

NSCAS - English Language Arts Table of Specifications

Grade 8

LA.8.RP	Reading Prose and Poetry	25% - 30%		
Standard Code	Standard Text	DOK 1	DOK 2	DOK 3
LA.8.RP.1	Determine two or more implied or explicit themes of a text and how they develop over the course of a literary text, including their relationship to supporting ideas.		X	X
LA.8.RP.2	Analyze how particular events, lines of dialogue, or descriptive details develop the plot, reveal aspects of characters, or create meaning.		X	X
LA.8.RP.3	Analyze how an author establishes, conveys, and contrasts the points of view of the audience and the characters to create effects such as suspense, humor, or dramatic irony in a literary text.		X	X
LA.8.RP.4	Compare and contrast the structure of two or more literary texts and how their structures contribute to style and meaning.		X	X
LA.8.RP.5	Analyze how a modern work of fiction draws on themes, patterns of events, or character types from myths, traditional stories, or religious works.		X	X
LA.8.RP.6	Synthesize the implied or stated theme(s) in a literary text to draw conclusions and deepen understanding of self and others.		X	X
LA.8.RP.7	Analyze regional, national, international, and/or multicultural perspectives to make connections among and distinctions between characters or ideas within and across a range of literary texts.		X	X
LA.8.RP.8	<i>Read and comprehend a wide range of literary texts of appropriate complexity at the high end of the 6-8 grade band independently and proficiently.</i>	<i>Assessed at Local Level</i>		

LA.8.RI	Reading Informational Text	30% - 35%		
Standard Code	Standard Text	DOK 1	DOK 2	DOK 3
LA.8.RI.1	Determine two or more implied or explicit central ideas and how they develop over the course of an informational text, including their relationship to supporting ideas.		X	X
LA.8.RI.2	Analyze how particular events, interactions between individuals, or key facts and details contribute to meaning.		X	X
LA.8.RI.3	Analyze how an author establishes, conveys, and contrasts perspective or purpose in a text and how the author acknowledges and responds to conflicting evidence or viewpoints.		X	X
LA.8.RI.4	Compare and contrast the structure of a specific paragraph in an informational text, including the role of particular sentences in developing and refining a key concept.		X	X
LA.8.RI.5	Analyze how two or more texts provide conflicting information on the same topic, including where the texts disagree on matters of evidence or interpretation.		X	X
LA.8.RI.6	Analyze the development of an argument and evaluate the effectiveness of the type(s) of reasoning used to support the argument.		X	X
LA.8.RI.7	Analyze specific regional, national, international, and/or multicultural perspectives to make connections among and distinctions between individuals or ideas within and across a range of informational texts.		X	X
LA.8.RI.8	<i>Read and comprehend a wide range of informational texts of appropriate complexity at the high end of the 6-8 grade band independently and proficiently.</i>	<i>Assessed at Local Level</i>		

LA.8.V	Vocabulary	15% - 20%		
LA.8.V.1	Vocabulary Acquisition and Use: Integrate grade-level academic vocabulary appropriately for a variety of tasks and purposes.			
Standard Code	Standard Text	DOK 1	DOK 2	DOK 3
LA.8.V.1.a	Use context clues (e.g., the overall meaning of a sentence or paragraph; a word's position or function in a sentence) to determine the meanings of words and phrases.	X	X	
LA.8.V.1.b	Use commonly occurring Greek and Latin affixes and roots to determine the meanings of words (e.g., recede, precede).	X	X	
LA.8.V.1.c	<i>Consult general and specialized reference materials to determine or clarify the precise meanings, pronunciations, or parts of speech of words.</i>	<i>Assessed at Local Level</i>		
LA.8.V.2	Vocabulary Context and Connotation: Interpret an author's use of figurative, connotative, and technical language in grade-level literary and informational text.			
LA.8.V.2.a	Interpret figures of speech (e.g., verbal irony, puns) in context.	X	X	X
LA.8.V.2.b	Determine the relationship between particular words to better understand each of the words.	X	X	
LA.8.V.2.c	Distinguish between the connotations of words with similar denotations (e.g., willful, resolute).	X	X	

LA.8.W - Writing		23% - 28%		
LA.8.W.1	Writing Production of Writing: Create grammatically correct multi-paragraph compositions with varied sentence structures.			
Standard Code	Standard Text	DOK 1	DOK 2	DOK 3
LA.8.W.1.a	Apply knowledge of rules for capitalization.	X		
LA.8.W.1.b	Use punctuation (comma, ellipsis, dashes) to indicate a pause or break and an ellipsis to indicate an omission.	X		
LA.8.W.1.c	Explain the function of and use different types of verbals in sentences (e.g., gerunds, participles, infinitives).		X	
LA.8.W.1.d	Distinguish between and use active and passive voice, formal and informal tone, and types of grammatical mood (e.g., indicative, subjunctive, conditional, imperative).		X	
LA.8.W.1.e	Use appropriate parallel structure in words, phrases, and clauses.		X	
LA.8.W.1.f	Identify and revise fragment and run-on sentences and inappropriate shifts in verb tense, number, voice, and mood.	X	X	
LA.8.W.2	Writing Production of Writing: Use a recursive writing process to develop, strengthen, and produce writing appropriate to the audience, purpose, and discipline.			
LA.8.W.2.a	<i>Identify and use resources and inquiry tools to plan, organize, and draft writing.</i>	<i>Assessed at Local Level</i>		
LA.8.W.2.b	<i>Adapt writing processes to sustain engagement in short and long-term writing tasks of increasing length and complexity.</i>	<i>Assessed at Local Level</i>		
LA.8.W.2.c	<i>Improve and clarify the content, structure, and organization of writing by revising, considering feedback from adults and peers.</i>	<i>Assessed at Local Level</i>		

LA.8.W.2.d	Improve and clarify writing by editing and proofreading, considering feedback from adults and peers.	Assessed at Local Level		
LA.8.W.2.e	Use appropriate print and digital/multimedia tools to produce, enhance, and/or publish writing individually or in collaboration with peers.	Assessed at Local Level		
LA.8.W.3	Writing Modes of Writing: Write in a variety of literary forms to convey real or imagined experiences or events in which the development and structure are appropriate to the task, purpose, and audience.			
LA.8.W.3.a	Engage and orient the reader by establishing a conflict, situation, or observation, introducing a narrator and/or character(s), and establishing and maintaining point(s) of view; organize an event sequence that unfolds naturally and logically.		X	X
LA.8.W.3.b	Use literary techniques (e.g., dialogue, pacing, description, multiple plot lines) to develop experiences, events, characters, and settings.		X	X
LA.8.W.3.c	Use a variety of techniques to sequence events so that they build on one another to create a coherent whole.		X	X
LA.8.W.3.d	Use precise words and phrases, descriptive/sensory details, and figurative language to establish mood and tone and convey a vivid picture.	X	X	
LA.8.W.3.e	Provide a conclusion that is clearly related to and reflects upon what is experienced, observed, or left unresolved over the course of the piece.		X	X

LA.8.W.4	Writing Modes of Writing: Write arguments that develop a perspective with supporting reasons and evidence, organized as appropriate to the task, purpose, and audience.			
LA.8.W.4.a	Develop a structure to sequence ideas appropriately; introduce a clear claim where appropriate.		X	
LA.8.W.4.b	Introduce claim(s), acknowledge and distinguish the claim(s) from alternate or supporting claims, and develop a structure in which ideas are grouped logically.		X	
LA.8.W.4.c	Explain and cite relevant evidence from multiple credible sources.		X	
LA.8.W.4.d	Use words, phrases, and key vocabulary to create cohesion and clarify the relationship between claim(s) and supporting evidence.	X	X	
LA.8.W.4.e	Adapt style and tone appropriate to the norms and conventions of the task and discipline.		X	
LA.8.W.4.f	Provide a conclusion that follows from and supports the argument(s) presented.		X	X
LA.8.W.5	Writing Modes of Writing: Write informative/explanatory pieces to clearly convey ideas and information in which the development and structure are appropriate to the task, purpose, and audience.			
LA.8.W.5.a	Introduce a topic clearly and provide a specific focus; organize ideas, concepts, and information into broader categories or sections including text features, illustrations, and/or multimedia elements.		X	
LA.8.W.5.b	Develop the topic with relevant facts, definitions, concrete details, quotations, and/or other information and examples.		X	

LA.8.W.5.c	Use appropriate transitions and domain-specific vocabulary to clarify relationships among ideas and concepts.	X	X	
LA.8.W.5.d	Provide a concluding statement or section that follows from the information or explanation(s).		X	X
LA.8.W.6	Writing Modes of Writing: Gather and use credible evidence from multiple trustworthy sources and assess its relevance in answering the research question(s).			
LA.8.W.6.a	Integrate evidence into writing by quoting or paraphrasing data and conclusions while avoiding plagiarism.		X	X
LA.8.W.6.b	<i>Locate and evaluate the credibility of evidence (e.g., the expertise or motivation of the creator of an information product, potential bias and/or deception) from print and digital sources to generate and answer questions and create new understandings.</i>	<i>Assessed at Local Level</i>		
LA.8.W.6.c	Select and use appropriate note-taking formats to collect and organize information.		X	
LA.8.W.6.d	<i>Demonstrate academic integrity by avoiding overreliance on any one source and citing sources within text (e.g., parenthetical and numerical); provide a list of sources using a standard format.</i>	<i>Assessed at Local Level</i>		
LA.8.W.6.e	<i>Practice safe and ethical behaviors when communicating and interacting with others digitally (e.g., safe information to share, utilize appropriate sites and materials, appropriate language use, respect diverse perspectives).</i>	<i>Assessed at Local Level</i>		