



Ellsworth School Department

HIGH SCHOOL LEVEL

English Language-Arts Teaching & Learning Benchmarks

LANGUAGE - *Students will show understanding of the conventions of standard English, knowledge of language, and demonstrate use of grade level vocabulary.*

Focus Standards	Grades 9-Diploma
<p><i>Students will:</i></p>	<p>Demonstrate command of the conventions of Standard English grammar and usage when writing or speaking. (MLR.ELA.9-12.L1)</p> <p>Demonstrate command of the conventions of Standard English capitalization, punctuation, and spelling when writing. (MLR.ELA.9-12.L2)</p> <p>Apply knowledge of language to understand how language functions in different contexts, to make effective choices for meaning or style in writing and speaking, and to comprehend more fully when reading or listening. (MLR.ELA.9-12.L3)</p> <p>Use context clues, analyze meaningful word parts, and consult general and specialized reference materials as appropriate to determine or clarify the meaning of unknown and multiple-meaning words and phrases from grade level content. (MLR.ELA.9-12.L4)</p> <p>Demonstrate understanding of figurative language, word relationships, and nuances in word meanings sufficient for reading, writing, speaking, and listening. (MLR.ELA.9-12.L5)</p> <p>Acquire and use accurately a range of general academic and domain-specific words and phrases sufficient for reading, writing, speaking, and listening; demonstrate independence in gathering vocabulary knowledge when encountering an unknown term important to comprehension or expression. (MLR.ELA.9-12.L6)</p>

SPEAKING AND LISTENING - *Students will participate through active listening in conversations, comprehend and evaluate information, be able to present information appropriate to task, purpose and audience, and provide thoughtful responses.*

Focus Standards	Grades 9-Diploma
<i>Students will:</i>	<p>Prepare for and participate in conversations across a range of topics, types, and forums, building on others' ideas and expressing their own. (MLR.ELA.9-12.SL1)</p> <p>Integrate and evaluate information presented in diverse media and formats, including point of view, reasoning, and use of evidence and rhetoric. (MLR.ELA.9-12.SL2)</p> <p>Present information and supporting evidence appropriate to task, purpose, and audience so listeners can follow the line of reasoning and incorporate multimedia when appropriate (MLR.ELA.9-12.SL3)</p> <p>Adapt speech to a variety of contexts, audiences, and communicative tasks. (MLR.ELA.9-12.SL4)</p>

READING - *Students will demonstrate foundational reading skills as well as be able to analyze and summarize texts, identify key ideas and details, attend to craft and structure, and read grade-level texts fluently.*

Focus Standards	Grades 9-12
<i>Students will:</i>	<p>Read various texts closely to determine what each text explicitly says and to make logical inferences; cite specific textual evidence to support conclusions drawn from the texts. (MLR.ELA.9-12.R4)</p> <p>Provide an accurate summary of various texts; determine the central idea(s) or theme(s) and analyze its development throughout each text. (MLR.ELA.9-12.R5)</p> <p>Analyze how and why individuals, events, and ideas develop and interact over the course of a text. (MLR.ELA.9-12.R6)</p> <p>Interpret words and phrases as they are used in various texts, including determining technical, connotative, and figurative meanings, and analyze how specific word choices shape meaning or tone. (MLR.ELA.9-12.R7)</p>

	<p>Analyze the structure of various texts, including how the features and components relate to each other and the whole. (MLR.ELA.9-12.R8)</p> <p>Assess how perspective or purpose shapes the content and style of various texts. (MLR.ELA.9-12.R9)</p> <p>Evaluate the argument and specific claims in various texts. (MLR.ELA.9-12.R10)</p> <p>Analyze and evaluate content presented in various texts (e.g. literary, historical, visual, artistic, quantitative, and technological). (MLR.ELA.9-12.R11)</p> <p>Read with sufficient accuracy and fluency to support comprehension. (MLR.ELA.9-12.R12)</p>
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WRITING - *Students will develop, strengthen, and polish their writing skills through studying a variety of different sources and routinely drafting their own writing pieces that are appropriate to task, audience, and purpose.*

Focus Standards	Grades 9-12
<i>Students will:</i>	<p>Use an inquiry process to gather relevant, credible information/evidence from a variety of sources (e.g., print, digital, discussions, etc.) that build understanding of and lead to conclusions about a subject under investigation while avoiding plagiarism. (MLR.ELA.9-12.W1)</p> <p>Develop, strengthen, and produce polished writing by using a collaborative process that includes the age-appropriate use of technology. (MLR.ELA.9-12.W2)</p> <p>Routinely produce a variety of clear and coherent writing in which the development, organization, and style are appropriate to task, audience, and purpose. (MLR.ELA.9-12.W3)</p>