

## ENGLISH LANGUAGE ARTS

### Reading:

#### Key, Ideas, and Details:

- 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
- Determine a central idea of a text and analyze its development over the course of the text, including how it emerges and is shaped and refined by specific details; provide summary of the text
- Determine two or more themes or 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
- Analyze how the author unfolds an analysis or series of ideas or events, including the order in which the points are made, how they are introduced and developed, and the connections that are drawn between them
- 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
- 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 actions are ordered, how the characters are introduced and developed)

#### Craft and Structure:

- Determine the meaning of words and phrases as they are used in a text, including figurative, connotative, and technical meanings; analyze the cumulative impact of specific word choices on meaning and tone, analyze how an author uses and refines the meaning of a key term or terms over the course of text
- Analyze how an author's ideas or claims are developed and refined by particular sentences, paragraphs, or larger portions of a text
- 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

- Analyze and evaluate the effectiveness of the structure an author uses in his or her exposition of argument, including whether the structure makes points clear, convincing, and engaging
- Determine an author's point of view or purpose in a text and analyze how an author uses rhetoric to advance that point of view or purpose

#### Integration of knowledge and Ideas:

- Analyze various accounts of a subject told in different mediums, determining which details are emphasized in each account
- Integrate and evaluate multiple sources of information presented in different media or formats as well as in words in order to address a question or solve a problem
- Delineate and evaluate the argument and specific claims in a text assessing whether the reasoning is valid and the evidence is relevant and sufficient; identify false statements and fallacious reasoning
- Delineate and evaluate the reasoning in seminal U.S. texts, including the application of constitutional principles and use of legal reasoning and the premises, purposes, and arguments in works of public advocacy
- Analyze seminal U.S. documents of historical and literary significance including how they address related themes and concepts
- Analyze seventeenth, eighteenth, and nineteenth-century foundational U.S. documents of historical and literary significance for their themes, purposes, and rhetorical features
- By the end of grade 9-10 read and comprehend grade level literature, including stories, dramas, and poems, proficiently, with scaffolding as needed at high end of range. By the end of grade 11 read and comprehend literature, including stories, dramas, and poems, 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 12, read and comprehend literary notification at the high end of the grades 11-CRR text complexity band independently and proficiently

#### Language:

- Demonstrate command of the conventions of standard English grammar and usage when writing or speaking
- Demonstrate command of the conventions of standard English capitalization, punctuation, and

spelling and writing

- 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
- Determine or clarify the meaning of unknown or multiple-meaning words and phrases based on grade 9-12 reading content, choosing flexibly from a range of strategies
- Demonstrate understanding of figurative language, word relationships, and nuances in word meanings
- 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

#### Writing:

- Write arguments, explanatory text and narrative using precise language and domain specific vocabulary
- Write informative/explanatory texts to examine and convey complex ideas, concepts, and information clearly and accurately through the effective selections, organization, and analysis of content
- Write narratives to develop real or imagined experiences or events using effective technique, well-chosen details, and well-structured event sequences
- Produce clear and coherent writing in which the development, organization, and style are appropriate to task, purpose, and audience
- 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
- Use technology, to produce, polish, and update individual or shared writing products, taking advantage of technology's capacity to link to other information and to display information flexibly and dynamically
- Conduct short as well as more sustained research projects to answer a 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

- Gather relevant information from multiple authoritative print and digital sources, using advanced searches effectively; assess the usefulness of each source in answering the research question; integrate information into the text selectively to maintain the flow of ideas, avoiding plagiarism and following a standard format for citation
- Draw evidence from literary or informational texts to support analysis, reflection and research
- Write routinely over extended time frames and shorter time frames for a range of tasks, purposes, and audiences

#### **Speaking and Listening:**

- Initiate and participate effectively in a range of collaborative discussions with diverse partners on topics, texts, and issues, building on others' ideas and expressing their own clearly and persuasively
- Integrate multiple sources of information presented in diverse media or formats evaluating the credibility and accuracy of each source
- Evaluate a speaker's point of view, reasoning, and use of evidence and rhetoric, identifying any fallacious reasoning or exaggerated or distorted evidence
- Present information, findings, and supporting evidence clearly, concisely, and logically such that listeners can follow the line of reasoning and the organization, development, substance, and style are appropriate to purpose, audience, and task
- Make strategic use of digital media in presentations to enhance understanding of findings, reasoning, and evidence and to add interest
- Adapt speech to a variety of contexts and tasks, demonstrating command of formal English when indicated or appropriate

**The purpose of this guide is to identify the major topics, concepts, and skills that are considered essential for this grade level as identified by the Massachusetts Curriculum Frameworks.**

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**CURRICULUM  
GUIDE  
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LANGUAGE ARTS  
GRADES 9-12**

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