

Course Syllabus

Language Arts, Grade 8

Middle School, Review
Jefferson County Schools

The Tennessee TCAP Achievement Test provides standards for language arts.

The Tennessee TCAP Achievement Test for language arts provides standards for eighth grade.

Genres

The Genres Unit includes identifying and comparing key characteristics of literary genres, as designated by a work's subject, theme, style, and time period. Some examples of genres are science fiction, poetry, drama, British literature, and multicultural literature.

- The learner will be able to analyze how authors use the elements of nonfiction to achieve their purposes.
- The learner will be able to evaluate how an author's tone influences the text.
- The learner will be able to evaluate the author's purpose in a given work.
- The learner will be able to evaluate how author point of view influences reading materials.
- The learner will be able to understand the differences of various genres.

Language Expressions

The Language Expressions Unit focuses on language conventions, structure, usage, and language study. It also addresses parts of speech, figures of speech, syntax, paragraph and sentence structure, word agreement, modifiers, and grammar.

- The learner will be able to use correct subject-verb agreement.
- The learner will be able to identify the sentence structure most appropriate for different writing purposes.
- The learner will be able to identify complete sentences.
- The learner will be able to recognize and correct errors in sentence structure.

- The learner will be able to identify a misplaced modifier in a sentence.
- The learner will be able to identify incomplete sentences.
- The learner will be able to identify run-on sentences.
- The learner will be able to combine multiple complete sentences into one complete sentence.
- The learner will be able to edit writing for appropriate parallel structure.
- The learner will be able to change a declarative sentence into a question.

Language Mechanics

The Language Mechanics Unit includes comprehending and applying the rules that govern punctuation and capitalization when writing and editing written works.

- The learner will be able to use endmarks correctly.
- The learner will be able to capitalize proper nouns.
- The learner will be able to capitalize cities and states.
- The learner will be able to identify the correct use of commas.
- The learner will be able to use a comma between a city and state.
- The learner will be able to use a colon correctly.
- The learner will be able to identify the correct use of quotation marks in a sentence.
- The learner will be able to correctly use apostrophes in sentences.
- The learner will be able to identify the correct use of punctuation in a letter.
- The learner will be able to properly punctuate literary titles.
- The learner will be able to identify the correct capitalization of the parts of a letter.

Course Syllabus

Language Arts, Grade 8

Middle School, Review
Jefferson County Schools

- The learner will be able to capitalize the beginning of a sentence.
- The learner will be able to capitalize proper adjectives.
- The learner will be able to capitalize a title.
- The learner will be able to capitalize the titles of books.

Listening

The Listening Unit includes identifying and distinguishing between sounds and patterns in sounds, constructing meaning from information delivered verbally, and understanding and responding to verbal information.

- The learner will be able to demonstrate developmentally appropriate interpretive listening comprehension skills.
- The learner will be able to demonstrate developmentally appropriate literal listening comprehension skills.

Reading Operations

The Reading Operations Unit includes constructing meaning from fiction and non-fiction selections at comprehension, application, analysis, synthesis, and judgment levels of understanding. It includes skills which address identifying, discussing, and comparing both concrete and abstract elements of selections (setting, plot, characterization, genre, historical period, theme, tone, moral message, and psychological and political implications).

- The learner will be able to apply meaning while reading.
- The learner will be able to display comprehension skills.
- The learner will be able to make connections among reading materials.
- The learner will be able to analyze a text's main ideas.
- The learner will be able to draw conclusions about reading materials.

- The learner will be able to develop a hypothesis based on a reading selection.
- The learner will be able to make predictions from information in written material.
- The learner will be able to distinguish between fact and opinion.
- The learner will be able to summarize a reading passage in his/her own words.
- The learner will be able to evaluate authors' biases in reading materials.
- The learner will be able to compare and contrast reading materials.
- The learner will be able to use vocabulary to understand what is read.
- The learner will be able to extend information beyond passage ideas while reading.
- The learner will be able to analyze literary techniques.
- The learner will be able to critically examine reading materials.
- The learner will be able to examine the adequacy of support in reading materials.
- The learner will be able to understand the meaning of a sentence.
- The learner will be able to recognize words found in the immediate environment.
- The learner will be able to distinguish between reality and fantasy.
- The learner will be able to use sequence to understand reading materials.
- The learner will be able to make a generalization based on passage elements.
- The learner will be able to generate questions to aid understanding while reading.

Course Syllabus

Language Arts, Grade 8

Middle School, Review
Jefferson County Schools

- The learner will be able to use text structure to increase understanding of reading materials.
- The learner will be able to demonstrate an initial understanding of a text.
- The learner will be able to monitor reading comprehension.
- The learner will be able to demonstrate skills for constructing meaning by synthesizing information from multiple written texts.
- The learner will be able to analyze cause and effect relationships in reading materials.
- The learner will be able to analyze characters in a literary selection.
- The learner will be able to analyze persuasive techniques.
- The learner will be able to analyze plot development in a reading selection.
- The learner will be able to use common graphical features to increase understanding of reading materials.
- The learner will be able to analyze setting in reading materials.
- The learner will be able to analyze story elements in reading materials.
- The learner will be able to analyze the theme of a literary selection.
- The learner will be able to correctly use and spell diphthongs.
- The learner will be able to use the correct spelling with both long and short sounds of vowels.
- The learner will be able to correctly spell words where the vowel sound is influenced by the letter "r".
- The learner will be able to correctly spell words that have double letters.
- The learner will be able to correctly spell words with affixes.
- The learner will be able to spell root words correctly.
- The learner will be able to correctly spell words which have a schwa sound.
- The learner will be able to identify the correct spelling of structural units.
- The learner will be able to correctly write words with irregular spelling.
- The learner will be able to correctly spell compound words.
- The learner will be able to use knowledge of similar word parts to spell words correctly.
- The learner will be able to spell words with contractions correctly.
- The learner will be able to correctly spell words with variant spellings.
- The learner will be able to correctly spell words that are homonyms.
- The learner will be able to correctly spell words that have a prefix.
- The learner will be able to correctly spell words which have a suffix.

Spelling

The Spelling Unit includes studying language and word structure knowledge to discern the correct spelling of words. It includes skills related to editing passages for correct spelling by making connections between spelling, meaning, and structure.

- The learner will be able to spell words with silent consonants correctly.
- The learner will be able to correctly spell words that have a digraph.

Vocabulary

The Vocabulary Unit includes studying and applying knowledge of word structure (bases and affixes), concrete analogies, synonyms, antonyms, and syllables. It also includes applying knowledge of connotation, denotation and

Course Syllabus

Language Arts, Grade 8

Middle School, Review
Jefferson County Schools

words with multiple levels of meaning.

- The learner will be able to identify and determine the meaning of a word by using knowledge of categories.
- The learner will be able to select words appropriately.
- The learner will be able to identify the prefix in a given word.
- The learner will be able to identify the suffix in a given word.
- The learner will be able to define synonyms.
- The learner will be able to define antonyms.
- The learner will be able to identify the definition of a vocabulary word.
- The learner will be able to identify root words.
- The learner will be able to infer word meaning from context.
- The learner will be able to recognize multiple meaning words.
- The learner will be able to identify the number of syllables in a given word.
- The learner will be able to apply a variety of vocabulary strategies.

Word Analysis

The Word Analysis Unit focuses on examining word structure and sound. It includes topics such as consonants, vowels, rhyming, and word building.

- The learner will be able to demonstrate developmentally appropriate word analysis skills.
- The learner will be able to understand the relationship between sounds and symbols.
- The learner will be able to identify variant vowel sounds.
- The learner will be able to recognize the long and short sounds of vowels.

- The learner will be able to recognize the correct sound of digraphs and diphthongs given in context.
- The learner will be able to recognize r-controlled vowel sounds.
- The learner will be able to use word recognition graphics to understand reading materials.
- The learner will be able to identify both words in a compound word.
- The learner will be able to identify compound words in written form.
- The learner will be able to identify consonants.
- The learner will be able to identify consonant blends.
- The learner will be able to recognize the meaning of contractions.
- The learner will be able to identify consonant digraphs.
- The learner will be able to identify an orally read sight word.

Writing

The Writing Unit focuses on each stage of the writing process: prewriting, writing, revising, and publishing. It includes skills covering a variety of organizational formats and purposes for writing (communicating ideas, opinions, and feelings, clarifying thoughts, and solving problems). Some example writing formats are expository, narrative, poetry, and drama.

- The learner will be able to recognize and edit redundancies in context.
- The learner will be able to select topics for writing.
- The learner will be able to proofread written works.
- The learner will be able to choose an organizational pattern which suits the format of the writing.
- The learner will be able to use supporting sentences in paragraphs.

Course Syllabus

Language Arts, Grade 8

Middle School, Review
Jefferson County Schools

- The learner will be able to identify various strategies for writing.
- The learner will be able to identify correct sentence sequence.
- The learner will be able to edit sentences for capitalization errors.
- The learner will be able to edit for correct use of punctuation.
- The learner will be able to edit writing for idioms.
- The learner will be able to edit writing for diction.
- The learner will be able to edit writing for wordiness.
- The learner will be able to identify the best transition for a given sentence.
- The learner will be able to edit written works for usage.
- The learner will be able to select the best topic sentence for a given paragraph.
- The learner will be able to choose details relevant to the topic of a written work.
- The learner will be able to identify resource material for informational writing.