

**Reading  
Grade 8**

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| Item Types | Cognitive Levels | Strand I - Reading and Literature                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                   | Item Totals   |
|------------|------------------|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|---------------|
|            |                  | Sub-strand B. Vocabulary Expansion                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                  | By Sub-strand |
|            |                  | Standard: The student will apply a variety of strategies to expand reading, listening and speaking vocabularies.                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                    | 6 – 8         |
|            |                  | Benchmarks                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                          | By Benchmark  |
|            |                  | <p><b>I.B.1</b><br/>The student will acquire, understand and use new vocabulary through explicit and indirect vocabulary instruction and independent reading.<br/><i>Content Limit:</i><br/>Assessed only at the classroom level.</p>                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                               | N/A           |
| MC         | A<br>B           | <p><b>I.B.2 and I.B.3</b><br/>Students will determine the meaning of unknown words by using a dictionary or context clues. Students will recognize and interpret words with multiple meanings.<br/><i>Content Limit:</i><br/>Vocabulary items require context clues from a passage to determine word meanings (i.e., word structure may provide support but not the sole basis for the item).<br/>Word structure may only assist in determining meaning and may include prefixes, suffixes, syllabication or root words.<br/>Dictionary clues are provided in the item when required.<br/>No more than one dictionary item exists on an operational test.<br/><i>Multiple-meaning words</i> are the same as <i>synonyms</i> for this benchmark.</p> | 6 – 8         |
|            |                  | <p><b>I.B.4</b><br/>The student will describe the influences of other languages in the English language.<br/><i>Content Limit:</i><br/>Assessed only at the classroom level.</p>                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                    | N/A           |
|            |                  | <p><b>I.B.5</b><br/>The student will apply knowledge of Greek and Latin roots, prefixes and suffixes to understand content-area vocabulary.<br/><i>Content Limit:</i><br/>Assessed only at the classroom level.</p>                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                 | N/A           |

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|  | <b>I.B.6</b><br>The student will determine word meanings by using definition, restatement, example, comparison or contrast.<br><i>Content Limit:</i><br>Assessed only at the classroom level. | N/A |
|  | <b>I.B.7</b><br>Identify and explain analogies, similes and metaphors.<br><i>Content Limit:</i><br>This benchmark is assessed in the context of <b>I.D.4</b> .                                |     |

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|                         |                      | Sub-strand C. Comprehension                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                     | By Sub-strand |
|                         |                      | Standard: The student will understand the meaning of texts using a variety of strategies and will demonstrate literal, interpretive, inferential and evaluative comprehension.                                                                                                                                                                                                                                  | 24 – 31       |
|                         |                      | Benchmarks                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                      | By Benchmark  |
| <b>MC<br/>or<br/>CR</b> | <b>A<br/>B<br/>C</b> | <b>I.C.1</b><br>Students will summarize and paraphrase main idea and supporting details.<br><i>Content Limit:</i><br>Items will require a summary or paraphrase solely from the text given.<br>Items that require the student to produce a summary or paraphrase are CR.<br>Items will require the identification of the explicit or inferred main idea and/or its relevant details solely from the text given. | 10 – 14       |
|                         |                      | <b>I.C.2</b><br>Students will recall and use prior learning and preview text to prepare for reading.<br><i>Content Limit:</i><br>Assessed only at the classroom level.                                                                                                                                                                                                                                          | N/A           |
|                         |                      | <b>I.C.3</b><br>Students will comprehend, interpret and evaluate information in a variety of texts using a combination of strategies before, during and after reading.<br><i>Content Limit:</i><br>Assessed only at the classroom level.                                                                                                                                                                        | N/A           |
|                         | <b>A<br/>B<br/>C</b> | <b>I.C.4</b><br>Students will make inferences and draw conclusions based on explicit and implied information from text.<br><i>Content Limit:</i><br>Items may require inferences and/or a subsequent conclusion solely from the text given.                                                                                                                                                                     | 10 – 14       |
|                         |                      | <b>I.C.5</b><br>Students will trace the development of an author’s argument, point of view or perspective.<br><i>Content Limit:</i><br>Assessed only at the classroom level.                                                                                                                                                                                                                                    | N/A           |

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| <b>MC<br/>or<br/>CR</b> | <b>B<br/>C</b>       | <p><b>I.C.6</b><br/>Students will evaluate the adequacy, accuracy and appropriateness of the author's evidence in a persuasive text.<br/><i>Content Limit:</i><br/><i>Adequacy</i> and <i>appropriateness</i> are synonymous in these items.<br/>Items do not require verification of accuracy outside the text given.<br/><i>Persuasive text</i> can be an element of persuasive text found in any genre.</p>                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                            | 1 – 3 |
|                         |                      | <p><b>I.C.7</b><br/>Students will use knowledge of narrative and expository text structures in a variety of content areas to summarize information.<br/><i>Content Limit:</i><br/>Assessed only at the classroom level.</p>                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                               | N/A   |
|                         |                      | <p><b>I.C.8</b><br/>Students will create outlines, logical notes, and summaries of text in various content areas.<br/><i>Content Limit:</i><br/>Assessed only at the classroom level.</p>                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                 | N/A   |
|                         |                      | <p><b>I.C.9</b><br/>Students will use texts' structural organizers, such as graphics, illustrations, references, notes, introductions, boldface type and subheadings, to aid comprehension.<br/><i>Content Limit:</i><br/>Assessed only at the classroom level.</p>                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                       | N/A   |
|                         |                      | <p><b>I.C.10</b><br/>Students will monitor comprehension and use strategies to clarify understanding of selections.<br/><i>Content Limit:</i><br/>Assessed only at the classroom level.</p>                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                               | N/A   |
| <b>MC<br/>or<br/>CR</b> | <b>A<br/>B<br/>C</b> | <p><b>I.C.11</b><br/>Students will distinguish fact from opinion in two selections on the same topic and give evidence.<br/><i>Content Limit:</i><br/>Items may require identification of fact and/or opinion within one or two passages.<br/><i>Give evidence</i> means items may require an explanation of why a statement is fact and/or opinion.<br/>If two selections are presented, the two must be on the same theme or topic.<br/>Comparison/contrast items may also be assessed under this benchmark.<br/>Comparison and contrast may assess these skills within a single passage as well as between paired passages.<br/>Items require comparison and/or contrast from no more than two sources on the same theme or topic.</p> | 3 – 5 |

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|                |        | <p><b>I.C.12</b><br/>Students will follow written directions in technical reading.<br/><i>Content Limit:</i><br/>Assessed only at the classroom level.</p>                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                       | N/A   |
|                |        | <p><b>I.C.13</b><br/>Students will identify and utilize a variety of sources to compare and contrast information.<br/><i>Content Limit:</i><br/>Assessed only at the classroom level.</p>                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                        | N/A   |
| MC<br>or<br>CR | B<br>C | <p><b>I.C.14</b><br/>Students will critically read and evaluate to determine the author's purpose, point of view, audience and message.<br/><i>Content Limit:</i><br/>Items may require identification of the author's purpose and/or support for that purpose.<br/><i>Point of view</i> refers to that of the author.<br/>Items addressing <i>audience</i> refer to the reader(s) for whom the text was most likely intended.<br/><i>Message</i> is synonymous with <i>main idea(s)</i> in these items.<br/>Items may require identification of first- and third-person omniscient.<br/>Items will not require knowledge of the terms <i>limited</i> and <i>omniscient</i>.</p> | 3 – 6 |

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| Item Types              | Cognitive Levels | <b>Strand I - Reading and Literature</b>                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                | <b>Item Totals</b>   |
|-------------------------|------------------|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|----------------------|
|                         |                  | <b>Sub-strand D. Literature</b><br>Standard: The student will actively engage in the reading process and read, understand, respond to, analyze, interpret, evaluate and appreciate a wide variety of fiction, poetic and nonfiction texts.                                                                                              | <b>By Sub-strand</b> |
|                         |                  | <b>Benchmarks</b>                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                       | <b>By Benchmark</b>  |
|                         |                  | <b>I.D.1</b><br>Students will read a variety of high quality; traditional, classical and contemporary literary works specific to America, as well as significant works from other countries.<br><i>Content Limit:</i><br>Assessed only at the classroom level.                                                                          | N/A                  |
|                         |                  | <b>I.D.2</b><br>Students will analyze and evaluate the relationships among elements of fiction.<br><i>Content Limit:</i><br>Assessed only at the classroom level.                                                                                                                                                                       | N/A                  |
| <b>MC<br/>or<br/>CR</b> | <b>B<br/>C</b>   | <b>I.D.3</b><br>Students will analyze a character's traits, emotions or motivation and give supporting evidence from the text.<br><i>Content Limit:</i><br>An item may require the identification and/or analysis of emotion or motivation.<br>Items will require analysis and/or support for that analysis solely from the text given. | 2 – 5                |

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| <b>MC<br/>or<br/>CR</b> | <b>B<br/>C</b> | <p><b>I.D.4 and I.D.7</b><br/>Students will analyze and evaluate how figurative language and literary devices contribute to the meaning of the text.<br/>Students will respond to and analyze the effects of sound, form, figurative language and graphics in order to uncover meaning in poetry.<br/>Identify and explain analogies, similes and metaphors. <b>(I.B.7)</b><br/><i>Content Limit:</i><br/>Items will assess understanding of figurative language or literary devices.<br/>Success on the item cannot be dependent on knowing the definition of figurative language or a literary device.<br/>Individual items will not refer to both a simile and a metaphor.<br/>Items may require students to understand the author’s selection of particular words or phrases that may include literary techniques referencing <i>sound</i> (e.g., “buzzzzzz”, “feathery, fresh, flowers”).<br/>Items will only require students to understand <i>form</i> as author’s craft such as line and verse structure, word choice and placement.<br/>Items will not require students to understand form as a visual layout on the page (e.g., a poem in the shape of an <i>S</i> will not be assessed).<br/>Items assessing analogies will use the concept of <i>comparison</i>. Formal analogy structures will not be assessed (e.g., “Happy : Smile :: Sad : Frown”).<br/>Definitions of analogies, similes and metaphors as vocabulary terms are assessed only at the classroom level.</p> | 2 – 5 |
|                         |                | <p><b>I.D.5</b><br/>Students will contrast points of view (such as first- and third-person, limited and omniscient, subjective and objective) in narrative texts and explain how they affect the overall theme of the works.<br/><i>Content Limit:</i><br/>Assessed only at the classroom level.</p>                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                      | N/A   |
|                         |                | <p><b>I.D.6</b><br/>Students will relate a given literary work to historical events (place, time and custom).<br/><i>Content Limit:</i><br/>Assessed only at the classroom level.</p>                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                     | N/A   |
|                         |                | <p><b>I.D.8</b><br/>Students will identify and understand recurring themes across literary works, citing evidence from texts.<br/><i>Content Limit:</i><br/>Assessed only at the classroom level.</p>                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                     | N/A   |

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|                         |                      | <p><b>I.D.9</b><br/>Students will identify and analyze structural elements particular to dramatic literature.<br/><i>Content Limit:</i><br/>Assessed only at the classroom level.</p>                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                           | N/A   |
|                         |                      | <p><b>I.D.10</b><br/>Students will compare and evaluate recurring themes across literary works and historic eras.<br/><i>Content Limit:</i><br/>Assessed only at the classroom level.</p>                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                       | N/A   |
|                         |                      | <p><b>I.D.11</b><br/>Students will identify and analyze structural elements particular to dramatic literature.<br/><i>Content Limit:</i><br/>Assessed only at the classroom level.</p>                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                          | N/A   |
| <b>MC<br/>or<br/>CR</b> | <b>A<br/>B<br/>C</b> | <p><b>I.D.12</b><br/>Students will respond to literature using ideas and details from the text to support reactions and make literary connections.<br/><i>Content Limit:</i><br/>Items that require a response to support reactions are restricted to ideas and details obtained solely from the text given.<br/>Items requiring literary connections are limited to the passage(s) provided.<br/>Items may require identification of the author’s purpose and/or support for that purpose.</p> | 7 – 9 |
|                         |                      | <p><b>I.D.13</b><br/>Students will read from and respond to a variety of fiction, poetic and nonfiction texts of increasing complexity for personal enjoyment.<br/><i>Content Limit:</i><br/>Assessed only at the classroom level.</p>                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                          | N/A   |