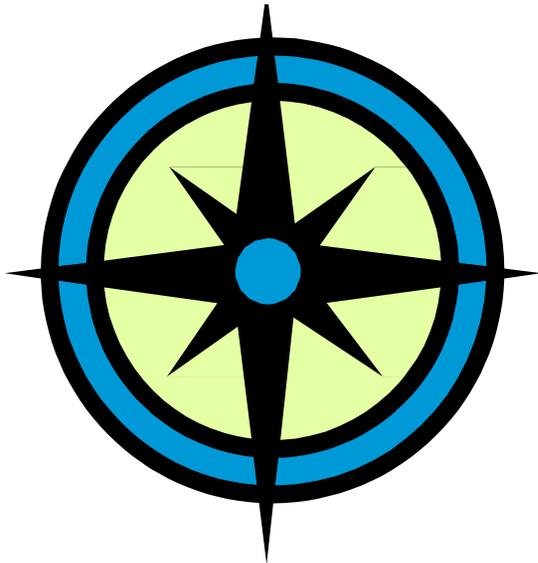


# TEACHER GUIDANCE

*FOR TEACHING THE GEORGIA STANDARDS  
of EXCELLENCE (GSE)*



Richard Woods, Georgia's School Superintendent  
*"Educating Georgia's Future"*



*American Literature*

## **Introduction**

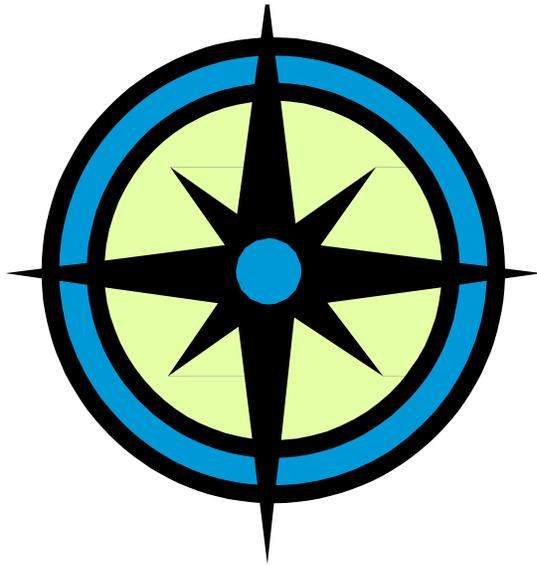
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The purpose of this document is to provide strategies and understanding for the Georgia Standards of Excellence (GSE).

### **About Grades 9 through 12**

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Because of the flexibility of English Language Arts course offerings at the high school level, the GSE for grades 9 through 12 is organized into grade bands comprised of 1-10 and 11-12. The 9-12 standards define what students should understand and be able to do by the end of each grade band. As students progress towards the successful culmination of their high school careers, they will consolidate and internalize all of the skills instilled through the full progression of the GSE. High school students will employ strong, thorough, and explicit textual evidence in their literary analyses and technical research. They will understand the development of multiple ideas through details and structure and track the development of complex characters and advanced elements of plot such as frame narratives and parallel storylines. Student writing will reflect the ability to argue effectively, employing the structure, evidence, and rhetoric necessary in the composition of effective, persuasive texts. Students will be able to construct college-ready research papers of significant length in accordance with the guidelines of standard format styles such as APA and MLA. Students in high school will have built strong and varied vocabularies across multiple content areas, including technical subjects. They will skillfully employ rhetoric and figurative language, purposefully construct tone and mood, and identify lapses in reason or ambiguities in texts. Students will recognize nuances of meaning imparted by mode of presentation, whether it is live drama, spoken work, digital media, film, dance, or fine art. Confident familiarity with important foundational documents from American history and from the development of literature over time will accrue before the end of grade 12. Students will graduate with the fully developed ability to communicate in multiple modes of discourse demonstrating a strong command of the rules of Standard English. Complexity levels are assessed based upon a variety of indicators.



## GSE TEACHER GUIDANCE:

*Skills, concepts, strategies, tasks, and  
suggested key terms*

	<b>American Literature GSE</b>
	<b>Reading Literary (RL)</b>
	<b>ELAGSE11-12RL1: Cite strong and thorough textual evidence to support analysis of what the text says explicitly as well as inferences drawn from the text, including determining where the text leaves matters uncertain.</b>

**Skills/Concepts for Students:**

- Practice close reading both in the classroom and independently
- Distinguish important and relevant information from extraneous or redundant information
- Understand how to annotate text (both formally and informally) and the rationale for doing so; practice annotation consistently
- Understand inference, and the difference between explicit fact and inference
- Know the elements of analysis (e.g., how diction impacts tone); locate and analyze elements including style, character development, point of view, irony, and structure (i.e. chronological, in medias res, flashback, frame narrative, epistolary narrative) in works of American fiction from different time periods
- Identify and analyze types of dramatic literature (e.g., political drama, modern drama, theatre of the absurd)
- Identify, respond to, and analyze the effects of diction, tone, mood, syntax, sound, form, figurative language, and structure of poem, as these elements relate to meaning
- Tolerate uncertainty – texts cannot and do not always provide solutions or clear positions; identify when a straight-forward conclusion cannot reliably be drawn

**Instructional Strategies for Teachers:**

- Provide explicit instruction and scaffolding as necessary for the skills and concepts students should acquire for RL1 in American Literature (see above)
- Assign enough reading of appropriately complex grade-level text to challenge and extend students’ “endurance”
- Explain, model, and enforce the practice of annotating as you read
- Allow students to choose at least a small percentage of their own reading material within appropriate complexity levels to foster an ownership of their literary development and to explore their own tastes
- Within the broad parameters described by the ELAGSE (fiction/non-fiction/technical text/poetry), explore a wide variety of genres, including *avant garde* genres
- Practice in-class reading, both silent and aloud, and incorporate professional audio and video renditions of text as well as graphic novels and other visual art as a viable way to experience text
- Always require textual evidence and support for any claim, argument, or opinion from a text, even in informal discussion

**Sample Performance-based/Standards-based Task(s):**

After examining a book’s cover and reading three professional reviews, students will choose a visual representation (e.g. photograph, sculpture, painting) that they believe represents the essence of the text (its audience, purpose, tone, and/or theme). Students will construct and present a two-minute justification of their choice of visual representation *using specific evidence* from the cover and reviews and will complete a formal citation for the book observing proper conventions and formatting. This is a pre-reading/anticipatory activity. This exercise can be repeated at the conclusion of the close reading and differences in perception discussed.

**Suggested Key Terms for Teaching and Learning:**

Relevant	Annotation	Genre	Purpose	Audience	Analysis Theme
Extraneous	Redundant	Claim	Point of view	Summary	Paraphrase

	<b>American Literature GSE</b>
	<b>Reading Literary (RL)</b>
	<b>ELAGSE11-12RL2: Determine two or more themes or central ideas of text and analyze their development over the course of the text, including how they interact and build on one another to produce a complex account; provide an objective summary of the text.</b>

**Skills/Concepts for Students:**

- Distinguish between theme, topic, main/central idea, concept, and thesis; understand the nuanced connotations of these words and understand exactly what you are attempting to identify or explain in a given instance
- Relate identified elements in fiction to theme or underlying meaning
- Analyze and compare texts that express universal themes characteristic of American literature across time and genre (i.e., American individualism, the American dream, cultural diversity, and tolerance) and provide support from the texts for the identified themes
- Understand the concept of objectivity, and work consistently toward providing summaries that are completely free of editorial bias
- Determine when an assignment requires you to analyze or argue a claim and when it requires you to summarize without bias
- Determine what defines centrality in a theme, whether it is simply the frequency of appearance or something more complex
- Understand and be able to identify techniques authors use to develop theme, such as exposition, dialogue, imagery, and conflict.
- Identify dualities, contradictions, and parallel plot lines within texts; analyze the intentionality of these events and determine whether you as a reader believe they strengthen or detract from a text; do not shy away from forming a strong opinion of your own while remaining open to guidance from more experienced readers (strong and well-supported opinions are the basis of great analysis essays)
- Distinguish between “abstract” and “concrete” as concepts; concrete facts often accrue to form an abstract concept

**Instructional Strategies for Teachers:**

- Provide explicit instruction and scaffolding as necessary for the skills and concepts students should acquire for RL2 American Literature (see above)
- Provide clear-cut opportunities for the creation of both unbiased summaries and argumentative analysis; model both and provide strong student examples
- Provide explicit instruction including strong examples on classic themes of American Literature (Individualism, the American dream, “noble savage,” etc.)
- Whenever practical and possible, choose short texts and more sustained readings that will spark strong reactions
- Choose texts that express complex or multiple themes. For fiction, choose a novel that features two or more equally strong and likable protagonists in direct opposition to one another

**Sample Performance-based/Standards-based Task(s):**

While reading an extended literary text, students (in small groups) will choose one 400-600 word segment with dialogue that they believe illustrates one of the novel’s essential themes. Punctuation conventions for dialogue and stage directions should be addressed. As each group performs their text segment, students will take notes and produce an opinion on the validity of the theme identified and the impact of the text segment as supporting evidence of the student group’s choice. Subsequent roundtable discussions can serve to further clarify the themes of the book and how they complement one another.

**Suggested Key Terms for Teaching and Learning:**

Abstract	Concrete	Paraphrase	Literal	Theme	Universal
Topic	Central	Individualism	Diversity	Tolerance	
Bias	Objectivity	Subjectivity	Interact	Detract	

	<b>American Literature GSE</b>
	<b>Reading Literary (RL)</b>
	<b>ELAGSE11-12RL3: Analyze the impact of the author’s choices regarding how to develop and relate elements of a story or drama (e.g., where a story is set, how the action is ordered, how the characters are introduced and developed).</b>

**Skills/Concepts for Students:**

- Relate the author’s choices in a literary work to the seminal ideas of the time in which it is set or the time of its composition (Native American literature, Colonial/Revolutionary/National literature) and to the characteristics of the literary time period (Romanticism/Transcendentalism, Realism, Naturalism, Modernism [including the Harlem Renaissance], and Postmodernism)
- Analyze and evaluate the effects of structure on poetry from various periods of American literature (fixed and free, lyric, ballad, sonnet, narrative poem, blank verse)
- Determine the impact of word choice (diction) on a text, specifically on the tone of the text
- Determine the impact of sentence structure (fluency and syntax) on a text
- Learn to recognize literature that appeals to your own sensibility and identify the elements that are appealing
- Always annotate text as you read, whether formally or informally
- In literary texts, make it your practice to identify “DTSFT” (diction, tone, syntax, figurative language, imagery) in every text; these are the elements most often discussed in analysis

**Instructional Strategies for Teachers:**

- Provide explicit instruction and scaffolding as necessary for the skills and concepts students should acquire for RL3 American Literature (see above)
- Purposefully and thoroughly provide instruction in foundational work of American Literature and relate the literary works and characteristics to the literary period in which it was written
- Guide students in learning to identify literary or rhetorical elements of texts by examining discrete elements in isolation
- Use précis writing as a foundational skill preliminary to advanced analysis; a précis requires concise summary coupled with identification of literary or rhetorical elements, theme/topic, audience, and purpose
- Expose students to texts from a variety of genres; comparing literary elements of drama, narrative, film, etc., have students experiment with the impact of specific changes on plot, setting, and character
- Isolate and examine the techniques most often/most artfully employed by individual authors, noting how the nature of these choices lend a flavor to their overall body of work

**Sample Performance-based/Standards-based Task(s):**

Have students compare and contrast the setting in two novels set in the same basic geographic area and time period (for example, colonial America). Break the students into two groups, each examining one of the novels. Students should begin by determining the tone created by the setting in each novel (frightening, restrictive, exhilarating, adventurous, etc.). The students should list as many pieces of text evidence as possible to support their interpretation of the atmosphere created by the setting. Allow students to choose a partner from the other group, and have the students compare their interpretations of setting and text evidence, focusing on identifying the different strategies used by the authors (for example, author 1 might create a sense of doom through dark spaces and stormy weather; author 2 might create an expansive sense of adventure by having most of the action take place in a beautiful green forest). Students will write an analysis comparing and contrasting the strategies used by the authors. Students may also choose to compare and contrast two similar characters from those novels.

**Suggested Key Terms for Teaching and Learning:**

Flashback	Narrative Structure	Exposition	Diction	Rising Action
Climax	Falling Action	Resolution	Tone	Syntax
Imagery	Figurative Language	Characterization	Setting	Plot Allusion
Dynamic Character	Static Character	Flat Character	Round Character	Foreshadowing
Direct Characterization	Indirect Characterization	Antagonist	Protagonist	Irony
Sonnet	Fixed form	Free form	Lyric	Ballad
Narrative Poem	Blank Verse			

	<b>American Literature GSE</b>
	<b>Reading Literary (RL)</b>
	<b>ELAGSE11-12RL4: Determine the meaning of words and phrases as they are used in the text, including figurative and connotative meanings; analyze the impact of specific word choices on meaning and tone, including words with multiple meanings or language that is particularly fresh, engaging, or beautiful. (Include Shakespeare as well as other authors.)</b>

**Skills/Concepts for Students:**

- Use strategies for making meaning, such as word patterns and Greek and Latin roots
- Locate elements of language and style; analyze patterns of imagery or symbolism
- Understand how to determine which meaning of a word an author intends when the word has multiple meanings
- Identify the power of the author’s language in terms of creating a text that engages the reader
- Analyze and evaluate the effect of language in poetry from various periods of American literature: alliteration, end rhyme, slant rhyme, internal rhyme, consonance, and assonance
- Analyze and evaluate the effects of diction and imagery (i.e., controlling images, figurative language, extended metaphor, understatement, hyperbole, irony, paradox, and tone) as they relate to underlying meaning
- Understand the difference between figurative language, idiomatic language, and poetic (sound) devices and be able to readily identify each

**Instructional Strategies for Teachers:**

- Provide explicit instruction and scaffolding as necessary for the skills and concepts students should acquire for RL4 American Literature (see above)
- Have students routinely identify diction, syntax, tone, imagery, and figurative language in every work they examine
- Practice all recommended strategies for making meaning of unknown words (context, roots, word structure, reference materials, etc.)
- Require students to keep a journal of phrases and quotes that they particularly like (these can be analyzed for patterns periodically, giving students insight into their personal aesthetic preferences as readers)
- Integrate new vocabulary into lessons and lectures

**Sample Performance-based/Standards-based Task(s):**

Figurative and idiomatic language is usually fairly easy to interpret, but the connotations of words can be tricky and subjective. Have students write a list of 10 words from a text under consideration by the class. The words are to be chosen for their connotative weight. For example, the word “trudge” connotes a heavy reluctance, whereas “walk” does not. Also, consider symbolic connotations (for example, a red dress might be intended to connote loose morals in the character who wears it). This activity may require some class discussion about the nature of connotative meanings. Students will write the denotative and what they perceive to be the connotative meaning of each of their ten words. Students will trade word lists and write their own denotative and connotative meanings for each word, then compare results. Students will conclude by choosing one word/connotation pair and writing a short analysis showing the rationale for their interpretation based on text evidence.

**Suggested Key Terms for Teaching and Learning:**

Definition	Denotation	Connotation	Idiomatic	Sound Device
Tone	Root Word	Concrete	Controlling Image	Extended Metaphor
Understatement	Paradox	Irony	Alliteration	End Rhyme
Slant Rhyme	Internal Rhyme	Consonance	Assonance	

	<b>American Literature GSE</b>
	<b>Reading Literary (RL)</b>
	<b>ELAGSE11-12RL5: Analyze how an author’s choices concerning how to structure specific parts of a text (e.g., the choice of where to begin or end a story, the choice to provide a comedic or tragic resolution) contribute to its overall structure and meaning as well as its aesthetic impact.</b>

**Skills/Concepts for Students:**

- Know the elements of plot structure, and be able to identify those parts
- Locate and analyze elements of structure such as chronological order, *in medias res*, flashback, frame narrative, and epistolary narrative in works of American fiction from different time periods
- Recognize various structural formats of fictional texts (stanza, act, scene, chapter, etc.)
- Understand the specific *function* of flashback, foreshadowing, beginning a narrative in the middle of action (*in medias res*)
- Be able to accurately identify rhyme scheme and basic metrical formulas
- Analyze the impact of an author’s choice in disclosing narrative elements at a particular point in a text

**Instructional Strategies for Teachers:**

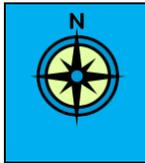
- Provide explicit instruction and scaffolding as necessary for the skills and concepts students should acquire for RL5 American Literature (see above)
- Allow students to explore texts that experiment with structure in interesting ways (such as magical realism)
- Require students to isolate and analyze structural elements (such as identifying the climactic scene and defending their choice through text evidence)
- Have students compare and contrast texts that are suspenseful, comic, or otherwise create an emotional/tonal response; direct students in identifying a variety of structural approaches to achieve similar results (for example, comic structural elements like surprise or dramatic irony)
- Explore the structure of poetry including metrical terms and formulas (such as iambic pentameter) and rhyme scheme

**Sample Performance-based/Standards-based Task(s):**

Have students create a graphic representation of the narrative’s plot structure, providing a brief explanation/synopsis of what defines that part of the text (for example, rising action might be comprised of “the first three months of John’s experience at his new school,” and the climax “the car wreck”). Students will then write an analysis that provides a text-based rationale for their identification of each element as being representative of exposition, rising action, climax, falling action, or resolution.

**Suggested Key Terms for Teaching and Learning:**

Rising Action	Climax	Falling Action	Resolution	Flashback
Foreshadowing	In Medias Res	Chapter	Prologue	Epilogue
Stanza	Scene	Act	Nonlinear	Linear
Meter	Verse	Rhyme Scheme		



**American Literature GSE**

**Reading Literary (RL)**

**ELAGSE11-12RL6: Analyze a case in which grasping point of view requires distinguishing what is directly stated in a text from what is really meant (e.g., satire, sarcasm, irony, or understatement).**

**Skills/Concepts for Students:**

- Develop a working concept of point of view as it pertains to the unique perspective of the author or narrator (i.e., students should understand authorial purpose and point of view)
- Build upon a strong foundational knowledge of figurative language (such as metaphor and simile) to explore more nuanced constructions such as pun, satire, irony in works of American fiction from different time periods
- Analyze and evaluate the effect of diction and imagery (i.e., controlling images, figurative language, extended metaphor, understatement, hyperbole, irony, paradox, and tone) as they relate to underlying meaning
- Identify, respond to, and analyze the effects of diction, tone, mood, syntax, sound, form, figurative language, and structure of poems as these elements relate to meaning
- Relate modern satire (such as “The Simpsons” or “The Daily Show”) to classic satire (such as *A Connecticut Yankee in King Arthur’s Court*) to sharpen understanding of underlying concepts
- Practice using nuanced language constructions in your own speech and writing and identifying them in the speech and language of others
- Annotate the use of these figurative constructions as they occur in texts
- Proactively and independently continue to build vocabulary to enhance understanding of text (subtle constructions such as puns are difficult to recognize without a firm grasp of all vocabulary within the construction)

**Instructional Strategies for Teachers:**

- Provide explicit instruction and scaffolding as necessary for the skills and concepts students should acquire for RL6 American Literature (see above)
- Employ these figurative constructions in your everyday speech, lessons, and lectures; point out when you have used satire or irony to make a point
- Use the plethora of examples from modern media of these figurative constructions; compare modern examples with classical ones
- Choose text examples to introduce these concepts that are accessible and engaging (for example, a David Sedaris satirical essay may be much more accessible than classic satirical texts)
- Ensure that students begin with a very strong grasp of the basics of figurative language (metaphor, simile, personification, hyperbole, idioms)

**Sample Performance-based/Standards-based Task(s):**

Choose a strong example of modern satire. Have students watch or read the example carefully at least twice, making annotations for every example of hyperbole or understatement (the two most often used tools in satire), as well as other satirical strategies you may identify. Students should partner or team to discuss these elements and how the author employs them to subtly argue his or her actual position. Step two will be to examine a more difficult example, such as Mark Twain’s *A Connecticut Yankee in King Arthur’s Court*. Students will compare and contrast the use of the identical strategies in both pieces, analyzing their effectiveness and possibly the evolution of their use from Twain’s time to our own.

**Suggested Key Terms for Teaching and Learning:**

Figurative	Concrete	Pun	Satire	Irony	Dramatic Irony	Sarcasm
Understatement	Didactic	Literal				

	<b>American Literature GSE</b>
	<b>Reading Literary (RL)</b>
	<b>ELAGSE11-12RL7: Analyze multiple interpretations of a story, drama, or poem (e.g., recorded or live production of a play or recorded novel or poetry), evaluating how each version interprets the source text. (Include at least one play by Shakespeare as well as one play by an American dramatist.)</b>

**Skills/Concepts for Students:**

- Analyze the influence of mythic, traditional, or classical literature on American literature
- Analyze and compare texts that express universal themes characteristic of American literature across time and genre (i.e., American individualism, the American dream, cultural diversity, and tolerance), and provide support from the texts for the identified themes
- Analyze a variety of works representative of different genres within specific time periods in order to identify types
- Make it a practice to compare version of texts that you have enjoyed (if you’ve seen a good film, read the book; if you’ve read a good book, see the film)
- Practice making your own aesthetic evaluation of a text, whether written, aural, or visual, instead of relying first on professional critics or instructors – own your own literary experience and understand your personal preferences; however, students should be exposed to literary criticism, and asked to support their textual interpretations from both primary and secondary sources
- Note what has been added or removed from various interpretations of a text; think about an author’s purpose and strategy in deletions and additions that are specific to medium

**Instructional Strategies for Teachers:**

- Provide explicit instruction and scaffolding as necessary for the skills and concepts students should acquire for RL7 American Literature (see above)
- Compare and contrast specific characteristics of different genres as they develop and change over time for different purposes (i.e., personal, meditative Colonial writing vs. public, political documents of the Revolutionary era; or replication of traditional European styles [Bradstreet, Taylor] vs. emerging distinctive American style [Dickinson, Whitman] in poetry)
- Create opportunities for students to compare texts across mediums; avoid using only text/film for these comparisons
- Expose students to interpretations that are true to the original and those whose interpretation is “loosely based”; have students identify the literary elements that have changed and those that remain the same
- Focus discussion of literary elements on the “why” more than the “what” at every opportunity; in literary analysis, it is not as important to know that the movie tells a story using flashback, whereas the novel does not, only why the author(s) made these choices and how they affect the reader
- Teach and review literary/cinematic terms, including sophisticated terms and concepts such as “dramatic irony,” “verisimilitude,” “long shot,” “fade out,” “reaction shot,” “stream of consciousness,” etc. (use a glossary of terms for reference), so that students have the language to talk about more abstract concepts

**Sample Performance-based/Standards-based Task(s):**

Using a text whose structure and content has been analyzed and discussed, expose the students to a second interpretation of the text (usually, this will be film, but it might also be a play or recording, or even a work of art). Have students conduct a close analysis of elements that have been changed from one interpretation to the next. Certain characters may be older, younger, or completely absent. Certain plot elements will usually be abridged in film and dramatic versions of text. An in-depth analysis of which elements were changed can provide enormous insight into the infrastructure of a piece and how each element was designed to impact the reader.

**Suggested Key Terms for Teaching and Learning:**

Interpretation	Abridgment	Drama	Narrative	Film	Act	Scene	Line
Chapter	Dialogue	Script	Angle	Perspective	Staging	Political Drama	Theater of the Absurd
Stage Directions	Fourth Wall	Minimalism					

	<b>American Literature GSE</b>
	<b>Reading Literary (RL)</b>
	<b>ELAGSE11-12RL8: (Not applicable to literature)</b> <b>ELAGSE11-12RL9: Demonstrate knowledge of eighteenth-, nineteenth- and early twentieth-century foundational works (of American Literature, British Literature, World Literature, or Multicultural Literature), including how two or more texts from the same period treat similar themes or topics.</b>

**Skills/Concepts for Students:**

- Trace the history of the development of American fiction
- Traces the historical development of poetic styles and forms in American literature
- Analyze the influence of mythic, traditional, or classical literature on American literature
- Understand how literary elements such as tone, mood, imagery, diction, syntax, and plot elements accrue to establish theme
- Acquire and review the necessary vocabulary within historical context to effectively make meaning of the historical texts
- Supplement the study of fictional works from history with contextual knowledge about the historical period and author
- Generalize concepts of setting, plot, characterization, and other narrative elements so that specific instances of these may be recognized as having thematic similarities or differences (for example, tragic flaw)
- Acquire a firm knowledge of literary periods, major works, and major authors of American Literature

**Instructional Strategies for Teachers:**

- Provide explicit instruction and scaffolding as necessary for the skills and concepts students should acquire for RL9 American Literature (see above)
- Provide a visual/graphic representation of a timeline of American Literary periods, works, and authors in the classroom
- Provide a visual/graphic representation of relevant geography, if appropriate
- Purposefully select texts that represent a broad spectrum across the sweep of American Literary history; include significant poetry study; avoid focus on a single era
- Integrate a variety of textual representations including visual, aural, and digital texts
- Use a variety of strategies to increase the amount of text covered, including jigsaw, literary seminar, and in-class and independent reading
- Purposefully select texts that represent diverse voices from American cultural history (women, Native Americans, people of color, immigrants, etc.)

**Sample Performance-based/Standards-based Task(s):**

Have students in teams conduct the necessary research on foundational works from a culturally underrepresented group in American literary history and provide the necessary analysis to create a meaningful website exploring the experience and representation of one of these groups. (This group could be Native Americans, slaves and free people of color, immigrants, women, youth, etc.) The website may be as extensive or limited as the scope of the assignment allows. Students should exhibit effective teamwork and sophisticated research and analysis. They should exhibit solid technical skills, being able to construct and post a clean and engaging website using a standard platform like Weebly, Wix, or WordPress. All facts, claims, and analysis on the site must be firmly based in cited text. The site should include visual, audio, and written text with embedded links for further information.

**Suggested Key Terms for Teaching and Learning:**

Autobiography	Aphorism	Rhetoric	Romanticism	Transcendentalism
Naturalism	Realism	Modernism	Captivity Narrative	Slave Narrative
Native American	Colonial	Age of Reason	Sermon	Post-Modernism
Fireside Poets	Origin Myth	Pamphlet	Puritan	Planter

	<b>American Literature GSE</b>
	<b>Reading Literary (RL)</b>
	<b>ELAGSE11-12RL10: By the end of grade 11, read and comprehend literature, including stories, dramas, and poems, in the grades 11-College and Career text complexity band proficiently, with scaffolding as needed at the high end of the range. By the end of grade 11, read and comprehend literature, including stories, dramas, and poems, in the grades 11-College and Career text complexity band independently and proficiently.</b>

**Skills/Concepts for Students:**

- Practice reading, both independently and within the classroom
- Read with appropriate fluency and speed for grade level text requirements (i.e. finish a 500 page novel in a prescribed time-frame)
- Use annotation and note-taking, maintaining coherent records that are useful for review
- Read assigned works but also read proactively and independently
- Choose works from multiple genres and literary periods
- Consider keeping a notebook of texts read with notes, annotations, and any relevant student work produced

**Instructional Strategies for Teachers:**

- Choose texts of appropriate complexity
- Require reading through multiple modes: group, pairs, individual, in class, out of class, via digital mediums, etc.
- Provide scaffolding on difficult texts through commentary and interpretation, group discussion, complementary visual texts, and professional annotations, as appropriate
- Require specific textual evidence for all claims and inferences about texts, even in informal discussion
- Allow students to keep working documents in a portfolio that they eventually present and share in small groups

**Sample Performance-based/Standards-based Task(s):**

Conference with students to set personal literacy goals appropriate to each individual, including a suggested reading list (this list may include poems, films, and works of art, as well). Students can keep a notebook that includes notes and personal commentary on each text read over the course of the year, including any relevant analyses or other work produced in relation to given texts. An extension of this activity can include students creating “book cards” that give plot, setting, characters, author, publication details, personal review, and summary of a text. These cards may be reproduced to provide each student with an extensive set of cards that include summaries of all books read by all classmates. Ideally, by the end of the year, each student has a reference library of notes on a number of books, useful for building overall literary expertise and breadth of knowledge of authors and titles and from which to draw recommendations for continued independent reading.

**Suggested Key Terms for Teaching and Learning:**

Literary	Fiction	Informational	Non-fiction	Genre
Claim	Plot	Setting	Character	Analysis
Annotation	Evidence	Inference	Summary	Paraphrase

\* Incorporate all terms from previous standards in Reading Literary

	<b>American Literature GSE</b>
	<b>Reading Informational (RI)</b>
	<b>ELAGSE11-12RI1: Cite strong and thorough textual evidence to support analysis of what the text says explicitly as well as inferences drawn from the text, including determining where the text leaves matters uncertain.</b>

**Skills/Concepts for Students:**

- Read a variety of informational texts attentively, both independently and within the classroom
- Analyze and explain the structures and elements of nonfiction works of American literature such as letters, journals and diaries, speeches, and essays
- Recognize when a text has not or is unable to provide a definitive answer on a subject; learn to tolerate uncertainty within a process or text
- Become familiar with and adept at decoding complex legal and technical documents, including contracts, manuals, etc.
- Readily distinguish important facts from extraneous details
- Think critically and analytically about text, making connections within a text and among texts, including highly technical texts
- Recognize the rhetorical and structural strategies employed by an author establish a main idea or prove a point
- Make inferences and generalizations based on evidence from one or more reliable sources
- Always support claims and inferences, both in formal analysis and informal discussion with well-chosen textual evidence
- Take notes and annotate texts, both formally and informally

**Instructional Strategies for Teachers:**

- Provide explicit instruction and scaffolding as necessary for the skills and concepts students should acquire for RI1 American Literature (see above)
- Use multiple reading strategies including using a variety of digital media to access texts
- Implement a note-taking using a system such as Cornell notes and periodically assess or review students’ notes
- Teach and require annotation of text
- Teach and require formal citations in an accepted manuscript style when appropriate
- Encourage the habit of providing textual evidence for all claims and inferences, both written and in discussion
- Purposefully choose a variety of challenging informational texts from a variety of categories (legal, scientific, technical, literary non-fiction such as memoir, etc.)

**Sample Performance-based/Standards-based Task(s):**

Students will conduct a research activity designed to expose them to texts where matters are left uncertain, or where definitive results have not or cannot be produced. One way to create this circumstance is to have students examine a question of debate within American history (such as Thomas Jefferson’s relationship with Sally Hemmings). (Choose a topic where viable arguments can be made on both sides and a professional consensus has not been reached.) Students (individually, in teams, or in pairs) are to create a portfolio of resources that support each side of a controversial topic. Students will review and annotate the results of their research. (An extension to this activity could include a debate.) The purpose of the research will be to find specific claims in each set of texts which are uncertain or indeterminate. This activity will yield samples of text that will illustrate the concept of uncertainty in technical texts and provide opportunities to discuss how to analyze the impact of indeterminate information in research and debate.

**Suggested Key Terms for Teaching and Learning:**

Article	Journal	Peer-review	Periodical	Expository	Indeterminate
Informational	Non-fiction	Memoir	Literary Non-fiction	Biography	Uncertain
Autobiography	Claim	Support	Evidence	Citation	Preponderance

	<b>American Literature GSE</b>
	<b>Reading Informational (RI)</b>
	<b>ELAGSE11-12RI2: Determine two or more central ideas of a text and analyze their development over the course of the text, including how they interact and build on one another to provide a complex analysis; provide an objective summary of the text.</b>

**Skills/Concepts for Students:**

- Understand the relationship between central ideas and how they shape an effective summary
- Read a variety of informational texts attentively, both independently and within the classroom
- Readily distinguish important facts from extraneous details, using important facts to determine central ideas of a text
- Analyze, evaluate, and apply knowledge of the ways authors use language, style, syntax, and rhetorical strategies for specific purposes in nonfiction works from American history
- Take notes and annotate texts, both formally and informally
- Recognize when a text contains editorial bias, whether overt or subtle, and summarize without editorial bias
- Critically analyze the way that facts accrue to support a thesis or hypothesis, including analysis of the interaction of multiple or many-faceted lines of reasoning
- Understand methods to build argumentation as it relates to claim, theory, hypothesis, and support

**Instructional Strategies for Teachers:**

- Provide explicit instruction and scaffolding as necessary for the skills and concepts students should acquire for RI2 American Literature (see above)
- Choose texts so that at least half of your classroom reading involves informational (non-fiction) text
- Provide informational texts from American history with clear central ideas logically developed as exemplars
- Provide informational texts from American history with nuanced or complex central ideas to challenge readers and provide contrast
- Provide opportunities for students to write objective summaries of texts and provide exemplars of biased and unbiased summary
- Practice differentiating fact from opinion and important, supporting facts from extraneous ones

**Sample Performance-based/Standards-based Task(s):**

Students will choose from among foundational documents from U.S. history (Declaration of Independence, U.S. Constitution, The Bill of Rights, The Federalist Papers), working with their chosen document to identify central ideas. Students should begin with a close analysis of the document, annotating over the course of multiple readings. Students should discuss and identify the strategies they are using to attempt to identify central ideas (recurring vocabulary, structure/headings, rhetoric). Through discussion and revision they may change their interpretations. While students may find one central idea they believe is most prominent, two or more fundamental notions are developed through each of these texts. Students will collect the aggregate of their analysis into an essay, naming the central ideas of the piece and tracing the use of facts, claims, and rhetoric used to develop the central ideas.

**Suggested Key Terms for Teaching and Learning:**

Fact	Opinion	Citation	Claim	Interference	Evidence	
Informational	Expository	Objective	Subjective	Journal	Abstract	Manuscript
Style	Periodical	Rhetorical Analysis	Extraneous Detail	Paraphrasing	Précis	

	<b>American Literature GSE</b>
	<b>Reading Informational (RI)</b>
	<b>ELAGSE11-12RI3: Analyze a complex set of ideas or sequence of events and explain how specific individuals, ideas, or events interact and develop over the course of the text.</b>

**Skills/Concepts for Students:**

- Exhibit knowledge of informational text structures such contracts, statistical analyses, scientific findings, and legal opinions
- Analyze and explain the structures and elements of nonfiction works of American literature such as letters, journals and diaries, speeches, and essays
- Readily recognize generic text structures such as an abstract, a précis, or organizational patterns such as chronological order, comparison and contrast, and order of importance
- In literary nonfiction, analyze how specific individuals develop via ideas and events they encounter (for example, the main characters in *The Things They Carried* or *I Know Why the Caged Bird Sings*)
- Readily recognize author’s purpose and identify bias, both subtle and overt
- Readily distinguish between important facts or supporting details and extraneous or misleading information
- Note the differences in the types and amounts of evidence and support required for claims in various formats and disciplines (for example, the evidence required in a letter to the editor may be scant and based on emotion, while the evidence required to advance an hypothesis in a scientific journal may be extensive)

**Instructional Strategies for Teachers:**

- Provide explicit instruction and scaffolding as necessary for the skills and concepts students should acquire for RI3 American Literature (see above)
- Employ process essays, and actual processes in the classroom to illustrate the importance of logical order (for example, how to make pizza, or how a bill becomes a law)
- Expose students to a variety of arguments, both valid and logically false, to allow them to distinguish the differences in how arguments are introduced and developed (well known speeches are useful for this inquiry)
- In the context of modern American rhetoric, view television commercials and/or research popular advertising campaigns to determine how brand identities are introduced, developed, and connected to audience biases and concerns
- Use graphic organizers to support students in identifying and illustrating interconnected points within an argument or analysis
- Expose students to complex informational genres texts such as peer reviewed scholarly journals, legal documents, or position statements

**Sample Performance-based/Standards-based Task(s):**

Students will conduct an analysis of claims made during a political debate, fact checking individual claims and identifying inferences, both subtle and overt. Access an appropriate debate from historical archives (audio and video of hundreds of debates are available online). Transcripts are also available for all debates that have been nationally televised, but instructors may or may not want to provide these. Students will view/listen/read the debate a number of times, taking notes on claims and inferences. When a fairly exhaustive list of a candidate’s claims has been compiled, students will go to work fact checking the claims (also looking for instances where a candidate contradicts him or herself). Students will write an analysis that shows how the candidate’s main points were developed over the course of the debate, and will ascertain whether those points were well developed and supported or not.

**Suggested Key Terms for Teaching and Learning:**

Author’s Purpose	Bias	Structure	Connection	Rhetoric	Extraneous	Process	Sequence
Chronological	Logical	Comparison	Contrast	Manuscript Style	Logical Fallacy	Outline	

	<b>American Literature GSE</b>
	<b>Reading Informational (RI)</b>
	<b>ELAGSE11-12RI4: Determine the meaning of words and phrases as they are used in a text, including figurative, connotative, and technical meanings; analyze how an author uses and refines the meaning of a key term or terms over the course of a text (e.g., how Madison defines “faction” in <i>Federalist No. 10</i>).</b>

**Skills/Concepts for Students:**

- Analyze, evaluate, and apply knowledge of the ways authors use language, style, syntax, and rhetorical strategies for specific purposes in nonfiction works
- Exhibit reliable knowledge of Greek and Latin roots, pre-fixes, suffixes, and word patterns in order to decode unknown language
- Readily distinguish between literal and figurative meaning, including subtle figurative language such as satire and irony
- Acquire and review knowledge of content area vocabulary (for example, domain-specific vocabulary relevant to foundational historical documents, legal or medical terms, etc.)
- Differentiate between situations that require formal diction and those that do not
- Analyze an author’s purpose in word choice
- Analyze the cumulative effect of diction on a text

**Instructional Strategies for Teachers:**

- Provide explicit instruction and scaffolding as necessary for the skills and concepts students should acquire for RI4 American Literature (see above)
- Provide examples of language that illustrate both extreme formality and casual colloquialism, discussing contextual appropriateness and occasions for use of each
- Trace the development of tone and mood through diction in exemplary texts (for example, a sense of outrage or anger in an editorial, or urgency in a report from the frontlines of war)
- Choose texts of appropriate complexity to allow students to be challenged by complex or nuanced vocabulary
- Use both figurative/connotative language and literal/concrete language in lecture and discussion

**Sample Performance-based/Standards-based Task(s):**

Students will examine the essays of Ben Franklin through a number of qualitative and quantitative measures in order to create a statistical analysis of Franklin’s use of figurative language and rhetoric. After choosing an essay (you may use a site such as PBS.org <http://www.pbs.org/benfranklin/resources.html> ), have students explore ways to glean statistical information from the text (word processing programs will provide word counts and show instances of repeated words, Lexile.com will provide quantitative information, the “Ctrl F” function will allow you to search for instances of a certain word or count instances of its occurrence, etc.). Students should use their creativity to explore novel ways to gather information on the text. Citing specific textual evidence, students will compile a statistical analysis of Franklin’s use of language (what does he emphasize, what does he repeat, what figurative structures does he use, etc.).

**Suggested Key Terms for Teaching and Learning:**

Figurative Language	Connotation	Literal	Concrete Imagery	Technical Jargon
Academic Terminology	Diction	Cumulative Sentence	Author’s Purpose	Syntactical Structures
Tone	Rhetorical Devices	Periodic Sentence		

	<b>American Literature GSE</b>
	<b>Reading Informational (RI)</b>
	<b>ELAGSE11-12RI5: Analyze and evaluate the effectiveness of the structure an author uses in his or her exposition or argument, including whether the structure makes points clear, convincing, and engaging.</b>

**Skills/Concepts for Students:**

- Readily recognize generic text structures such as an abstract, a précis, or organizational patterns such as chronological order, comparison and contrast, and order of importance
- Analyze and explain the structures and elements of nonfiction works of American literature, such as letters, journals and diaries, speeches, and essays
- Analyze and evaluate the logic and use of evidence in an author’s argument
- Exhibit firm knowledge of sentence structure, including phrases/clauses and compound/complex/compound-complex sentences
- Understand the connotations of syntax and the impact of syntax on the reader, understanding that, like diction, syntax may vary depending on audience and purpose
- Recognize and understand textual features such as in-text citations, footnotes, glossaries, etc.

**Instructional Strategies for Teachers:**

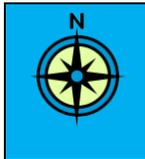
- Provide explicit instruction and scaffolding as necessary for the skills and concepts students should acquire for RI5 American Literature (see above)
- Provide clear examples of appropriate syntax, fluency, and structure within informational documents (for example, student exemplars or sample texts)
- Practice appropriate use of structures within classroom documents, instructions, websites, etc.
- Allow opportunities for students to disassemble and reassemble texts based on structural and contextual clues
- Require infrastructure to be delineated in outlines that are reverse-engineered from existing texts or produced for texts to be written
- Purposefully choose texts connected to content area reading matter (such as British or American literature) that effectively use structures common to the genre (such as epistolary captivity narratives)

**Sample Performance-based/Standards-based Task(s):**

Students will conduct a structural analysis comparing and contrasting slave narratives (for example, Olaudah Equiano or Frederick Douglass) and captivity narratives (for example, Mary Jemison or Mary White Rowlandson) from American literature. Focusing on structural elements only, students will trace and compare the structures of the two texts, including organization, sentence constructions, paragraph constructions, length, narrative voice, etc. Students will produce an analysis citing specific textual evidence from both texts and may bring cultural and gender-based critique into their structural analysis (for example, are women more likely to speak in first person? In what order are events presented? What might be the reasons for these differences?). These analyses may be presented in a digital format, if desired, to allow for viewing of primary source documents and illustrations or photographs.

**Suggested Key Terms for Teaching and Learning:**

Organizational Structure	Chronological	Compare/Contrast	Evidence	Exemplification
Syntax	Claim	Argument	Diction	Citation/Footnote
Abstract	Glossary	Style	Problem-Solution	Exposition
Précis	Journal	Rhetoric	Definition	Classification / Division
Narration				



**American Literature GSE**

**Reading Informational (RI)**

**ELAGSE11-12RI6: Determine an author’s point of view or purpose in a text in which the rhetoric is particularly effective, analyzing how style and content contribute to the power, persuasiveness, or beauty of the text.**

**Skills/Concepts for Students:**

- Understand and readily identify rhetorical strategies, such as appeals to emotion or authority, syllogism, and logical fallacies
- Acquire familiarity with famous examples of rhetoric from the American Revolution, such as Patrick Henry’s “Give Me Liberty or Give Me Death”
- Understand and apply knowledge of diction, syntax, tone, imagery, figurative language, and other elements in determining the effectiveness of an argument or exposition
- Identify the power of the author’s language in terms of creating a text that engages the reader
- Identify author’s biases, both subtle and overt, including implicit or explicit assumptions
- Analyzes and evaluates the logic and use of evidence in an author’s argument
- Identify author’s biases, both subtle and overt, and make considered decisions regarding the validity of a claim or appeal
- Readily distinguish between a powerful argument and a valid argument (not all valid arguments are powerful, and not all powerful arguments are valid)
- Make a practice of determining an author’s or speaker’s point of view, even when it is not explicitly stated

**Instructional Strategies for Teachers:**

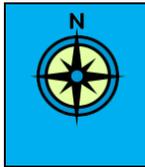
- Provide explicit instruction and scaffolding as necessary for the skills and concepts students should acquire for RI6 American Literature (see above)
- Purposefully choose texts in which biases and author’s point of view are readily evident, as well as texts where the author may intentionally obscure his or her point of view or motives, allowing students to be challenged in identifying the intent behind clever rhetoric
- Point out every instance of rhetorical strategy in argument (e.g., pathos used to avoid weekend homework)
- Have students routinely construct précis from both straight-forward and difficult texts in order to become adept at zeroing in on the piece, the author, his or her aim, and his or her strategies as a matter of course when encountering a new text
- Encourage students to form and share their own aesthetic sensibility, choosing favorite pieces and being able to articulate why a piece resonates with them

**Sample Performance-based/Standards-based Task(s):**

The practice of writing a rhetorical précis ([http://oregonstate.edu/instruct/phl201/modules/rhetorical-precis/sample/peirce\\_sample\\_precis\\_click.html](http://oregonstate.edu/instruct/phl201/modules/rhetorical-precis/sample/peirce_sample_precis_click.html)) is one way to become adept at quickly identifying the key features of a text. To isolate and scaffold the ability to determine author’s purpose, it may be useful to require students to determine basic elements of a text in a timed environment, where they are encouraged to learn to reliably spot key indicators and trust their own literary judgment. Provide students with a set of three essays (released essays from the AP Language and Composition exam are of the appropriate length [less than a page] and work well for this purpose). Create a template that requires students to identify: title, author, date of publication, author’s purpose, author’s primary strategies, and intended audience. Allow students to complete this exercise within a defined time limit over repeated events (for example, as an opening sponge once a week for a month).

**Suggested Key Terms for Teaching and Learning:**

Perspective	Narrative Voice	Précis	Rhetoric	Analysis	Logical Fallacy	Apostrophe	Antithesis
Pathos	Logos	Ethos	Syllogism	Tautology	Parallel Structure	Anaphora	Chiasmus



<b>American Literature GSE</b>
<b>Reading Informational (RI)</b>
<b>ELAGSE11-12RI7: Integrate and evaluate multiple sources of information presented in different media or formats (e.g., visually, quantitatively) as well as in words in order to address a question or solve a problem.</b>

**Skills/Concepts for Students:**

- Acquire and review vocabulary relevant to multiple types of text (statistical, graphic, elements of visual rhetoric, etc.)
- Analyze and explain the structures and elements of nonfiction works of American literature, such as letters, journals and diaries, speeches, and essays
- Become a more sophisticated, analytic, and thoughtful reader-interpreter of images
- Continue to acquire expertise in digital formats as they evolve over time
- Use multiple types of information in problem solving, integrating information, and evaluating for credibility

**Instructional Strategies for Teachers:**

- Provide explicit instruction and scaffolding as necessary for the skills and concepts students should acquire for RI7 American Literature (see above)
- Provide opportunities for students to acquire text in multiple formats
- Require students to reverse-engineer synthesis essays that have been compiled from multiple sources from a variety of formats, using citations to trace elements of argument or exposition back to source, and observe how the evidence was woven together by the author
- Acquire knowledge of and use all available current technologies in short and extended research projects
- Be creative in locating resources to use, including personal interviews, primary source documents, archival footage, recordings, etc.

**Sample Performance-based/Standards-based Task(s):**

Direct students to PBS’s “StoryCorp” site, where they will find hundreds of first person accounts of the lives and times of ordinary Americans. The stories are presented in an audio format and are usually accompanied by photographs. Allow students to experience several of the stories, eventually choosing a favorite on which to focus. The student will listen to his or her chosen focus piece several times, taking notes to allow him or her to incorporate textual evidence into his final project. Students will then research contextual information from other sources (for example, if the story is about survival through Hurricane Katrina, the student might gather factual evidence about the storm, locate the story-teller’s location on a map, pull newspaper headlines corroborating parts of her story, etc.). Students will present their final project in the form of a Prezi or PowerPoint that incorporates the StoryCorp piece with the contextual research, including all appropriate citations.

**Suggested Key Terms for Teaching and Learning:**

Multimodal	Media/Medium	Digital	Aural/Auditory	Visual
Visual Rhetoric	Symbol	Icon	Contrast	Compare
Aesthetic	Rhetorical	Abridged	Cinema/Film	

	<b>American Literature GSE</b>
	<b>Reading Informational (RI)</b>
	<b>ELAGSE11-12RI8: Delineate and evaluate the reasoning in seminal U.S. texts, including the application of constitutional principles and use of legal reasoning (e.g., in U.S. Supreme Court majority opinions and dissents) and the premises, purposes, and arguments in works of public advocacy (e.g., The Federalist, presidential addresses).</b>

**Skills/Concepts for Students:**

- Acquire and review fundamental knowledge of U.S. history and foundational documents, including constitutional principles
- Compare strategies and reasoning employed in various seminal U.S. documents, identifying similarities and differences
- Analyze and explain the structures and elements of nonfiction works of American literature, such as letters, journals and diaries, speeches, and essays
- Identify author’s biases, both subtle and overt, including implicit or explicit assumptions
- Analyze and evaluate the logic and use of evidence in an author’s argument
- Readily distinguish important facts from extraneous details
- Use the concepts of inductive and deductive reasoning and syllogism in argument analysis
- Consistently and readily identify logical fallacies as well as reliable and well-supported arguments
- Summarize without editorial bias, and recognize editorial bias in the writings of others
- Understand the various purposes of rhetoric, both positive and negative (for example, propaganda and misinformation, as well as inspiration)
- Acquire or review knowledge of basic rhetorical strategies and appeals (such as pathos, logos, and ethos)
- Understand the concept of claim and counter-claim and audience as well as author bias
- Understand the functions of diction, syntax, organizational structure, and other literary elements in the construction of persuasive and powerful argument

**Instructional Strategies for Teachers:**

- Provide explicit instruction and scaffolding as necessary for the skills and concepts students should acquire for RI8 American Literature (see above)
- Consider displaying a timeline of U.S. history in the classroom for reference
- Examine themes of conformity, rebellion, individualism, and other driving themes in foundational documents
- Model how to summarize and paraphrase difficult documents
- Compare and contrast popular rhetorical strategies as they have evolved over time
- Conduct quantitative analyses of the structure and vocabulary (text complexity) of historical documents to modern informational documents
- Require text evidence for all claims and inferences asserted in class, whether in writing or in discussion

**Sample Performance-based/Standards-based Task(s):**

This standard requires the application of constitutional principles in understanding the reasoning in foundational U.S. documents. Constitutional principles are generally considered to include popular sovereignty, limited government, the separation of powers, the power of the courts to determine whether the government is acting within its proper limits, and “federalism,” or the distribution of power on a territorial basis (state and local governments). Have students choose one document considered to be a “seminal U.S. text” such as a Supreme Court Decision, Amendment to the Constitution, etc., and create an analysis based on evidence from the text that determines that text’s adherence to the constitutional principles. An extension of this activity could include research into the evolutionary ramifications of that document into modern times (did the decision/amendment/etc. prove in fact to perform as expected?).

**Suggested Key Terms for Teaching and Learning:**

Constitutional Principles  
Claim  
Seminal

Legal Reasoning  
Counter-claim  
Foundational

Evaluation  
Advocacy  
Principle

Analysis  
Opinion

Author's  
Dissent

Purpose  
Address

Argument

	<b>American Literature RL/RI</b>
	<b>Reading Informational (RI)</b>
	<b>ELAGSE11-12RI9: Analyze foundational U.S. documents of historical and literary significance (including The Declaration of Independence, the Preamble to the Constitution, the Bill of Rights, and Lincoln’s Second Inaugural Address) for their themes, purposes, and rhetorical features. For British Literature, American Literature, and Multicultural Literature use comparable documents of historical significance.</b>

**Skills/Concepts for Students:**

- Analyze and explain the structures and elements of nonfiction works of American literature such as letters, journals and diaries, speeches, and essays
- Analyze and evaluate the logic and use of evidence in an author’s argument
- Analyze, evaluate, and apply knowledge of the ways authors use language, style, syntax, and rhetorical strategies for specific purposes in nonfiction works
- Readily distinguish important facts from extraneous details
- Use the concepts of inductive and deductive reasoning and syllogism in argument analysis
- Consistently and readily identify logical fallacies as well as reliable and well-supported arguments
- Understand the various purposes of rhetoric, both positive and negative (for example, propaganda and misinformation, as well as inspiration)
- Acquire or review knowledge of basic rhetorical strategies and appeals (such as pathos, logos, and ethos)
- Understand the concept of claim and counter-claim and audience as well as author bias
- Understand the functions of diction, syntax, organizational structure, and other literary elements in the construction of persuasive and powerful argument

**Instructional Strategies for Teachers:**

- Provide explicit instruction and scaffolding as necessary for the skills and concepts students should acquire for RI9 American Literature (see above)
- Explore themes, ideas, and attitudes common to specific periods of American history
- Compare, contrast, and analyze the treatment of related themes, concepts, and rhetorical devices in foundational U.S. documents of the seventeenth-, eighteenth- and nineteenth- centuries
- Require text evidence for all claims and inferences asserted in class, whether in writing or in discussion
- Consider displaying a timeline of U.S. history in the classroom for reference
- Examine themes of conformity, rebellion, individualism, and other driving themes in foundational documents
- Require students to summarize and paraphrase difficult documents, including writing précis
- Compare and contrast popular rhetorical strategies as they have evolved over time

**Sample Performance-based/Standards-based Task(s):**

Have students choose one of the founding fathers (John Adams, Benjamin Franklin, Alexander Hamilton, John Jay, Thomas Jefferson, James Madison, or George Washington) and conduct an analysis of 3 essays, letters, diary entries, or other document produced by that individual. The student will compile a “rhetorical profile” of that writer based on cited textual evidence, making warranted inferences about the attitudes, temperament, and style of that individual as a writer. Students will then choose a partner with whom to compare analyses. This exercise can be interesting both in a comparison between two different individuals, and in the comparative analyses of a single individual.

**Suggested Key Terms for Teaching and Learning:**

Revolution	Seminal	Foundational	Founding	Framers
Bias Fallacy	Logical Fallacies	Rhetorical Devices	Preamble	Evidence
Support	Logos	Ethos	Pathos	Syllogism
Induction	Deduction	Aristotelian Triangle	Rights	
Amendment				

	<b>American Literature RL/RI</b>
	<b>Reading Informational (RI)</b>
	<b>ELAGSE11-12RI10: By the end of grade 11, read and comprehend literary nonfiction in the grades 11-CCR text complexity band proficiently, with scaffolding as needed at the high end of the range. By the end of grade 11, read and comprehend literary nonfiction in the grades 11-College and Career text complexity band independently and proficiently.</b>

**Skills/Concepts for Students:**

- Read a variety of informational text closely, both independently and within the classroom
- Use annotation and note-taking to enhance comprehension of texts under consideration and keep well organized resources useful for review
- Read assigned works, but also read proactively and independently
- Choose works from multiple genres, cultures, and literary periods
- Consider keeping a notebook of texts read over time, with notes, annotations, and any relevant student work produced

**Instructional Strategies for Teachers:**

- Choose texts of appropriate complexity
- Require reading through multiple modes: group, pairs, individual, in class, out of class, via digital mediums, etc.
- Provide scaffolding on difficult texts through commentary and interpretation, group discussion, complementary visual texts, and professional annotations as appropriate
- Require specific textual evidence for all claims and inferences about texts, even in informal discussion

**Sample Performance-based/Standards-based Task(s):**

Conference with students to set personal literacy goals appropriate to each individual, including a suggested reading list (this list should include varieties of engaging informational text to encourage the student to make choices from informational as well as literary genres). Encourage students to brainstorm about types of informational text they might enjoy, such as *Motor Sports* magazine, various high-interest documentary films, relevant memoirs, etc. Students can keep a notebook that includes notes and personal commentary on each text read over the course of the year, including any relevant analyses or other work produced in relation to given texts.

**Suggested Key Terms for Teaching and Learning:**

Literary	Fiction	Informational	Non-Fiction	Genre
Rhetoric	Summary	Analysis	Annotation	Evidence
Inference	Citation	Journal	Memoir	Periodical
Diction	Syntax	Literary Non-Fiction		

\*Incorporate vocabulary from all RI standards.



## American Literature GSE

### Writing (W)

#### **ELAGSE11-12W1: Write arguments to support claims in an analysis of substantive topics or texts, using valid reasoning and relevant and sufficient evidence.**

- a. Introduce precise, knowledgeable claim(s), establish the significance of the claim(s), distinguish the claim(s) from alternate or opposing claims, and create an organization that logically sequences claim(s), counterclaims, reasons, and evidence.
- b. Develop claim(s) and counterclaims fairly and thoroughly, supplying the most relevant evidence for each while pointing out the strengths and limitations of both in a manner that anticipates the audience's knowledge level, concerns, values, and possible biases.
- c. Use words, phrases, and clauses as well as varied syntax to link the major sections of the text, create cohesion, and clarify the relationships between claim(s) and reasons, between reasons and evidence, and between claim(s) and counterclaims.
- d. Establish and maintain a formal style and objective tone while attending to the norms and conventions of the discipline in which they are writing.
- e. Provide a concluding statement or section that follows from and supports the argument presented.

#### **Skills/Concepts for Students:**

- Produce a controlling thesis or idea that is precise and focused, controlling the content of your essay
- Readily distinguish the most appropriate supporting evidence from repetition or extraneous detail
- Readily distinguish valid reasoning from logical fallacy and understand the strategies used to create fallacies
- Consistently identify and use sufficient evidence based on the nature of argument or claim
- Effectively address audience bias and counter-claims
- Consistently choose the most effective organizational structure for argument or claim (comparison/contrast, logical order, etc.)
- Effectively employ persuasive rhetorical strategies
- Use transitions effectively
- Exhibit knowledge of formal manuscript styles including MLA and APA, and create citations accordingly
- Consistently use effective and unique strategies for conclusion, avoiding simple restatement or introduction of new ideas

#### **Instructional Strategies for Teachers:**

- Provide engaging, stimulating, and relevant text-based topics for argumentation
- Vary writing assignments to include both short and sustained projects, researched argumentation, group projects, and multi-modal writing
- Require formal manuscript styles on some assignments, including formal works cited pages and appropriately formatted citations
- Require specific textual evidence for all claims and supporting evidence, including formal and

informal writing and discussion

- Point out persuasive strategies in everyday discourse (for instance, when students argue against weekend homework)
- Include the study of and writing of literary criticism as a type of argumentative writing

**Sample Performance-based/Standards-based Task(s):**

One effective way to write great argumentative essays is to study and deconstruct great argumentative essays. Students will reverse-engineer Thomas Payne’s “Thoughts on the Current State of American Affairs” from *Common Sense*. Widely acknowledged as one of the great arguments in American History, this document will take serious consideration to deconstruct (for a shorter task, use Patrick Henry’s famous “Give Me Liberty or Give me Death” speech). Students will create a graphic organizer of the speech showing theme, topics of each text section, primary claims, counter-claims, and supporting evidence. A second step in the process would be to identify, though notation, which claims (if any) are unsupported or fallacious and to identify the type of appeal (pathos, logos, ethos). Students will use the basic outline and structure of the famous argument/speech to create an essay of their own, using the structure and rhetoric of the masterful original. The student essays will also be on the topics of the text (the current state of affairs in America, or liberty for American citizens), but will frame the argument in terms of modern circumstances. Students will cite references to the original text (if quoted or employed) and/or cite facts and evidenced from texts used to support their essay.

**Suggested Key Terms for Teaching and Learning:**

Argument	Persuasion	Claim	Counter-claim	Diction
Support	Citation	Annotation	Transition	Thesis
Syntax	Structure	Organization	Closure	Pathos
Syllogism	Tautology	Fallacy	Rhetorical Strategy	
Logos	Ethos	Appeal	Evidence	



## American Literature GSE

### Writing (W)

**ELAGSE11-12W2: Write informative/explanatory texts to examine and convey complex ideas, concepts, and information clearly and accurately through the effective selection, organization, and analysis of content.**

- a. Introduce a topic; organize complex ideas, concepts, and information so that each new element builds on that which precedes it to create a unified whole; include formatting (e.g., headings), graphics (e.g., figures, tables), and multimedia, when useful to aiding comprehension.
- b. Develop the topic thoroughly by selecting the most significant and relevant facts, extended definitions, concrete details, quotations, or other information and examples appropriate to the audience's knowledge of the topic.
- c. Use appropriate and varied transitions and syntax to link the major sections of the text, create cohesion, and clarify the relationships among complex ideas and concepts.
- d. Use precise language, domain-specific vocabulary, and techniques such as metaphor, simile, and analogy to manage the complexity of the topic.
- e. Establish and maintain a formal style and objective tone while attending to the norms and conventions of the discipline in which they are writing.
- f. Provide a concluding statement or section that follows from and supports the information or explanation presented (e.g., articulating implications or the significance of the topic).

#### Skills/Concepts for Students:

- Be able to readily summarize texts, even passionately opinionated or technical texts, without editorial bias and recognize bias in the writing of others
- Analyze the interplay and progression of multiple ideas within a single theme or topic, and practice weaving multiple complementary ideas together in your own writing
- Consistently distinguish the most important facts from extraneous details and choose the best evidence available within a text to support claims
- Consistently choose the optimal structure in expository essays for maximum clarity and impact, including effective use of transition words and phrases
- Consistently use academic and technical vocabulary effectively; use sophisticated syntax
- Exhibit knowledge of the rules of major manuscript styles such as MLA and APA, including appropriate use of correctly formatted citations

#### Instructional Strategies for Teachers:

- Explore a variety of professional essays with students that illustrate the difference between reporting facts and expressing an opinion, paying special attention to types of text whose purpose may be unclear (biased news reporting, for instance)
- Construct newspapers and journalistic articles based on both literary and informational text
- Provide opportunities for both short and extended informative essay writing
- Use real world examples (for example, political debate) for whole-class discussions on the distinctions between fact and opinion, and the importance of critical analysis of information presented in various formats as fact, but without supporting evidence

**Sample Performance-based/Standards-based Task(s):**

One of the largest marketplaces of ostensibly unbiased informative/expository writing is the news media. In an exploration of the journalistic genre, students will work in teams to research and write a news show targeted at teens that uses research from a variety of reliable sources to compile news stories of interest for a teen audience. Students will write informative news pieces on current topics, citing textual references from source materials. An authentic readership may be found through production of a school newspaper, podcast, or YouTube news show.

**Suggested Key Terms for Teaching and Learning:**

Informative/Informational	Exposition/Expository	Topic	Thesis	Theme
Multimodal/multimedia	Transition	Manuscript	Diction	Syntax
Cohesion	Closure	Implication/inference	Structure	Organization
Journalism	Editorial	Source	Broadcast	Objectivity



## American Literature GSE

### Writing (W)

#### **ELAGSE11-12W3: Write narratives to develop real or imagined experiences or events using effective technique, well-chosen details, and well-structured event sequences.**

- a. Engage and orient the reader by setting out a problem, situation, or observation and its significance, establishing one or multiple point(s) of view, and introducing a narrator and/or characters; create a smooth progression of experiences or events.
- b. Use narrative techniques, such as dialogue, pacing, description, reflection, and multiple plot lines, to develop experiences, events, and/or characters.
- c. Use a variety of techniques to sequence events so that they build on one another to create a coherent whole and build toward a particular tone and outcome (e.g., a sense of mystery, suspense, growth, or resolution).
- d. Use precise words and phrases, telling details, and sensory language to convey a vivid picture of the experiences, events, setting, and/or characters.
- e. Provide a conclusion that follows from and reflects on what is experienced, observed, or resolved over the course of the narrative.

#### **Skills/Concepts for Students:**

- Effectively integrate elements of plot structure (exposition, rising action, climax, falling action, resolution) in narrative writing
- Understand and effectively employ appropriate structure and punctuation for dialogue
- Understand and effectively employ the elements of characterization, developing both static and dynamic/flat and round characters
- Understand nuanced elements of character such as tragic flaw or archetypal significance
- Be able to artfully use figurative language, imagery, sensory detail, and other literary devices to make stories realistic and engaging
- Be able to identify and employ traditional as well as *avant garde* organizational structures to ensure cohesion in narratives
- Use diction and syntax of appropriate sophistication for grade level, audience, and purpose

#### **Instructional Strategies for Teachers:**

- Always tie narrative writing opportunities to a text under consideration
- Purposefully choose texts to provide examples of strong characterization, nontraditional structures, and other literary elements with which students can experiment in their writing; ensure that they experiment with specific techniques, such as dialogue and flashback
- Because formal analysis and research papers will not require narrative writing, supplement narrative writing opportunities with daily routine writing
- Allow students to explore narrative styles by emulating the styles of favored authors for specific assignments
- Remember to require the same rigor and sophistication in narrative writing that is required in other grade-level appropriate texts

#### **Sample Performance-based/Standards-based Task(s):**

One of the reasons we read great literature is to gain insight into the human condition and, as C.S. Lewis put it, “To know that we are not alone.” One way to tie narrative writing to a text under consideration by the class is to have students write a considered text-based response explaining how that text has impacted their lives, resonated with a personal experience, or taught a lesson. Students should be encouraged to

bring a mature perspective to this writing, considering thematic and abstract issues, making connections and generalizing concepts.

**Suggested Key Terms Teaching and Learning:**

Exposition  
Denouement  
Character(ization)  
Pacing  
Voice/Narrative Voice

Rising Action  
Flashback  
Chapter  
Parallel plot  
Style

Climax  
Foreshadowing  
Epilogue  
Imagery  
Point of View

Falling Action  
In Media Res  
Prologue  
Figurative language  
Symbolism

Resolution  
Plot  
Conflict  
Sensory detail



## American Literature GSE

### Writing (W)

**ELAGSE11-12W4: Produce clear and coherent writing in which the development, organization, and style are appropriate to task, purpose, and audience. (Grade-specific expectations for writing types are defined in standards 1–3 above.)**

#### Skills/Concepts for Students:

- Write clearly and coherently, employing the elements of style in all genres of writing, including diction, syntax, tone, pacing, and attention to audience and purpose
- Understand and effectively use transitional words and phrases
- Use structure and organization, maintaining a focus and point of view relevant to purpose and genre, achieving maximum clarity and effectiveness across all genres
- Understand and effectively employ correct grammar and conventions of the English language, varying diction style as appropriate for audience and purpose
- Support statements and claims with anecdotes, descriptions, facts and statistics, and specific examples

#### Instructional Strategies for Teachers:

- Purposefully incorporate opportunities to write in all genres
- Provide frequent writing opportunities, both formal and routine, brief and extended
- Provide extensive and specific feedback on as much student writing as possible; avoid providing a grade without specific feedback via rubric, commentary, or both
- Require students to maintain a record of their writing throughout the year in the form of a portfolio or compendium
- Create opportunities throughout the year for retrospective review of writing to facilitate a recognition of progress and habits

#### Sample Performance-based/Standards-based Task(s):

In pairs, have students trade writing portfolios. Students will write a literary review of the collected works of the other student, which may or may not be facilitated by a template steering reviewers towards items for their attention (for example, students may be required to count the number of works in the portfolio, sort by genre or by quality, read at least 3 pieces in their entirety, and choose a favorite for commentary). An extension of this activity may include a study of literary criticism and allowing students to use a chosen critical lens to review their partner’s work (such as feminist, structuralist, etc.). Reviewing partners will complete the review template and produce a 250-500 word literary criticism of at least one extended essay in the partner’s portfolio.

#### Suggested Key Terms for Teaching and Learning:

Diction	Syntax	Style	Voice	Figurative language
Denotation	Connotation	Organization	Structure	Topic
Introduction	Fluency	Imagery	Sensory detail	Fact
Opinion	Evidence	Detail	Extraneous	Conventions



**American Literature GSE**

**Writing (W)**

**ELAGSE11-12W5: Develop and strengthen writing as needed by planning, revising, editing, rewriting, or trying a new approach, focusing on addressing what is most significant for a specific purpose and audience. (Editing for conventions should demonstrate command of Language standards 1–3 up to and including grades 11-12.)**

**Skills/Concepts for Students:**

- Cultivate the habit of drafting and meaningfully revising all written work, revising for improved logic, coherence, organization, controlling perspective, word choice, formality, and voice
- Understand and employ effective strategies for editing and revising (revising by element, reading aloud, reviewing with peers, etc.)
- Edit work for genre adherence (audience and purpose), and sharpen focus as appropriate
- Acquire and review sophisticated knowledge of grammar and conventions, and consistently avoid errors

**Instructional Strategies for Teachers:**

- Require students to use all steps of the writing process; collect both preliminary and final drafts, and award additional points for a well-revised original draft
- Use a consistent rubric and scoring system throughout the year and across grade levels, when possible
- Establish a clear understanding of difficult concepts, such as voice and style, so that students know and understand specifically what is included in and required of them in these categories
- Remember to include a writing element in all reading assignments and a reading component in all writing assignments, incorporating language and speaking/listening routinely

**Sample Performance-based/Standards-based Task(s):**

Provide students with writing rubrics from several authoritative sources (for example, Advanced Placement/CollegeBoard, Six Traits, Purdue OWL, etc.). Have students work in pairs or teams to statistically analyze the elements in the rubrics. Which elements are consistently represented? Which are specific only to one “brand” of rubric? Which items consistently garner the largest number of points in the aggregate score? Which subcategories of skills are listed within the common elements? Based on the statistical analysis and language/evidence from the rubrics, students will create a review and revision checklist based on an holistic consideration of all the rubrics, creating a list that will guide students in their own revision process.

**Suggested Key Terms for Teaching and Learning:**

Peer  
Rubric  
Topic

Edit  
Fluency  
Thesis

Review  
Organization  
Theme

Style  
Diction  
Revise

Voice  
Syntax  
Publish



## American Literature GSE

### Writing (W)

**ELAGSE11-12W6: Use technology, including the Internet, to produce, publish, and update individual or shared writing products in response to ongoing feedback, including new arguments or information.**

#### Skills/Concepts for Students

- Publish your work routinely, both to your classmates and digitally to the general public, including posting your films, blogs, podcasts, and Prezis as well as creating wikis, websites, and other bases from which your information can be accessed
- Acquire and proactively employ the latest digital trends for gathering and sharing information
- Suggest new technologies for the classroom, and encourage peers and instructors to explore new technologies
- Acquire and maintain keyboarding skills adequate to produce text in the quantities and within the time limits required

#### Instructional Strategies for Teachers:

- Incorporate digital media into the classroom at every opportunity, including maintaining a class website, blog, podcasts, wikis, or any other medium possible for the sharing of information and ideas both within the class cohort and beyond it
- Investigate opportunities to partner with other classrooms in remote locations, including internationally (many platforms exist to facilitate these connections)
- Partner with the media specialists in your school whenever possible
- Be proactive in learning about new technologies and in encouraging purchasing and training in new technologies whenever possible
- Learn from your students, the digital natives, about emerging technologies
- Share student work beyond the borders of the classroom whenever possible and appropriate

#### Sample Performance-based/Standards-based Task(s):

This standard requires students not only to incorporate technology into their writing and publishing, but to use that technology to solicit and incorporate feedback within the writing process. Use a web-based shared editing platform such as SkyDrive to allow students to conduct peer editing and review sessions with various partners (for example, partners in a classroom in another English speaking country). This exercise not only breaks down the walls of the classroom, allowing students to connect globally, but can also provide interesting insight into the level of rigor and formality in the writing of educational systems. Another interesting activity is to have students co-write and peer edit with a parent or relative via SkyDrive.

#### Suggested Key Terms for Teaching and Learning:

Multimedia	Digital	Multimodal	Internet	Podcast
Website	Wiki	Skype	Prezi	Platform
Flipchart	Promethean/Smart board	Programming language	Publish	Blog

	American Literature GSE
	Writing (W)
	ELAGSE11-12W7: Conduct short as well as more sustained research projects to answer a question (including a self-generated question) or solve a problem; narrow or broaden the inquiry when appropriate; synthesize multiple sources on the subject, demonstrating understanding of the subject under investigation.

**Skills/Concepts for Students:**

- Exhibit critical thinking skills; use rhetorical strategies appropriately and artfully; and use sophisticated academic, domain-related vocabulary
- Exhibit firm understanding of the concept of plagiarism and avoid it, citing all source material accurately
- Distinguish and cite only from credible sources, whether digital or textual, reliably avoiding sources that are not credible or reliable
- Know the basic differences between the major manuscript styles, and employ the formatting requirements of common manuscript styles, including MLA and APA, and format papers and citations appropriately
- Routinely weave cited material, quotations, inferences, and other support into research writing smoothly and coherently
- Consistently make good judgments in planning appropriately, adhering to goals and deadlines, and using research and writing time allotted efficiently

**Instructional Strategies for Teachers:**

- Require long-term, in-depth research inquiries to be completed that result in a formal paper strictly conforming to accepted manuscript style
- Require in-text citations, footnotes, running headers and footers, and other technical structural elements when appropriate
- Allow opportunities for both formal and informal research projects, including group and individual projects, short and sustained, formal and informal citation styles, etc.
- Encourage the incorporation of multimodal sources in research, including interviews, observations, texts, digital resources, films, etc., and discuss how citation styles vary for these media
- Choose topics of inquiry that are challenging, but also incorporate inquiries that are relevant and engaging to promote student interest; allow students to choose their own areas of focus when appropriate

**Sample Performance-based/Standards-based Task(s):**

To integrate unconventional research methods and venues, assign students an investigative research project involving interviews and field research. The topic must pertain to people, places, archives, and resources that the students will reasonably be able to access. For example, research into pollution on a local trailhead may include statistical research on the Forestry Service website, interviews with rangers and volunteers, personal observations, photojournalism, etc. Students will synthesize their final research paper from multi-modal sources, incorporating all elements smoothly and effectively and citing appropriately.

**Suggested Key Terms for Teaching and Learning:**

Compile	Evaluate	Annotate	Citation	Digital
Synthesis	Inquiry	Credibility	Manuscript style	Header/Footer
Qualitative	Quantitative	Source	Archive	Plagiarism
Primary Source	Secondary Source	Interview	Observation	



## American Literature GSE

### Writing (W)

**ELAGSE11-12W8: Gather relevant information from multiple authoritative print and digital sources, using advanced searches effectively; assess the strengths and limitations of each source in terms of the task, purpose, and audience; integrate information into the text selectively to maintain the flow of ideas, avoiding plagiarism and overreliance on any one source and following a standard format for citation.**

#### Skills/Concepts for Students:

- Maintain appropriate focus in research, narrowing or broadening inquiry as appropriate, consistently avoiding digression and ineffective sources/strategies
- Employ an effective note-taking strategy, annotating sources for citation
- Distinguish and cite only from credible sources, whether digital or textual, reliably avoiding sources that are not credible or reliable
- Exhibit firm understand the concept of plagiarism and avoid it, citing all source material accurately
- Consistently distinguish between relevant facts and extraneous facts or details, choosing the most effective facts for support
- Be able to distinguish credible sources, whether digital or textual, from sources that are not credible or reliable
- Be familiar with common manuscript styles, including MLA and APA, and format papers and citations appropriately

#### Instructional Strategies for Teachers:

- Employ a formal note-taking style in the classroom, such as Cornell notes
- Encourage the incorporation of multimodal sources in research, including interviews, observations, texts, digital resources, films, etc., and discuss how citation styles vary for these media
- Reserve resources well in advance to ensure adequate access to resources such as media center, computers, and laboratories
- Examine indicators of credibility in resources, especially digital resources; teach the concept of peer review in scientific articles
- Teach major manuscript styles and require composition of citations without dependence on electronic citation generators

#### Sample Performance-based/Standards-based Task(s):

Students will produce a webquest (<http://webquest.org/index-create.php>) suitable for use by middle-grades students. During a unit of study with informational texts, students will synthesize the information learned (for example, the dangers of overconsumption of fast food, or the need for environmental conservation) into a thematic lesson with subject matter, structure, and content appropriate for younger students. Students will construct a webquest (either individually or in teams) that guides their audience through the lesson in an engaging and informative way. All information in the webquest must be text-based, support the claim/topic effectively, and be properly cited.

#### Suggested Key Terms for Teaching and Learning:

Digital	Multimedia	Citation	Annotation	Reliability
Credibility	Evaluation	Summarize	Paraphrase	Quote
Plagiarism	Relevant	Extraneous	Integrate	Manuscript style/format
Homepage	HTML	.org/.gov/.edu	Hyperlink	Search engine



## American Literature GSE

### Writing (W)

#### **ELAGSE11-12W9: Draw evidence from literary or informational texts to support analysis, reflection, and research.**

- a. Apply grades 11–12 Reading standards to literature (e.g., “Demonstrate knowledge of eighteenth-, nineteenth- and early-twentieth-century foundational works of American literature, including how two or more texts from the same period treat similar themes or topics”).
- b. Apply grades 11–12 Reading standards to literary nonfiction (e.g., “Delineate and evaluate the reasoning in seminal U.S. texts, including the application of constitutional principles and use of legal reasoning [e.g., in U.S. Supreme Court Case majority opinions and dissents) and the premises, purposes, and arguments in works of public advocacy (e.g., *The Federalist*, presidential addresses]”).

#### **Skills/Concepts for Students:**

- Demonstrate expertise in the concepts of analysis and synthesis, and apply these parameters in responding intelligently to literature and informational text
- Understand and effectively analyze the literary elements that should be examined in a literary analysis essay (diction, syntax, tone, mood, imagery, figurative language, etc.)
- Understand and effectively analyze the informational and rhetorical elements that should be examined in an informational analysis essay (diction, syntax, structure, logical fallacies, syllogism, pathos, logos, ethos, peer review, etc.)
- Distinguish theme(s) and trace development of theme through aggregation of facts, characters, events, etc.
- Maintain the practice of requiring evidence and support for any claim presented to you, and of providing evidence and support for any claim you assert

#### **Instructional Strategies for Teachers:**

- Maintain the practice of requiring text-based evidence and support for all claims, inferences, and assertions proposed in the classroom, whether formal or informal
- Share effective student models of analysis essays
- Require reliable and easily-referenced knowledge of extensive grade-appropriate list of literary and rhetorical terms
- Incorporate the study of popular literary criticism to scaffold the concept of text analysis

#### **Sample Performance-based/Standards-based Task(s):**

Following the completion of a novel study, have the students undertake the reading of a complementary text independently (for example, *Jane Eyre* by Charlotte Bronte and *Wuthering Heights* by Emily Bronte, both of which deal with unrequited love and are representative of the concept of the *Bildungsroman*). Have the students conduct an in-depth comparison and contrast of the novels and their unique treatments of similar themes. Using specific evidence from the texts, students will construct a coherent analysis that adheres to an organizational structure (comparison by subject, by chapter, by character, etc.) that makes the writer’s points clear. An extension of this activity could be the delineation and evaluation of the elements of *Bildungsroman* in both books.

#### **Suggested Key Terms for Teaching and Learning:**

Genre  
Analysis

Literary  
Criticism

Informational  
Evaluation

Rhetoric  
Citation

Synthesis  
Evidence



## American Literature GSE

### Writing (W)

**ELAGSE11-12W10: Write routinely over extended time frames (time for research, reflection, and revision) and shorter time frames (a single sitting or a day or two) for a range of tasks, purposes, and audiences.**

#### Skills/Concepts for Students:

- Maintain a routine writing practice, both within the classroom and independently, experimenting with genre
- Read and study writers whose styles you enjoy and admire, emulating stylistic elements useful to you
- Acquire and maintain adequate keyboarding skills to write effectively within given time frames
- Practice maintaining focus on prolonged projects, writing or working a little each day on a larger project over time
- Maintain a portfolio of your written work, not only for reflection but as a resource for ideas, work samples, college applications, etc.

#### Instructional Strategies for Teachers:

- Provide frequent writing opportunities, both formal and routine, brief and extended
- Provide extensive and specific feedback on as much student writing as possible; avoid providing a grade without specific feedback via rubric, commentary, or both
- Require students to maintain a record of their writing throughout the year in the form of a portfolio or compendium
- Create opportunities throughout the year for retrospective review of writing to facilitate a recognition of progress and habits
- Vary the requirements for tasks to include type-written and hand-written pieces, long and short pieces, research

#### Sample Performance-based/Standards-based Task(s):

See sample tasks provided for ELAGSE9-10W1 through ELAGSE9-10W9 for suggestions on implementation of routine, research, and analysis writing in Grades 11-12.

#### Suggested Key Terms for Teaching and Learning:

Diction	Syntax
Denotation	Connotation
Introduction	Fluency
Opinion	Evidence
Incorporate all relevant vocabulary from previous standards	

	<b>American Literature GSE</b>
	<b>Speaking and Listening (SL)</b>
	<p><b>ELACC11-12SL1: Initiate and participate effectively in a range of collaborative discussions(one-on-one, in groups, and teacher-led) with diverse partners on grades 11-12 topics, texts, and issues, building on others’ ideas and expressing their own clearly and persuasively.</b></p> <p>a. Come to discussions prepared, having read and researched material under study; explicitly draw on that preparation by referring to evidence from texts and other research on the topic or issue to stimulate a thoughtful, well-reasoned exchange of ideas.</p> <p>b. Work with peers to set rules for collegial discussions and decision-making, set clear goals and deadlines, and establish individual roles as needed.</p> <p>c. Propel conversations by posing and responding to questions that probe reasoning and evidence; ensure a hearing for a full range of positions on a topic or issue; clarify, verify, or challenge ideas and conclusions; and promote divergent and creative perspectives.</p> <p>d. Respond thoughtfully to diverse perspectives; synthesize comments, claims, and evidence made on all sides of an issue; resolve contradictions when possible; and determine what additional information or research is required to deepen the investigation or complete the task.</p>

**Skills/Concepts for Students:**

- Exhibit poise and confidence in interaction with peers and adults in a variety of settings and on a variety of subjects
- Incorporate information into your view or position when appropriate, revising your position when evidence suggests and resolving contradictions
- Proactively seek out opportunities to interact with peers and mentors, volunteering and initiating opportunities
- Make eye contact, speak loudly enough to be heard, and shake hands or make introductions in a mature manner
- Exhibit the ability to present information to a group or audience in a professional and polished manner
- Be courteous and attentive, taking turns and setting goals as appropriate
- Exhibit a mature perspective on diverse cultures and points of view
- Always provide evidence and support for positions, claims, and assertions you make, whether formally or informally
- Treat conversation as a skill, preparing for discourse by learning about diverse perspectives and subjects and eliciting comments from others
- Thoughtfully incorporate what you learn from listening to and speaking with others to shape your own world views

**Instructional Strategies for Teachers:**

- Provide opportunities for students to present material, not only to peers but to a wider audience
- Proactively construct situations where students will have the opportunity to revise their opinions or positions based on new evidence
- Proactively provide situations where contradictions exist in presented evidence, guiding students in satisfactorily resolving the contradictions when possible

- Invite diverse guest speakers to interact with the class
- Assign tasks that require individual work, but also those that require meaningful collaboration in pairs and larger teams, understanding that larger teams of students will require more and better strategic planning
- Model mature and confident interaction, soliciting and expecting appropriate responses from students
- Be aware that occasionally students will demur, claiming to be “too shy” to participate or present; avoid the tendency to give these students a pass or refrain from calling on them; make sure every student meets the standard

**Sample Performance-based/Standards-based Task(s):**

In the context of a study of informational texts on national issues, convene a mock session of congress. Students will draft bills, determine political leanings, and learn the ins and outs of parliamentary procedure. Students will take notes, creating annotations and citations to support their actions and proposals within the congress. Parliamentary procedure will be followed, for example requesting, “Will the Representative yield to a question?” before interjecting a question. A legislative agenda should be prepared, and bills will be debated and considered as time allows.

**Recommended Suggested Key Terms for Teaching and Learning:**

Diverse  
Evidence  
Paraphrase

Verbal  
Exchange  
Evidence

Visual  
Collegial  
Explicit

Multimedia  
Discussion  
Implicit

Diction  
Summarize  
Consensus

	<b>American Literature GSE</b>
	<b>Speaking and Listening (SL)</b>
	<b>ELACC11-12SL2: Integrate multiple sources of information presented in diverse formats and media (e.g., visually, quantitatively, orally) in order to make informed decisions and solve problems, evaluating the credibility and accuracy of each source and noting any discrepancies among the data.</b>

**Skills/Concepts for Students:**

- Evaluate the strategies used by the media to inform, persuade, and entertain
- Analyze information from multiple sources, particularly media sources, to identify bias and “spin”; define the differences that exist between information from various sources
- Understand and practice the concept of synthesis in weaving together ideas to present a case or claim (understanding the commonalities between ideas presented in diverse media and emphasizing those commonalities in support or your point)
- Routinely evaluate all sources, especially websites, for credibility, understanding what the indicators of credibility are
- Routinely evaluate sources for accuracy when appropriate (for example, a site may be credible, but may contain a typo making 1,000 into 10,000)

**Instructional Strategies for Teachers:**

- Require multiple media and format in source materials (for example, a research project may require 2 interviews, 3 peer reviewed journals, 1 resource text, and 2 digital sources, such as websites)
- Provide multiple opportunities to think critically about biased representations in the media, allowing students to analyze and draw conclusions about how the media skews information and the strategies they use to accomplish this
- Practice and model synthesis and integration with students; “Data Based Questions” used in the social sciences make good prompts for practicing the integration of sources (this can be investigated in team planning across the content areas)
- Routinely provide students with multiple resources to evaluate that contain resources you know to be inaccurate or not credible so that students have experience with spotting these
- Consider providing (or constructing as a class) a resource evaluation checklist or template that might include tips such as checking for the domain of the site (.edu or .org, for example), date of last update, or credentials of the webmaster.

**Sample Performance-based/Standards-based Task(s):**

In teams, students will choose an “infomercial” on which to conduct a brief research inquiry and fact check. If possible, allow students to purchase or borrow the product to test the advertising claims. If conducting tests on product veracity (for example, an acne medicine) a scientific log or field notebook should be kept. Students will use scientific methods to test the products and claims (for example, measuring exactly how much liquid the “ShamWow” towel holds compared to a conventional towel). Students will write an evaluation of the veracity of the infomercial’s claims based on text evidence derived from their own research and from credible sources.

**Recommended Suggested Key Terms for Teaching and Learning:**

Integrate	Diverse	Media	Qualitative	Quantitative
Credible	Accurate	Evaluate	Oral	Visual
Textual	digital	Summarize	Paraphrase	Cite



**American Literature GSE**

**Speaking and Listening (SL)**

**ELAGSE11-12SL3: Evaluate a speaker’s point of view, reasoning, and use of evidence and rhetoric, assessing the stance, premises, links among ideas, word choice, points of emphasis, and tone used.**

**Skills/Concepts for Students:**

- Analyze a speaker’s diction, syntax, figurative language, and rhetorical devices to make an evidence-based critique of his or her purpose and impact on the audience
- Synthesize multiple points or claims into an overarching theme, when applicable
- Use your knowledge of persuasive tactics and rhetoric to make a warranted estimation of a speaker’s position and biases, making a reasoned judgment of whether or not his or her claims are supported by evidence
- Consistently and effectively distinguish supporting evidence from repetition or extraneous detail
- Consistently and effectively distinguish valid reasoning from logical fallacy
- Understand what comprises sufficient evidence based on the nature of argument or claim
- Effectively address speaker bias and counter-claims
- Understand and effectively analyze a speaker’s use of rhetorical strategies (appeal to emotion or authority, for example), including fallacies (such as bandwagon)
- Make informed judgments about the impact of visual rhetoric and the use of lighting, camera angles, make up, clothing, etc.

**Instructional Strategies for Teachers:**

- Require students to know and reference a sophisticated glossary of literary and rhetorical terms in their analysis of a speaker or speech
- Encourage and provide opportunities to identify multiple (or contradictory) ideas within a larger theme
- Invite guest speakers to the classroom, watch political debates and news coverage, etc., to provide opportunities to identify rhetorical strategies in action
- Consider targeted instruction in types of logical fallacies
- Consider targeted instruction in inductive and deductive reasoning and syllogisms
- Require specific textual evidence for all claims and supporting evidence, including formal and informal writing and discussion, and train students to require evidence from any speaker who wishes to be considered accurate or credible
- Point out persuasive strategies in everyday discourse (for instance, when students argue against weekend homework)

**Sample Performance-based/Standards-based Task(s):**

Have students watch an archived presidential candidates’ debate from the 2011-2012 election cycle (all nationally televised debates are archived on the internet with transcripts). Students will choose one candidate whose performance they will analyze. Instead of fact checking, students will instead analyze the speaker’s rhetorical ability and appeal by examining his or her stance, premises, links among ideas, word choice, points of emphasis, and tone used. Students will write a one-page analysis of the speaker’s performance, identifying key ideas and strategies using evidence from the transcript to support claims and assertions.

**Suggested key Terms for Teaching and Learning:**

Argument	Persuasion	Claim	Counter-claim	Evidence
Support	Visual Rhetoric	Fallacy	Reasoning	Distortion
Spin	Point of view	Bias	Author’s purpose	Audience
Appeal	Pathos	Logos	Ethos	Diction
Syntax	Syllogism			

	<b>American Literature GSE</b>
	<b>Speaking and Listening (SL)</b>
	<b>ELAGSE11-12SL4: Present information, findings, and supporting evidence, conveying a clear and distinct perspective, such that listeners can follow the line of reasoning, alternative or opposing perspectives are addressed, and the organization, development, substance, and style are appropriate to purpose, audience, and a range or formal and informal tasks.</b>

**Skills/Concepts for Students:**

- Ensure that your topic, theme, or controlling idea is coherently stated at the outset of your presentation, and your perspective and stance are evident
- Address counter-claims and opposing perspectives in a way that supports and enhances your perspective
- Consistently make eye contact and speak loudly enough to be heard
- Exhibit the ability to confidently present information to a group or audience
- Effectively distinguish between circumstances calling for formal language and those calling for less formal language
- Routinely provide evidence and support for positions, claims, and assertions you make, whether formally or informally
- Effectively distinguish supporting evidence from repetition or extraneous detail
- Effectively and consistently distinguish valid reasoning from logical fallacy
- Understand what comprises sufficient evidence based on the nature of argument or claim
- Understand and effectively employ persuasive rhetorical strategies

**Instructional Strategies for Teachers:**

- Emphasize and illustrate the importance of counter-claims
- Have students peer review one another’s papers to conduct a spot check for clarity of theme and perspective (if a partner cannot identify the main idea and perspective of a paper within a minute, it is not clear enough)
- Provide opportunities for students to present material not only to peers but to a wider audience
- Model mature and confident interaction, soliciting and expecting appropriate responses from students
- Be aware that occasionally students will demur, claiming to be “too shy” to participate or present; avoid the tendency to give these students a pass or refrain from calling on them; make sure every student meets the standard
- Provide engaging, stimulating, and relevant text-based topics for speakers to present on
- Require specific textual evidence for all claims and supporting evidence, including formal and informal writing and discussion
- Point out rhetorical strategies in everyday discourse (for instance, when students argue against weekend homework)

**Sample Performance-based/Standards-based Task(s):**

In order to become adept at identifying stance, perspective, and main idea of presented findings, allow students to peruse a set of documents (such as a collection of 10 abstracts for scientific findings presented in journals, or 10 editorials from the newspaper). In a timed environment, require students to identify the main idea, author’s perspective, target audience, style, counter-claims, and reasoning in each piece.

**Suggested Key Terms for Teaching and Learning:**

Presentation	Media	Speaker	Audience	Discourse
Task	Purpose	Substance	Style	Evidence
Support	Presence	Eye contact	Concise	Reasoning
Bias	Counter-claim	Perspective	Stance	Alternative

	<b>American Literature GSE</b>
	<b>Speaking and Listening (SL)</b>
	<b>ELAGSE11-12SL5: Make strategic use of digital media (e.g., textual, graphical, audio, visual, and interactive elements) in presentations to enhance understanding of findings, reasoning, and evidence and to add interest.</b>

**Skills/Concepts for Students:**

- Build on knowledge of the latest digital trends for gathering and sharing information
- Suggest new technologies for the classroom, and encourage peers and instructors to explore new technologies
- Be proactive in seeking out opportunities to publish your work, both to your classmates and digitally to the general public, including posting your films, blogs, podcasts, and Prezis and creating wikis, websites, and other bases through which your information can be accessed
- Consider the word “strategic” in the standard; make considered decisions about when and how to use digital media for maximum impact

**Instructional Strategies for Teachers:**

- Incorporate digital media into the classroom at every opportunity including maintaining a class website, blog, podcasts, wikis, or any other medium possible for the sharing of information and ideas both within the class cohort and beyond it
- Make the incorporation of digital media a required element in many assignments
- Be proactive in learning about new technologies, and encouraging purchasing and training in new technologies whenever possible
- Learn from your students, the digital natives, about emerging technologies
- Share student work beyond the borders of the classroom whenever possible and appropriate

**Sample Performance-based/Standards-based Task(s):**

Facilitate an interactive web-based collaboration between your students and a class of students from another country. Invite an English-speaking class to act as audience for a planned set of presentations (various avenues for creating these connections already exist, for example One World Classroom at <http://www.ccpb.com/> ). The guest students may be provided rubrics or comment templates on which to write their commentary of your students’ presentations. Ideally, some collaboration will establish a topic of mutual instructional interest (a study of the same novel the other class is reading, for example). In response, your class can act as evaluators for the guest class’s presentations.

**Suggested Key Terms for Teaching and Learning:**

Multimedia	Digital	Multimodal	Internet	Podcast
Website	Wiki	Skype	Prezi	Platform
Flipchart	Promethean/Smart board	Programming language	Publish	Blog

	American Literature GSE
	Speaking and Listening (SL)
	ELAGSE11-12SL6: Adapt speech to a variety of contexts and tasks, demonstrating a command of formal English when indicated or appropriate. (See grades 11–12 Language standards 1 and 3 for specific expectations.)

**Skills/Concepts for Students:**

- Exhibit expertise in the rules of standard English, consistently avoiding mistakes in agreement and tense and other common conventions of use
- Bring judgment and critical thought to the considered use of formal and informal English, carefully considering the appropriate discourse for a given occasion
- Routinely go to reference materials to refresh knowledge of particulars of use, such as which titles are underlined and which are in quotations, or when to capitalize “father” or “east”

**Instructional Strategies for Teachers:**

- By grades 11 and 12, it is appropriate to demand a very high level of expertise in spelling, grammar, conventions, and punctuation
- Explore creative ways to incorporate grammar and conventions into daily instruction
- Refer often to the ELAGSE “Language Progressive Skills Chart” which delineates the course of instruction for common grammar and conventions principles
- Purposefully designate opportunities in which informal, colloquial, or dialectic speech may be acceptable (for example, in informal discussion or story-telling)
- Purposefully design opportunities in which only formal, academic, domain-specific language is allowed

**Sample Performance-based/Standards-based Task(s):**

Have each student prepare a one-minute oral presentation on a topic related to a text under consideration by the class. Assign each student a different audience or language style in which to deliver his or her presentation. For example, if students are to talk for one minute about archetypal symbols in *The Hobbit*, have one gear their presentation to small children, one to a Ph.D. level class of academics; have one attempt to script their presentation in Elfish, have another speak in modern American slang (appropriate) or Old English. Lead students in a discussion of the radical impact language, dialect, and audience awareness can have on a presentation.

**Suggested Key Terms for Teaching and Learning:**

Colloquial  
Grammar

Dialect  
Conventions

Discourse  
Standard

Formal  
Non-Standard

Informal

	<b>American Literature GSE</b>
	<b>Language (L)</b>
	<b>ELAGSE11-12L1: Demonstrate command of the conventions of standard English grammar and usage when writing or speaking.</b> a. Apply the understanding that usage is a matter of convention, can change over time, and is sometimes contested. b. Resolve issues of complex or contested usage, consulting references (e.g., <i>Merriam-Webster's Dictionary of English Usage</i> , <i>Garner's Modern American English</i> ) as needed.

**Skills/Concepts for Students:**

- Exhibit familiarity with common and more sophisticated rules of use, grammar, and conventions in Standard English, such as the parts of speech, agreement, antecedents, etc.
- Acquire a fundamental knowledge of the evolution of the English language over time (for example, that the English vocabulary has grown from 10,000 words in Shakespeare’s time to over 1 million words today)
- Acquire or review your understanding of what constitutes ultimate authority on matters of language usage (for example, the *New York Times* is often cited as the arbiter of accepted comma usage; there is no central decision-making body on the rules of Standard English, but there are several accepted authorities whose opinions hold sway, such as the *Oxford English Dictionary*)

**Instructional Strategies for Teachers:**

- Educate students on accepted authorities to consult for usage disputes (such as Strunk and White’s *Manual of Style*, or the *Oxford English Dictionary*), advising as to the unreliability of internet sources
- Consult the ELAGSE “Language Progressive Skills Chart” to plan continued instruction on key aspects of grammar and conventions through the higher grades
- Include explicit and implicit instruction on the language standards daily, always in connection to a text under consideration (never in isolation)
- At the 11 and 12 grade level, students may be able to experiment with using non-standard constructions to purposeful effect, but this should be undertaken advisedly (students must know and understand the rules they intend to bend)

**Sample Performance-based/Standards-based Task(s):**

Provide students with a list of current disputes in English grammar (this list can include preposition stranding, split infinitives, generic use of “you,” and gender neutrals). Students can prepare position papers, garnering all the current authoritative advice they can on a given subject and presenting the most current accepted positions on usage to the class. This activity, beyond being instruction, actively highlights the fact that the English language is constantly in flux. An extension of this activity might include research into the list of words added to the Oxford English Dictionary each year for the past five or ten years.

**Suggested Key Terms for Teaching and Learning:**

Standard Usage	Non-standard Contested	Grammar	Punctuation	Conventions
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	<b>American Literature GSE</b>
	<b>Language (L)</b>
	<b>ELAGSE11-12L2: Demonstrate command of the conventions of standard English capitalization, punctuation, and spelling when writing.</b> a. Observe hyphenation conventions. b. Spell correctly. c. Produces legible work that shows accurate spelling and correct use of the conventions of punctuation and capitalization.

**Skills/Concepts for Students:**

- Exhibit familiarity with rules and patterns of spelling in standard English
- Routinely consult reference materials for clarification when in doubt about a spelling
- In typing and when writing long hand, bring a mature, high-school level of consideration to the neatness and legibility of your work; illegible hand-writing can cost you precious points in SAT, AP, College entrance essays, and job applications
- Do not allow abbreviations common to digital media to adversely impact spelling in your formal writing
- Acquire and correctly use conventions related to hyphens

**Instructional Strategies for Teachers:**

- Consult the ELAGSE “Language Progressive Skills Chart” to plan continued instruction on key aspects of grammar and conventions through the higher grades
- Include explicit and implicit instruction on the language standards daily, always in connection to a text under consideration (never in isolation)
- Insist upon legibility in student work
- Provide a rubric on occasion for written work that focuses specifically on legibility, grammar, and conventions in order to provide students with pointed feedback in these areas

**Sample Performance-based/Standards-based Task(s):**

Using a text under consideration by the class, have students identify instances of hyphenation. If the text does not contain adequate examples, provide an appropriate text. Hyphenation usage can be complex and varied. Allow students to write a brief annotation in an appropriate text sample to exhibit their understanding of proper usage. Students should understand the differences between hyphens and dashes. For all language standards, it may be useful to allow students to conduct periodic peer reviews of one another’s work, grading a previously completed work by a rubric based only on neatness and conventions.

**Suggested Key Terms for Teaching and Learning:**

Abbreviation

Accuracy

Conventions

Hyphen

Dash

	<b>American Literature GSE</b>
	<b>Language (L)</b>
	<b>ELAGSE11-12L3: Apply knowledge of language to understand how language functions in different contexts, to make effective choices for meaning or style, and to comprehend more fully when reading or listening.</b> a. Vary syntax for effect, consulting references (e.g., Tufte's <i>Artful Sentences</i> ) for guidance as needed; apply an understanding of syntax to the study of complex texts when reading.

**Skills/Concepts for Students:**

- Understand the definition and concept of syntax (patterns of formation of sentences and phrases from words); when we refer to syntax, we are referring to the construction and length of sentences and their placement in relation to one another
- Acquire a strong knowledge of the types of sentence constructions one may employ to add variety to your writing (for example, think about the difference in impact on you as a reader when you read each of these three statements: I like cake. I like ice cream./While I enjoy ice cream, I prefer to eat it with cake./Cake. Ice cream. What difference does it make?)
- At a high-school level of sophistication, understand that language usage is a powerful cultural tool and that perceptions can, rightly or wrongly, be attached to language choices
- Take care to distinguish appropriately between venues requiring varying levels of formality; do not use texting abbreviations or parlance in formal or even semi-formal academic settings
- By Grades 11 and 12, be thoroughly familiar with what is meant by “manuscript style,” and know the basic requirements of APA and MLA styles

**Instructional Strategies for Teachers:**

- Because syntax is an area of focus in the grade 11-12 standards, spend some instructional time on this concept; many students repeat the word “syntax” throughout high school without ever developing a deep understanding of what it means and how it impacts their writing and speaking
- Require a formal manuscript style such as MLA or APA for at least a few papers each year
- Require students to construct stylistically accurate citations without the assistance of an electronic citation generator
- Use tact and perspective in considering colloquial and dialectic language, remembering that non-standard language is extremely prevalent in the digital age; this concept will require increasing attention as media become ever more prevalent in students’ lives
- Provide opportunities for students to write for a purposefully diverse array of audiences and purposes to allow exploration of various choices for meaning and style

**Sample Performance-based/Standards-based Task(s):**

In a text currently under consideration by the class, have students conduct a qualitative and quantitative analysis of the author’s syntax. Students may be able to find statistical resources on certain texts or may conduct their own by using various software that analyzes text. A simple analysis can be conducted by simply taking a sample excerpt of text and conducting a word count and sentence analysis (average words per sentence, average number of sentences per paragraph, numbers of simple, compound, complex, and compound/complex sentences, and common usages, such as introductory phrases, etc.). The qualitative aspect will be a text-based analysis of the connotative and tonal impact of the author’s syntactical choices.

**Suggested Key Terms for Teaching and Learning:**

Language	Context	Comprehension	Style	Conform
Style manual (ex: APA, MLA)	Syntax	Fluency	Construction	Phrase
Clause	Compound	Complex	Qualitative	Quantitative



## American Literature GSE

### Language (L)

**ELAGSE11-12L4: Determine or clarify the meaning of unknown and multiple-meaning words and phrases based on grades 11-12 reading and content, choosing flexibly from a range of strategies.**

- Use context (e.g., the overall meaning of a sentence, paragraph, or text; a word's position or function in a sentence) as a clue to the meaning of a word or phrase.
- Identify and correctly use patterns of word changes that indicate different meanings or parts of speech (e.g., *conceive*, *conception*, *conceivable*).
- Consult general and specialized reference materials (e.g., dictionaries, glossaries, thesauruses), both print and digital, to find the pronunciation of a word or determine or clarify its precise meaning, its part of speech, or its etymology, or its standard usage.
- Verify the preliminary determination of the meaning of a word or phrase (e.g., by checking the inferred meaning in context or in a dictionary).

#### Skills/Concepts for Students:

- Make effective use of reference materials, including digital references
- Avoid becoming overly dependent on electronic devices in determining correct spellings or grammatical constructions; these tools will not always be at hand in testing, interviewing, or speaking situations
- Always use your own resources (text, context, roots, word patterns) to determine meaning, or at least make an educated guess, before consulting reference materials in order to keep these skills sharp
- Proactively and independently continue to build your own vocabulary; an extensive vocabulary is one of the best indicators of a high score on SAT and ACT exams, as well as one of the best indicators of success in professional and academic discourse

#### Instructional Strategies for Teachers:

- Encourage students to use their own resources (see above) to at least make an attempt at guessing the meaning of a new word before accessing reference materials
- Routinely list and explore new words introduced through class texts
- Point out roots and patterns in unfamiliar words
- Have a variety of reference materials on hand other than digital resources so that students gain a working knowledge of the use of dictionaries, glossaries, thesauruses, and appendices.
- Review the construction of dictionary entries to ensure that students understand each part

#### Sample Performance-based/Standards-based Task(s):

During the time that a particular text is under consideration by the class, begin gleaning new, unusual, beautiful, complex, academic, or technical terms from the text. Alert your class that you will be listing these words and that you will be working them into your daily discourse with the class. Provide an incentive or reward for students who recognize when the word is used. Extra points may be awarded for a student's ability to cite the section or page of the text on which the word appeared its definition, etiology, or other salient information. Use these moments as opportunities to discuss how the meaning was or could have been ascertained, roots or context clues, spelling patterns, grammatically correct usage, or other useful information.

#### Suggested Key Terms for Teaching and Learning:

Definition	Context	Flexibility	Reference material	Noun
Verb	Adverb	Adjective	Interjection	Conjunction
Pronoun	Article	Pattern	Glossary	Thesaurus
Pronunciation	Etiology	Preliminary	Inference	Clarify

	<b>American Literature GSE</b>
	<b>Language (L)</b>
	<b>ELAGSE11-12L5: Demonstrate understanding of figurative language, word relationships, and nuances in word meanings.</b> a. Interpret figures of speech (e.g., hyperbole, paradox) in context and analyze their role in the text. b. Analyze nuances in the meaning of words with similar denotations.

**Skills/Concepts for Students:**

- Identify and analyze various types of figurative and connotative language (including sophisticated constructions such as satire, pun, irony, synecdoche, metonymy, etc.)
- Analyze the impact on text of literary elements such as imagery and figurative language
- Identify and analyze various sound devices (alliteration, assonance, consonance, onomatopoeia)
- Bring a high-school level of sophistication to the consideration of nuances of meaning in words (for example, close versus slam, or strut versus walk)

**Instructional Strategies for Teachers:**

- Guide students in identifying various types of figurative language; provide contextual examples
- Choose texts rich in figurative and connotative language
- Require students to translate figurative expressions into concrete language and vice versa
- Practice exploring connotations of common vocabulary as well as newer vocabulary

**Sample Performance-based/Standards-based Task(s):**

Using a poem under consideration by the class that is largely or entirely figuratively, have students rewrite the poem using only concrete and literal language. This exercise is only instructive in determining the impact of figurative language on the reader, but can also be useful in identifying the meaning, theme, audience, and/or purpose of a poem. Students will annotate the poem using evidence from the text and may read aloud both the original and translated versions to hear the difference in musicality and cadence.

**Suggested Key Terms for Teaching and Learning:**

Figurative	Literal	Connotation	Denotation	Metaphor
Simile	Personification	Hyperbole	Idiom	Alliteration
Juxtaposition	Onomatopoeia	Euphemism	Oxymoron	Nuance
Metaphor	Pun	Synecdoche	Metonymy	Paradox

	<b>American Literature GSE</b>
	<b>Language (L)</b>
	<b>ELAGSE11-12L6: Acquire and use accurately general academic and domain-specific words and phrases, sufficient for reading, writing, speaking, and listening at the college and career readiness level; demonstrate independence in gathering vocabulary knowledge when considering a word or phrase important to comprehension or expression.</b>

**Skills/Concepts for Students:**

- Be independent and proactive in the acquisition of new and ever more sophisticated vocabulary
- Exhibit foundational knowledge of roots, pre-fixes, suffixes, and other structural tools for decoding new vocabulary
- Understand and apply knowledge of the concepts of literal and figurative meaning
- Routinely differentiate between situations that require formal diction and those that do not
- Examine author’s purpose in word choice and be aware of your own purpose when choosing language
- Analyze the cumulative effect of diction on a text

**Instructional Strategies for Teachers:**

- Provide examples of language that illustrate both extreme formality and casual colloquialism, discussing contextual appropriateness and occasions for use of each
- Build vocabulary using a variety of strategies (resource materials, context, roots); you may require students to keep flash cards or databases of acquired vocabulary, especially technical and academic vocabulary
- Use both figurative/connotative language and literal/concrete language in lecture and discussion

**Sample Performance-based/Standards-based Task(s):**

See sample tasks provided for ELAGSE9-10L1 through ELAGSE9-10L5 for suggestions on implementation strategies to acquire new vocabulary, determine meaning, and make effective language choices

**Suggested Key Terms for Teaching and Learning:**

Figurative Academic Tone Include vocabulary from previous standards	Connotative Diction Impact	Literal Cumulative Vocabulary	Concrete Author’s purpose Comprehension	Technical Jargon Domain-specific
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# Revisions to GSE

*A comparison of the previous standards and the revised GSE*

## **Overview**

The following pages contain a comparison of items from the previous standards and the revised Georgia Standards of Excellence (GSE). This section is not meant to serve as the definitive guide to each of the GSE standards; that is provided in the previous section, entitled “Guidance,” along with skills, concepts, tasks, and strategies. In this section, you will find a side-by-side alignment that will highlight changes in focus or vocabulary and will alert you to standards that have been subsumed, changed, moved, or otherwise altered.

## Summary of Changes for English Language Arts (ELA) Standards

### Eleventh Grade – American Literature

This document identifies grade level changes for the 2015-2016 school year and beyond.

Current Standard 2014 - 2015	Revised Standard for 2015 – 2016 and beyond
<b>Reading Literary (RL)</b>	
<b>ELACCL11-12RL9:</b> Demonstrate knowledge of eighteenth-, nineteenth- and early twentieth-century foundational works of American literature, including how two or more texts from the same period treat similar themes or topics.	Demonstrate knowledge of eighteenth-, nineteenth- and early twentieth-century foundational works (of American Literature, British Literature, World Literature, or Multicultural Literature), including how two or more texts from the same period treat similar themes or topics.
<b>Reading Information (RI)</b>	
<b>ELACCL11-12RI9:</b> Analyze seventeenth-, eighteenth-, and nineteenth-century foundational U.S. documents of historical and literary significance (including The Declaration of Independence, the Preamble to the Constitution, the Bill of Rights, and Lincoln’s Second Inaugural Address) for their themes, purposes, and rhetorical features.	Analyze foundational U.S. documents of historical and literary significance (including The Declaration of Independence, the Preamble to the Constitution, the Bill of Rights, and Lincoln’s Second Inaugural Address) for their themes, purposes, and rhetorical features. For British Literature, American Literature, and Multicultural Literature use comparable documents of historical significance.

## LANGUAGE SKILLS PROGRESSION CHART

The following skills were marked with an asterisk (\*) and are included on the Language Progressive Skills chart for ELAGSE because they will require continued attention in higher grades as they are applied to increasingly sophisticated writing and speaking. Instructors in ALL grades should refer to the Language Progressive Skills Chart for progressive standards that **should be added** to the Language Strand for their grade.

STANDARD	GRADES											
	K	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9-10	11-12	
<b>ELAGSEKL5b.</b> Relate frequently occurring words to their antonyms (also synonyms/homographs in progression).												
<b>ELAGSE1L2c.</b> Use commas in dates and to separate single words in a series.						Subsumed by ELAGSe5L2a						
<b>ELAGSE1L1i.</b> Use frequently occurring prepositions.					Subsumed by ELAGSE4L1e							
<b>ELAGSE1L1g.</b> Use frequently occurring conjunctions.												
<b>ELAGSE3L1h.</b> Use coordinating and subordinating conjunctions.												
<b>ELAGSE3L1a.</b> Explain the function of nouns, pronouns, verbs, adjectives, and adverbs in general and their functions in particular sentences. <b>ELAGSE5L1a.</b> Explain the function of conjunctions, prepositions, and interjections in general and their function in particular sentences.												
<b>ELAGSE3L1f.</b> Ensure subject-verb and pronoun-antecedent agreement.												
<b>ELAGSE3L3a.</b> Choose words and phrases for effect.												
<b>ELAGSE4L1e.</b> Form and use prepositional phrases.												
<b>ELAGSE4L1f.</b> Produce complete sentences, recognizing and correcting inappropriate fragments and run-ons.												
<b>ELAGSE4L1g.</b> Correctly use frequently confused words (e.g., to/too/two; there/their).												
<b>ELAGSE4L3a.</b> Choose words and phrases to convey ideas precisely.								Subsumed by ELAGSE7L3a				
<b>ELAGSE4L3b.</b> Choose punctuation for effect.												
<b>ELAGSE5L1d.</b> Recognize and correct inappropriate shifts in verb tense.												
<b>ELAGSE5L2a.</b> Use punctuation to separate items in a series (use of commas continues with added complexity throughout the standards).												
<b>ELAGSE5L5c.</b> Use the relationship between particular words (e.g., synonyms, antonyms, homographs) to better understand each of the words.												
<b>ELAGSE6L1c.</b> Recognize and correct inappropriate shifts in pronoun number and person.												
<b>ELAGSE6L1d.</b> Recognize and correct vague pronouns (i.e., ones with unclear or ambiguous antecedents).												
<b>ELAGSE6L1e.</b> Recognize variations from standard English in their own and others' writing and speaking, and identify and use strategies to improve expression in conventional language.												
<b>ELAGSE6L3a.</b> Vary sentence patterns for meaning, reader/listener interest, and style (varying sentence patterns continues with added rigor throughout the standards).												
<b>ELAGSE6L3b.</b> Maintain consistency in style and tone.												

\* Darkened boxes indicate grades in which the standard should be taught.