research product in both written and presentation form*

2. **Use images, videos, and visual representations as informational research tools.**

5-8 Benchmark I-C: Apply critical thinking skills to analyze information

1. **Create a research product in both written and presentation form by:**

- **determining purpose, audience, and context**
- *choosing a relevant topic*
- *selecting a presentation format (e.g., video, essay, interactive technology)*
- *evaluating information for extraneous detail, inconsistencies, relevant facts, and organization*
- *researching and organizing information to achieve purpose using notes and memory aides to structure information*
- **supporting ideas with examples, definitions, analogies, and direct references to primary and secondary sources**
- *citing sources used*
- *employing graphics, charts, diagrams, and graphs to enhance communication*

2. **Analyze the (Draw) inferences and conclusions from fictional and non-fictional contexts, events, characters, settings, and themes.** (Moved to III-B, position 5M)

5-8 Benchmarks I-D: Demonstrate competence in the skills and strategies of the reading process

1. Analyze the purpose of the author or creator and the impact of that purpose by evaluating bias, messages, and underlying assumptions of a variety of texts and media.
2. Analyze and evaluate themes and central ideas in literary and other texts in relation to personal and societal issues. (Moved to III-B, position 6M)
3. Recognize when information presented in a text is new knowledge and describe how it can be used.
4. Use the various parts of a text to locate specific information (index, table of contents, glossary).
5. Identify the topic sentence in a reading selection.
6. Independently apply the reading process and strategies to a variety of literary and informational texts and use the defining features and structures of those works to understand main elements, perspective, and style.

Strand: LITERATURE AND MEDIA:

Content Standard III: Students will use literature *and media* to develop an understanding of people, societies, and the self.

5-8 Benchmark III-A: Use language, literature, and media to understand various social and cultural perspectives

1. *Demonstrate familiarity with selected:*
 - classic literature
 - mythology
 - classic fiction and non-fiction
 - drama
2. *Use literature and media to reflect on learning experiences by:*
 - evaluating personal perspectives and how they are influenced by society, cultural differences, and historical issues
 - appraising learning as change in perspective
 - evaluating personal circumstances and background that shape interaction with literature and media
3. *Analyze a work of literature showing how it reflects the heritage, traditions, attitudes, and beliefs of its author.*

5-8 Benchmark III-B: Identify ideas and make connections among literary works

1. Identify conflict, rising action, and resolution of conflict in a literary work.
2. Describe how tone and meaning is conveyed in poetry and expository writing through word choice, figurative language, sentence structure, line length, punctuation, rhythm, repetition, and rhyme.
3. Identify significant literary devices (e.g., metaphor, symbolism, dialect, irony) to understand the author's meaning and perspective.
4. Identify the defining characteristics of classic literature and themes

5M. Analyze the inferences and conclusions from fictional *and non-fictional* contexts, events, characters, settings, and themes (Moved from I-C.2)

6M. Analyze and evaluate themes and central ideas in literary and other texts in relation to personal and societal issues (Moved from I-D.2)