

## 8th Grade - Objectives & Skills

READING	WRITING	SPEAKING	LISTENING
<p><b>Students demonstrate control of a variety of reading tasks with little support.</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- analyze unfamiliar text to figure out its meaning.</li> <li>- use vocabulary-acquisition strategies.</li> <li>- understand and respond to extended abridged text selections of a wide variety of genres.</li> <li>- use the various parts of a textbook to find information (glossary, margin notes, table of contents, index)</li> <li>- use skills in independent research to gather information (in the library, computer, printed media)</li> <li>- choose and enjoy material for personal reading similar in scope and difficulty to that being read by peers.</li> <li>- analyze plot structure and determine how events are explained by time actions, characterization, theme and topic vs time and mood, point of view, figures of speech (simile, metaphor, rhythm, tone), elements of Greek and Roman myths, elements of folk tales.</li> <li>- analyzing characteristics of novels, novellas, short stories, essays.</li> <li>- respond critically to literature, giving supported answers.</li> </ul>	<p><b>Students write English for a variety of purposes using appropriate conventions with great accuracy. They:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- use grade-appropriate vocabulary (demonstrate knowledge of derivations and word families, suffixes and prefixes; spell, understand, and use vocabulary from all subject areas)</li> <li>- produce reports, reviews, essays, letters, with few grammatical or spelling errors.</li> <li>- use the stages of the writing process (prewriting, revising, editing, conferencing, and publishing)</li> </ul>	<p><b>Students speak English accurately in most school situations. They:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- use English appropriately in a range of situations (to describe, narrate, argue, persuade, convince, summarize, converse)</li> <li>- give accurate, detailed instructions and directions.</li> <li>- speak with grade-appropriate vocabulary and sentence structure.</li> <li>- speak with fluency and clarity in a large group.</li> <li>- express a point of view and explain it in some detail in group discussions.</li> <li>- self-correct common and not so common grammatical errors.</li> <li>- make academic presentations.</li> <li>- use idiomatic and colloquial language appropriately.</li> <li>- give supported answers in discussions.</li> </ul>	<p><b>Students understand spoken English in most contexts. They:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- identify ideas in a variety of oral presentations, on a range of topics, using grade-appropriate vocabulary.</li> <li>- respond to complex sentence structures in discussions.</li> <li>- respond to spoken English in social, academic, formal, and informal situations, and in some cases, including some idioms, and conversational nuances (irony, humour)</li> <li>- take notes from teacher lessons with some mistakes.</li> <li>- identify key ideas and details in a variety of media works.</li> <li>- respond to new vocabulary</li> </ul>