

8th Grade English Language Arts Georgia Standards of Excellence (ELA GSE)

READING LITERARY (RL)	READING INFORMATIONAL (RI)
➤ Key Ideas and Details	➤ Key Ideas and Details
ELAGSE8RL1: Cite the textual evidence that most strongly supports an analysis of what the text says explicitly as well as inferences drawn from the text.	ELAGSE8RI1: Cite the textual evidence that most strongly supports an analysis of what the text says explicitly as well as inferences drawn from the text.
ELAGSE8RL2: Determine a theme and/or central idea of a text and analyze its development over the course of the text, including its relationship to the characters, setting, and plot; provide an objective summary of the text.	ELAGSE8RI2: Determine a central idea of a text and analyze its development over the course of the text, including its relationship to supporting ideas; provide an objective summary of the text.
ELAGSE8RL3: Analyze how particular lines of dialogue or incidents in a story or drama propel the action, reveal aspects of a character, or provoke a decision.	ELAGSE8RI3: Analyze how a text makes connections among and distinctions between individuals, ideas, or events (e.g., through comparisons, analogies, or categories).
➤ Craft and Structure	➤ Craft and Structure
ELAGSE8RL4: Determine the meaning of words and phrases as they are used in a text, including figurative and connotative meanings; analyze the impact of specific word choices on meaning and tone, including analogies or allusions to other texts.	ELAGSE8RI4: Determine the meaning of words and phrases as they are used in a text, including figurative, connotative, and technical meanings; analyze the impact of specific word choices on meaning and tone, including analogies or
ELAGSE8RL5: Compare and contrast the structure of two or more texts and analyze how the differing structure of each text contributes to its meaning and style.	ELAGSE8RI5: Analyze in detail the structure of a specific paragraph in a text, including the role of particular sentences in developing and refining a key concept.
ELAGSE8RL6: Analyze how differences in the points of view of characters and the audience or reader (e.g., created through the use of dramatic irony) create such effects as suspense or humor.	ELAGSE8RI6: Determine an author’s point of view or purpose in a text and analyze how the author acknowledges and responds to conflicting evidence or viewpoints.
➤ Integration of Knowledge and Ideas	➤ Integration of Knowledge and Ideas
ELAGSE8RL7: Analyze the extent to which a filmed or live production of a story or drama stays faithful to or departs from the text or script, evaluating the choices made by the director or actors.	ELAGSE8RI7: Evaluate the advantages and disadvantages of using different mediums (e.g., print or digital text, video, multimedia) to present a particular topic or idea.
ELAGSE8RL8: (Not applicable to literature)	ELAGSE8RI8: Delineate and evaluate the argument and specific claims in a text, assessing whether the reasoning is sound and the evidence is relevant and sufficient; recognize when irrelevant evidence is introduced.
ELAGSE8RL9: Analyze how a modern work of fiction draws on themes, patterns of events, or character types from myths, traditional stories, or religious works	ELAGSE8RI9: Analyze a case in which two or more texts provide conflicting information on the same topic and identify where the texts disagree on
➤ Range of Reading and Level of Text Complexity	➤ Range of Reading and Level of Text Complexity
ELAGSE8RL10: By the end of the year, read and comprehend literature, including stories, dramas, and poems, at the high end of grades 6-8 text complexity band independently and proficiently	ELAGSE8RI10: By the end of the year, read and comprehend literary nonfiction at the high end of the grades 6-8 text complexity band independently and proficiently.

8th Grade English Language Arts Georgia Standards of Excellence (ELA GSE)

WRITING (W)
➤ Text Types and Purposes
ELAGSE8W1: Write arguments to support claims with clear reasons and relevant evidence.
a. Introduce claim(s), acknowledge and distinguish the claim(s) from alternate or opposing claims, and organize the reasons and evidence logically.
b. Support claim(s) with logical reasoning and relevant evidence, using accurate, credible sources and demonstrating an understanding of the topic or text.
c. Use words, phrases, and clauses to create cohesion and clarify the relationships among claim(s), counterclaims, reasons, and evidence.
d. Establish and maintain a formal style.
e. Provide a concluding statement or section that follows from and supports the argument presented.
ELAGSE8W2: Write informative/explanatory texts to examine a topic and convey ideas, concepts, and information through the selection, organization, and analysis of relevant content.
a. Introduce a topic clearly, previewing what is to follow; organize ideas, concepts, and information into broader categories; include formatting (e.g., headings), graphics (e.g., charts, tables), and multimedia when useful to aiding comprehension.
b. Develop the topic with relevant, well-chosen facts, definitions, concrete details, quotations, or other information and examples.
c. Use appropriate and varied transitions to create cohesion and clarify the relationships among ideas and concepts.
d. Use precise language and domain-specific vocabulary to inform about or explain the topic.
e. Establish and maintain a formal style.
f. Provide a concluding statement or section that follows from and supports the information or explanation presented.
ELAGSE8W3: Write narratives to develop real or imagined experiences or events using effective technique, relevant descriptive details, and well-structured event sequences.
a. Engage and orient the reader by establishing a context and point of view and introducing a narrator and/or characters; organize an event sequence that unfolds naturally and logically.
b. Use narrative techniques, such as dialogue, pacing, description, and reflection, to develop experiences, events, and/or characters.
c. Use a variety of transition words, phrases, and clauses to convey sequence, signal shifts from one time frame or setting to another, and show the relationships among experiences and events.
d. Use precise words and phrases, relevant descriptive details, and sensory language to capture the action and convey experiences and events.
e. Provide a conclusion that follows from and reflects on the narrated experiences or events.
➤ Production and Distribution of Writing
ELAGSE8W4: 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.)
ELAGSE8W5: With some guidance and support from peers and adults, develop and strengthen writing as needed by planning, revising, editing, rewriting, or trying a new approach, focusing on how well purpose and audience have been addressed. (Editing for conventions should demonstrate command of Language standards 1–3 up to and including grade 8.)
ELAGSE8W6: Use technology, including the Internet, to produce and publish writing and present the relationships between information and ideas efficiently as well as to interact and collaborate with others.
➤ Research to Build and Present Knowledge
ELAGSE8W7: Conduct short research projects to answer a question (including a self-generated question), drawing on several sources and generating additional related, focused questions that allow for multiple avenues of exploration.
ELAGSE8W8: Gather relevant information from multiple print and digital sources, using search terms effectively; assess the credibility and accuracy of each source; and quote or paraphrase the data and conclusions of others while avoiding plagiarism and following a standard format for citation.
ELAGSE8W9: Draw evidence from literary or informational texts to support analysis, reflection, and research.
a. Apply <i>grade 8 Reading standards</i> to literature (e.g., “Analyze how a modern work of fiction draws on themes, patterns of events, or character types from myths, traditional stories, or religious works such as the Bible, including describing how the material is rendered new”).
b. Apply <i>grade 8 Reading standards</i> to literary nonfiction (e.g., “Delineate and evaluate the argument and specific claims in a text, assessing whether the reasoning is sound and the evidence is relevant and sufficient; recognize when irrelevant evidence is introduced”).
➤ Range of Writing
ELAGSE8W10: 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 discipline-specific tasks, purposes, and audiences.

SPEAKING AND LISTENING (SL)

➤ **Comprehension and Collaboration**

ELAGSE8SL1: Engage effectively in a range of collaborative discussions (one-on-one, in groups, and teacher-led) with diverse partners on *grade 8 topics and texts*, building on others’ ideas and expressing their own clearly.

a. Come to discussions prepared, having read or researched material under study; explicitly draw on that preparation by referring to evidence on the topic, text, or issue to probe and reflect on ideas under discussion.

b. Follow rules for collegial discussions and decision-making, track progress toward specific goals and deadlines, and define individual roles as needed.

c. Pose questions that connect the ideas of several speakers and elicit elaboration and respond to others’ questions and comments with relevant evidence, observations, and ideas.

d. Acknowledge new information expressed by others, and, when warranted, qualify or justify their own views and understanding in light of the evidence presented.

ELAGSE8SL2: Analyze the purpose of information presented in diverse media and formats (e.g., visually, quantitatively, orally) and evaluate the motives (e.g., social, commercial, political) behind its presentation.

ELAGSE8SL3: Delineate a speaker’s argument and specific claims, evaluating the soundness of the reasoning and relevance and sufficiency of the evidence and identifying when irrelevant evidence is introduced.

➤ **Presentation of Knowledge and Ideas**

ELAGSE8SL4: Present claims and findings, emphasizing salient points in a focused, coherent manner with relevant evidence, sound valid reasoning, and well-chosen details; use appropriate eye contact, adequate volume, and clear pronunciation.

ELAGSE8SL5: Integrate multimedia and visual displays into presentations to clarify information, strengthen claims and evidence, and add interest.

ELAGSE8SL6: Adapt speech to a variety of contexts and tasks, demonstrating command of formal English when indicated or appropriate. (See grade 8 Language standards 1 and 3 for specific expectations.)

LANGUAGE (L)	
➤ Conventions of Standard English	
ELAGSE8L1: Demonstrate command of the conventions of standard English grammar and usage when writing or speaking.	
a. Explain the function of verbals (gerunds, participles, infinitives) in general and their function in particular sentences.	
b. Form and use verbs in the active and passive voice.	
c. Form and use verbs in the indicative, imperative, interrogative, conditional, and subjunctive mood.	
d. Recognize and correct inappropriate shifts in verb voice and mood.*	
ELAGSE8L2: Demonstrate command of the conventions of standard English capitalization, punctuation, and spelling when writing.	
a. Use punctuation (comma, ellipsis, dash) to indicate a pause or break.	
b. Use an ellipsis to indicate an omission.	
c. Spell correctly.	
➤ Knowledge of Language	
ELAGSE8L3: Use knowledge of language and its conventions when writing, speaking, reading, or listening.	
a. Use verbs in the active and passive voice and in the conditional and subjunctive mood to achieve particular effects (e.g., emphasizing the actor or the action; expressing uncertainty or describing a state contrary to fact).	
➤ Vocabulary Acquisition and Use	
ELAGSE8L4: Determine or clarify the meaning of unknown and multiple-meaning words or phrases based on <i>grade 8 reading and content</i> , choosing flexibly from a range of strategies.	
a. Use context (e.g., the overall meaning of a sentence or paragraph; a word’s position or function in a sentence) as a clue to the meaning of a word or phrase.	
b. Use common, grade-appropriate Greek or Latin affixes and roots as clues to the meaning of a word (e.g., <i>precede, recede, secede</i>).	
c. 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 or its part of speech.	
d. 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).	
ELAGSE8L5: Demonstrate understanding of figurative language, word relationships, and nuances in word meanings.	
a. Interpret figures of speech (e.g. verbal irony, puns) in context.	
b. Use the relationship between particular words to better understand each of the words.	
c. Distinguish among the connotations (associations) of words with similar denotations (definitions) (e.g., <i>bullheaded, willful, firm, persistent, resolute</i>).	
ELAGSE8L6: Acquire and accurately use grade-appropriate general academic and domain-specific words and phrases; gather vocabulary knowledge when considering a word or phrase important to comprehension or expression.	

Skills marked with an asterisk () are included on the Language Progressive Skills chart for GSE and are likely to require continued attention in higher grades as they are applied to increasingly sophisticated writing and speaking.

8th Grade English Language Arts Georgia Standards of Excellence (ELA GSE)

LANGUAGE PROGRESSIVE SKILLS CHART GRADES K-12

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
ELAGSEK15b. Relate frequently occurring words to their antonyms (also synonyms/homographs in progression).											Subsumed by ELAGSE5L5c
ELAGSE1L2c. Use commas in dates and to separate single words in a series.											Subsumed by ELAGSE5L2a
ELAGSE1L1i. Use frequently occurring prepositions.											Subsumed by ELAGSE4L1e
ELAGSE1L1g. Use frequently occurring conjunctions. ELAGSE3L1h. Use coordinating and subordinating conjunctions. ELAGSE5L1e. Use correlative conjunctions (e.g., <i>either/or, neither/nor</i>).											
ELAGSE3L1a. Explain the function of nouns, pronouns, verbs, adjectives, and adverbs in general and their functions in particular sentences. ELAGSE5L1a. Explain the function of conjunctions, prepositions, and interjections in general and their function in particular sentences.											
ELAGSE3L1f. Ensure subject-verb and pronoun-antecedent agreement.											
ELAGSE3L3a. Choose words and phrases for effect.											
ELAGSE4L1e. Form and use prepositional phrases.											
ELAGSE4L1f. Produce complete sentences, recognizing and correcting inappropriate fragments and run-ons.											
ELAGSE4L1g. Correctly use frequently confused words (e.g., <i>to/too/two; there/their</i>).											
ELAGSE4L3a. Choose words and phrases to convey ideas precisely.											Subsumed by ELAGSE7L3a
ELAGSE4L3b. Choose punctuation for effect.											
ELAGSE5L1d. Recognize and correct inappropriate shifts in verb tense.											
ELAGSE5L2a. Use punctuation to separate items in a series (use of commas continues with added complexity throughout the standards).											
ELAGSE5L5c. Use the relationship between particular words (e.g., synonyms, antonyms, homographs) to better understand each of the words.											
ELAGSE6L1c. Recognize and correct inappropriate shifts in pronoun number and person.											
ELAGSE6L1d. Recognize and correct vague pronouns (i.e., ones with unclear or ambiguous antecedents).											
ELAGSE6L1e. Recognize variations from standard English in their own and others' writing and speaking, and identify and use strategies to improve expression in conventional language.											
ELAGSE6L3a. Vary sentence patterns for meaning, reader/listener interest, and style (varying sentence patterns continues with added rigor throughout the standards).											
ELAGSE6L3b. Maintain consistency in style and tone.											
ELAGSE7L1c. Place phrases and clauses within a sentence, recognizing and correcting misplaced and dangling modifiers.											
ELAGSE7L3a. Choose language that expresses ideas precisely and concisely, recognizing and eliminating wordiness and redundancy.											
ELAGSE8L1d. Recognize and correct inappropriate shifts in verb voice and mood.											
ELAGSE9–10L1a. Use parallel structure.											
L11-12L3a. Vary syntax for effect, consulting references (e.g., Tufte's Artful Sentences) for guidance as needed; apply an understanding of syntax to the study of complex texts when reading.											

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