



# **Grade 8 Reading Assessment**

**2019-2020 & 2020-2021**

**Eligible Texas Essential  
Knowledge and Skills**

# STAAR Grade 8 Reading Assessment

## Reporting Category 1: Understanding and Analysis Across Genres

The student will demonstrate an ability to understand and analyze a variety of written texts across reading genres.

2017 Student Expectation	2009 Student Expectation
<p><b>(2) Developing and sustaining foundational language skills: listening, speaking, reading, writing, and thinking--vocabulary.</b> The student uses newly acquired vocabulary expressively. The student is expected to:</p> <p><b>(C)</b> determine the meaning and usage of grade-level academic English words derived from Greek and Latin roots such as ast, qui, path, mand/mend, and duc.</p>	<p><b>(2) Reading/Vocabulary Development.</b> Students understand new vocabulary and use it when reading and writing. Students are expected to:</p> <p><b>(A)</b> determine the meaning of grade-level academic English words derived from Latin, Greek, or other linguistic roots and affixes. <b>Readiness Standard</b></p>
<p><b>Notes:</b> The above standards align because both require students to identify the meaning of words based on their Latin or Greek root.</p>	
<p><b>(2) Developing and sustaining foundational language skills: listening, speaking, reading, writing, and thinking--vocabulary.</b> The student uses newly acquired vocabulary expressively. The student is expected to:</p> <p><b>(B)</b> use context within or beyond a paragraph to clarify the meaning of unfamiliar or ambiguous words.</p>	<p><b>(2) Reading/Vocabulary Development.</b> Students understand new vocabulary and use it when reading and writing. Students are expected to:</p> <p><b>(B)</b> use context (within a sentence and in larger sections of text) to determine or clarify the meaning of unfamiliar or ambiguous words or words with novel meanings. <b>Readiness Standard</b></p>
<p><b>Notes:</b> The above standards both require students to determine the meaning of an unfamiliar word using context.</p>	

2017 Student Expectation	2009 Student Expectation
<p><b>(2) Developing and sustaining foundational language skills: listening, speaking, reading, writing, and thinking--vocabulary.</b> The student uses newly acquired vocabulary expressively. The student is expected to:</p> <p><b>(A)</b> use print or digital resources to determine the meaning, syllabication, pronunciation, word origin, and part of speech.</p>	<p><b>(2) Reading/Vocabulary Development.</b> Students understand new vocabulary and use it when reading and writing. Students are expected to:</p> <p><b>(E)</b> use a dictionary, a glossary, or a thesaurus (printed or electronic) to determine the meanings, syllabication, pronunciations, alternate word choices, and parts of speech of words.</p> <p><b>Readiness Standard</b></p>
<p><b>Notes:</b> The above standards align because both require students to use a resource such as a dictionary to determine the meaning, syllabication, pronunciation, and parts of speech of words.</p>	
<p><b>(7) Multiple genres: listening, speaking, reading, writing, and thinking using multiple texts--literary elements.</b> The student recognizes and analyzes literary elements within and across increasingly complex traditional, contemporary, classical, and diverse literary texts. The student is expected to:</p> <p><b>(A)</b> analyze how themes are developed through the interaction of characters and events.</p>	<p><b>(3) Reading/Comprehension of Literary Text/Theme and Genre.</b> Students analyze, make inferences and draw conclusions about theme and genre in different cultural, historical, and contemporary contexts and provide evidence from the text to support their understanding. Students are expected to:</p> <p><b>(A)</b> analyze literary works that share similar themes across cultures.</p> <p><b>Supporting Standard</b></p>
<p><b>Notes:</b> The above standards align because both focus on the theme of a literary text.</p>	

2017 Student Expectation	2009 Student Expectation
<p><b>None</b></p>	<p><b>(3) Reading/Comprehension of Literary Text/Theme and Genre.</b> Students analyze, make inferences and draw conclusions about theme and genre in different cultural, historical, and contemporary contexts and provide evidence from the text to support their understanding. Students are expected to:</p> <p><b>(B)</b> compare and contrast the similarities and differences in mythologies from various cultures (e.g., ideas of afterlife, roles and characteristics of deities, purposes of myths).</p> <p><b>Supporting Standard</b></p>
<p><b>Notes:</b> No alignment to this SE has been identified.</p>	
<p><b>(5) Comprehension skills: listening, speaking, reading, writing, and thinking using multiple texts.</b> The student uses metacognitive skills to both develop and deepen comprehension of increasingly complex texts. The student is expected to:</p> <p><b>(E)</b> make connections to personal experiences, ideas in other texts, and society.</p>	<p><b>(9) Reading/Comprehension of Informational Text/Culture and History.</b> Students analyze, make inferences and draw conclusions about the author's purpose in cultural, historical, and contemporary contexts and provide evidence from the text to support their understanding. Students are expected to:</p> <p><b>(A)</b> analyze works written on the same topic and compare how the authors achieved similar or different purposes.</p> <p><b>Supporting Standard</b></p>
<p><b>Notes:</b> The above standards both focus on making connections across multiple texts.</p>	

2017 Student Expectation	2009 Student Expectation
<p><b>None</b></p>	<p><b>(11) Reading/Comprehension of Informational Text/Persuasive Text.</b> Students analyze, make inferences and draw conclusions about persuasive text and provide evidence from text to support their analysis. Students are expected to:</p> <p><b>(A)</b> compare and contrast persuasive texts that reached different conclusions about the same issue and explain how the authors reached their conclusions through analyzing the evidence each presents.</p> <p><b>Supporting Standard</b></p>
<p><b>Notes:</b> No alignment to this SE has been identified.</p>	
<p><b>(5) Comprehension skills: listening, speaking, reading, writing, and thinking using multiple texts.</b> The student uses metacognitive skills to both develop and deepen comprehension of increasingly complex texts. The student is expected to:</p> <p><b>(E)</b> make connections to personal experiences, ideas in other texts, and society.</p>	<p>(Figure 19) <b>Reading/Comprehension Skills.</b> Students use a flexible range of metacognitive reading skills in both assigned and independent reading to understand an author’s message. Students will continue to apply earlier standards with greater depth in increasingly more complex texts as they become self-directed, critical readers. The student is expected to:</p> <p><b>(F)</b> make intertextual links among and across texts, including other media (e.g., film, play), and provide textual evidence.</p> <p><b>Readiness Standard</b></p>
<p><b>Notes:</b> The above standards are aligned because both focus on making connections across multiple texts.</p>	

## Reporting Category 2: Understanding and Analysis of Literary Texts

The student will demonstrate an ability to understand and analyze literary texts.

2017 Student Expectation	2009 Student Expectation
<p><b>(7) Multiple genres: listening, speaking, reading, writing, and thinking using multiple texts--literary elements.</b> The student recognizes and analyzes literary elements within and across increasingly complex traditional, contemporary, classical, and diverse literary texts. The student is expected to:</p> <p><b>(D)</b> explain how the setting influences the values and beliefs of characters.</p>	<p><b>(3) Reading/Comprehension of Literary Text/Theme and Genre.</b> Students analyze, make inferences and draw conclusions about theme and genre in different cultural, historical, and contemporary contexts and provide evidence from the text to support their understanding. Students are expected to:</p> <p><b>(C)</b> explain how the values and beliefs of particular characters are affected by the historical and cultural setting of the literary work.</p> <p><b>Supporting Standard</b></p>
<p><b>Notes:</b> The above standards both require students to explain how the setting of a literary text influences the values and beliefs of characters.</p>	
<p><b>(8) Multiple genres: listening, speaking, reading, writing, and thinking using multiple texts--genres.</b> The student recognizes and analyzes genre-specific characteristics, structures, and purposes within and across increasingly complex traditional, contemporary, classical, and diverse texts. The student is expected to:</p> <p><b>(B)</b> analyze the effect of graphical elements such as punctuation and line length in poems across a variety of poetic forms such as epic, lyric, and humorous poetry.</p>	<p><b>(4) Reading/Comprehension of Literary Text/Poetry.</b> Students understand, make inferences and draw conclusions about the structure and elements of poetry and provide evidence from text to support their understanding. Students are expected to:</p> <p><b>(A)</b> compare and contrast the relationship between the purpose and characteristics of different poetic forms (e.g., epic poetry, lyric poetry).</p> <p><b>Supporting Standard</b></p>
<p><b>Notes:</b> The above standards both focus on the characteristics of various poems which can include the graphical elements. Although the examples provided in these SEs are different, the underlying skill is the same.</p>	

2017 Student Expectation	2009 Student Expectation
<p><b>None</b></p>	<p><b>(5) Reading/Comprehension of Literary Text/Drama.</b> Students understand, make inferences and draw conclusions about the structure and elements of drama and provide evidence from text to support their understanding. Students are expected to:</p> <p><b>(A)</b> analyze how different playwrights characterize their protagonists and antagonists through the dialogue and staging of their plays.</p> <p><b>Supporting Standard</b></p>
<p><b>Notes:</b> No alignment to this SE has been identified.</p>	
<p><b>(7) Multiple genres: listening, speaking, reading, writing, and thinking using multiple texts-- literary elements.</b> The student recognizes and analyzes literary elements within and across increasingly complex traditional, contemporary, classical, and diverse literary texts. The student is expected to:</p> <p><b>(C)</b> analyze non-linear plot development such as flashbacks, foreshadowing, subplots, and parallel plot structures and compare it to linear plot development.</p>	<p><b>(6) Reading/Comprehension of Literary Text/Fiction.</b> Students understand, make inferences and draw conclusions about the structure and elements of fiction and provide evidence from text to support their understanding. Students are expected to:</p> <p><b>(A)</b> analyze linear plot developments (e.g., conflict, rising action, falling action, resolution, subplots) to determine whether and how conflicts are resolved.</p> <p><b>Readiness Standard</b></p>
<p><b>Notes:</b> The above standards align because both focus on the analysis of linear plot development. Although the examples provided in these SEs are different, the underlying skill is the same.</p>	

2017 Student Expectation	2009 Student Expectation
<p><b>(7) Multiple genres: listening, speaking, reading, writing, and thinking using multiple texts-- literary elements.</b> The student recognizes and analyzes literary elements within and across increasingly complex traditional, contemporary, classical, and diverse literary texts. The student is expected to:</p> <p><b>(B)</b> analyze how characters' motivations and behaviors influence events and resolution of the conflict.</p>	<p><b>(6) Reading/Comprehension of Literary Text/Fiction.</b> Students understand, make inferences and draw conclusions about the structure and elements of fiction and provide evidence from text to support their understanding. Students are expected to:</p> <p><b>(B)</b> analyze how the central characters' qualities influence the theme of a fictional work and resolution of the central conflict. <b>Readiness Standard</b></p>
<p><b>Notes:</b> The above standards align because both require the student to analyze the effect characters have on the plot of a literary text.</p>	
<p><b>(9) Author's purpose and craft: listening, speaking, reading, writing, and thinking using multiple texts.</b> The student uses critical inquiry to analyze the authors' choices and how they influence and communicate meaning within a variety of texts. The student analyzes and applies author's craft purposefully in order to develop his or her own products and performances. The student is expected to:</p> <p><b>(E)</b> identify and analyze the use of literary devices, including multiple points of view and irony.</p>	<p><b>(6) Reading/Comprehension of Literary Text/Fiction.</b> Students understand, make inferences and draw conclusions about the structure and elements of fiction and provide evidence from text to support their understanding. Students are expected to:</p> <p><b>(C)</b> analyze different forms of point of view, including limited versus omniscient, subjective versus objective. <b>Supporting Standard</b></p>
<p><b>Notes:</b> The above standards align because both require students to identify multiple forms of point of view. Note that irony would not be eligible for assessment during the transition years at this grade level.</p>	

2017 Student Expectation	2009 Student Expectation
<p><b>None</b></p>	<p><b>(7) Reading/Comprehension of Literary Text/Literary Nonfiction.</b> Students understand, make inferences and draw conclusions about the varied structural patterns and features of literary nonfiction and provide evidence from text to support their understanding. Students are expected to:</p> <p><b>(A)</b> analyze passages in well-known speeches for the author’s use of literary devices and word and phrase choice (e.g., aphorisms, epigraphs) to appeal to the audience.</p> <p><b>Supporting Standard</b></p>
<p><b>Notes:</b> No alignment to this SE has been identified.</p>	
<p><b>(9) Author's purpose and craft: listening, speaking, reading, writing, and thinking using multiple texts.</b> The student uses critical inquiry to analyze the authors' choices and how they influence and communicate meaning within a variety of texts. The student analyzes and applies author's craft purposefully in order to develop his or her own products and performances. The student is expected to:</p> <p><b>(D)</b> describe how the author's use of figurative language such as extended metaphor achieves specific purposes.</p>	<p><b>(8) Reading/Comprehension of Literary Text/Sensory Language.</b> Students understand, make inferences and draw conclusions about how an author’s sensory language creates imagery in literary text and provide evidence from text to support their understanding. Students are expected to:</p> <p><b>(A)</b> explain the effect of similes and extended metaphors in literary text.</p> <p><b>Supporting Standard</b></p>
<p><b>Notes:</b> The above standards both focus on the use of figurative language such as similes and extended metaphors.</p>	

<b>2017 Student Expectation</b>	<b>2009 Student Expectation</b>
<p><b>(9) Author's purpose and craft: listening, speaking, reading, writing, and thinking using multiple texts.</b> The student uses critical inquiry to analyze the authors' choices and how they influence and communicate meaning within a variety of texts. The student analyzes and applies author's craft purposefully in order to develop his or her own products and performances. The student is expected to:</p> <p><b>(C)</b> analyze the author's use of print and graphic features to achieve specific purposes.</p>	<p><b>(13) Reading/Media Literacy.</b> Students use comprehension skills to analyze how words, images, graphics, and sounds work together in various forms to impact meaning. Students will continue to apply earlier standards with greater depth in increasingly more complex texts. Students are expected to:</p> <p><b>(A)</b> evaluate the role of media in focusing attention on events and informing opinion on issues.</p> <p><b>Supporting Standard</b></p>
<p><b>Notes:</b> The above standards align because both focus on the use of graphics to achieve a specific purpose.</p>	
<p><b>None</b></p>	<p><b>(13) Reading/Media Literacy.</b> Students use comprehension skills to analyze how words, images, graphics, and sounds work together in various forms to impact meaning. Students will continue to apply earlier standards with greater depth in increasingly more complex texts. Students are expected to:</p> <p><b>(C)</b> evaluate various techniques used to create a point of view in media and the impact on audience.</p> <p><b>Supporting Standard</b></p>
<p><b>Notes:</b> No alignment to this SE has been identified.</p>	

2017 Student Expectation	2009 Student Expectation
<p><b>(5) Comprehension skills: listening, speaking, reading, writing, and thinking using multiple texts.</b> The student uses metacognitive skills to both develop and deepen comprehension of increasingly complex texts. The student is expected to:</p> <p><b>(F)</b> make inferences and use evidence to support understanding.</p> <p><b>(6) Response skills: listening, speaking, reading, writing, and thinking using multiple texts.</b> The student responds to an increasingly challenging variety of sources that are read, heard, or viewed. The student is expected to:</p> <p><b>(C)</b> use text evidence to support an appropriate response.</p> <p><b>(9) Author's purpose and craft: listening, speaking, reading, writing, and thinking using multiple texts.</b> The student uses critical inquiry to analyze the authors' choices and how they influence and communicate meaning within a variety of texts. The student analyzes and applies author's craft purposefully in order to develop his or her own products and performances. The student is expected to:</p> <p><b>(A)</b> explain the author's purpose and message within a text.</p>	<p>(Figure 19) <b>Reading/Comprehension Skills.</b> Students use a flexible range of metacognitive reading skills in both assigned and independent reading to understand an author's message. Students will continue to apply earlier standards with greater depth in increasingly more complex texts as they become self-directed, critical readers. The student is expected to:</p> <p><b>(D)</b> make complex inferences about text and use textual evidence to support understanding.</p> <p><b>Readiness Standard</b> (Fiction) / <b>Supporting Standard</b> (Literary Nonfiction, Poetry, Drama)</p>
<p><b>Notes:</b> Figure 19.D and SEs 5.F and 6.C align because they require students to either make inferences about literary texts and/or use textual evidence to support understanding.</p> <p>Author's purpose has been aligned to Figure 19.D only in grade 8 because it is the only grade level in which author's purpose did not explicitly appear elsewhere in the 2009 assessed curriculum. This alignment is consistent with the traditional way of assessing author's purpose.</p>	

2017 Student Expectation	2009 Student Expectation
<p><b>(6) Response skills: listening, speaking, reading, writing, and thinking using multiple texts.</b> The student responds to an increasingly challenging variety of sources that are read, heard, or viewed. The student is expected to:</p> <p><b>(D)</b> paraphrase and summarize texts in ways that maintain meaning and logical order.</p>	<p>(Figure 19) <b>Reading/Comprehension Skills.</b> Students use a flexible range of metacognitive reading skills in both assigned and independent reading to understand an author’s message. Students will continue to apply earlier standards with greater depth in increasingly more complex texts as they become self-directed, critical readers. The student is expected to:</p> <p><b>(E)</b> summarize, paraphrase, and synthesize texts in ways that maintain meaning and logical order within a text and across texts.</p> <p><b>Readiness Standard</b> (Fiction) / <b>Supporting Standard</b> (Literary Nonfiction, Poetry, Drama)</p>
<p><b>Notes:</b> The above standards both require students to paraphrase or summarize literary texts in ways that maintain meaning and logical order.</p>	

## Reporting Category 3: Understanding and Analysis of Informational Texts

The student will demonstrate an ability to understand and analyze informational texts.

2017 Student Expectation	2009 Student Expectation
<p><b>(6) Response skills: listening, speaking, reading, writing, and thinking using multiple texts.</b> The student responds to an increasingly challenging variety of sources that are read, heard, or viewed. The student is expected to:</p> <p><b>(D)</b> paraphrase and summarize texts in ways that maintain meaning and logical order.</p> <p><b>(8) Multiple genres: listening, speaking, reading, writing, and thinking using multiple texts--genres.</b> The student recognizes and analyzes genre-specific characteristics, structures, and purposes within and across increasingly complex traditional, contemporary, classical, and diverse texts. The student is expected to:</p> <p><b>(D)</b> analyze characteristics and structural elements of informational text, including:</p> <p><b>(i)</b> the controlling idea or thesis with supporting evidence.</p>	<p><b>(10) Reading/Comprehension of Informational Text/Expository Text.</b> Students analyze, make inferences and draw conclusions about expository text and provide evidence from text to support their understanding. Students are expected to:</p> <p><b>(A)</b> summarize the main ideas, supporting details, and relationships among ideas in text succinctly in ways that maintain meaning and logical order.</p> <p><b><i>Readiness Standard</i></b></p>
<p><b>Notes:</b> 2017 SE 6.D and 2009 SE 10.A are aligned because both require students to summarize text.</p> <p>2017 SE 9.D.i and 2009 SE 13.A align because both require students to recognize a central idea, or main idea, of an informational text and the details that support it. Items focusing on minor details unrelated to a central idea, or main idea, are not eligible for assessment during the transition years.</p>	

2017 Student Expectation	2009 Student Expectation
<p><b>None</b></p>	<p><b>(10) Reading/Comprehension of Informational Text/Expository Text.</b> Students analyze, make inferences and draw conclusions about expository text and provide evidence from text to support their understanding. Students are expected to:</p> <p><b>(B)</b> distinguish factual claims from commonplace assertions and opinions and evaluate inferences from their logic in text.</p> <p><b>Supporting Standard</b></p>
<p><b>Notes:</b> No alignment to this SE has been identified.</p>	
<p><b>(8) Multiple genres: listening, speaking, reading, writing, and thinking using multiple texts--genres.</b> The student recognizes and analyzes genre-specific characteristics, structures, and purposes within and across increasingly complex traditional, contemporary, classical, and diverse texts. The student is expected to:</p> <p><b>(D)</b> analyze characteristics and structural elements of informational text, including:</p> <p><b>(iii)</b> multiple organizational patterns within a text to develop the thesis.</p>	<p><b>(10) Reading/Comprehension of Informational Text/Expository Text.</b> Students analyze, make inferences and draw conclusions about expository text and provide evidence from text to support their understanding. Students are expected to:</p> <p><b>(C)</b> make subtle inferences and draw complex conclusions about the ideas in text and their organizational patterns.</p> <p><b>Readiness Standard</b></p>
<p><b>Notes:</b> The above standards align because both require students to make inferences or analyze the organizational patterns of informational texts.</p>	

2017 Student Expectation	2009 Student Expectation
<p><b>(5) Comprehension skills: listening, speaking, reading, writing, and thinking using multiple texts.</b> The student uses metacognitive skills to both develop and deepen comprehension of increasingly complex texts. The student is expected to:</p> <p><b>(E)</b> make connections to personal experiences, ideas in other texts, and society.</p> <p><b>(H)</b> synthesize information to create new understanding.</p>	<p><b>(10) Reading/Comprehension of Informational Text/Expository Text.</b> Students analyze, make inferences and draw conclusions about expository text and provide evidence from text to support their understanding. Students are expected to:</p> <p><b>(D)</b> synthesize and make logical connections between ideas within a text and across two or three texts representing similar or different genres and support those findings with textual evidence.</p> <p><b>Readiness Standard</b></p>
<p><b>Notes:</b> The above standards align because they require students to either make connections within or across texts or synthesize information within a text to support understanding.</p>	
<p><b>None</b></p>	<p><b>(11) Reading/Comprehension of Informational Text/Persuasive Text.</b> Students analyze, make inferences and draw conclusions about persuasive text and provide evidence from text to support their analysis. Students are expected to:</p> <p><b>(B)</b> analyze the use of such rhetorical and logical fallacies as loaded terms, caricatures, leading questions, false assumptions, and incorrect premises in persuasive texts.</p> <p><b>Supporting Standard</b></p>
<p><b>Notes:</b> No alignment to this SE has been identified.</p>	

2017 Student Expectation	2009 Student Expectation
<p><b>(9) Author's purpose and craft: listening, speaking, reading, writing, and thinking using multiple texts.</b> The student uses critical inquiry to analyze the authors' choices and how they influence and communicate meaning within a variety of texts. The student analyzes and applies author's craft purposefully in order to develop his or her own products and performances. The student is expected to:</p> <p><b>(C)</b> analyze the author's use of print and graphic features to achieve specific purposes.</p>	<p><b>(12) Reading/Comprehension of Informational Text/Procedural Texts.</b> Students understand how to glean and use information in procedural texts and documents. Students are expected to:</p> <p><b>(B)</b> evaluate graphics for their clarity in communicating meaning or achieving a specific purpose. <b>Supporting Standard</b></p>
<p><b>Notes:</b> The above standards both require students to analyze the purposeful use of graphic features found in text.</p>	
<p><b>(9) Author's purpose and craft: listening, speaking, reading, writing, and thinking using multiple texts.</b> The student uses critical inquiry to analyze the authors' choices and how they influence and communicate meaning within a variety of texts. The student analyzes and applies author's craft purposefully in order to develop his or her own products and performances. The student is expected to:</p> <p><b>(C)</b> analyze the author's use of print and graphic features to achieve specific purposes.</p>	<p><b>(13) Reading/Media Literacy.</b> Students use comprehension skills to analyze how words, images, graphics, and sounds work together in various forms to impact meaning. Students will continue to apply earlier standards with greater depth in increasingly more complex texts. Students are expected to:</p> <p><b>(A)</b> evaluate the role of media in focusing attention on events and informing opinion on issues. <b>Supporting Standard</b></p>
<p><b>Notes:</b> The above standards align because both require students to analyze the function of graphic features found in texts.</p>	

2017 Student Expectation	2009 Student Expectation
<p><b>None</b></p>	<p><b>(13) Reading/Media Literacy.</b>            Students use comprehension skills to analyze how words, images, graphics, and sounds work together in various forms to impact meaning. Students will continue to apply earlier standards with greater depth in increasingly more complex texts. Students are expected to:</p> <p><b>(C)</b> evaluate various techniques used to create a point of view in media and the impact on audience.</p> <p><b><i>Supporting Standard</i></b></p>
<p><b>Notes:</b> No alignment to this SE has been identified.</p>	

2017 Student Expectation	2009 Student Expectation
<p><b>(5) Comprehension skills: listening, speaking, reading, writing, and thinking using multiple texts.</b> The student uses metacognitive skills to both develop and deepen comprehension of increasingly complex texts. The student is expected to:</p> <p><b>(F)</b> make inferences and use evidence to support understanding.</p> <p><b>(6) Response skills: listening, speaking, reading, writing, and thinking using multiple texts.</b> The student responds to an increasingly challenging variety of sources that are read, heard, or viewed. The student is expected to:</p> <p><b>(C)</b> use text evidence to support an appropriate response.</p> <p><b>(9) Author's purpose and craft: listening, speaking, reading, writing, and thinking using multiple texts.</b> The student uses critical inquiry to analyze the authors' choices and how they influence and communicate meaning within a variety of texts. The student analyzes and applies author's craft purposefully in order to develop his or her own products and performances. The student is expected to:</p> <p><b>(A)</b> explain the author's purpose and message within a text.</p>	<p>(Figure 19) <b>Reading/Comprehension Skills.</b> Students use a flexible range of metacognitive reading skills in both assigned and independent reading to understand an author's message. Students will continue to apply earlier standards with greater depth in increasingly more complex texts as they become self-directed, critical readers. The student is expected to:</p> <p><b>(D)</b> make complex inferences about text and use textual evidence to support understanding.</p> <p><b>Readiness Standard</b> (Expository) / <b>Supporting Standard</b> (Persuasive)</p>
<p><b>Notes:</b> Figure 19.D and SEs 5.F and 6.C align because they require students to either make inferences about literary texts and/or use textual evidence to support understanding.</p> <p>Author's purpose has been aligned to Figure 19.D only in grade 8 because it is the only grade level in which author's purpose did not explicitly appear elsewhere in the 2009 assessed curriculum. This alignment is consistent with the traditional way of assessing author's purpose.</p>	

2017 Student Expectation	2009 Student Expectation
<p><b>(6) Response skills: listening, speaking, reading, writing, and thinking using multiple texts.</b> The student responds to an increasingly challenging variety of sources that are read, heard, or viewed. The student is expected to:</p> <p><b>(D)</b> paraphrase and summarize texts in ways that maintain meaning and logical order.</p>	<p>(Figure 19) <b>Reading/Comprehension Skills.</b> Students use a flexible range of metacognitive reading skills in both assigned and independent reading to understand an author’s message. Students will continue to apply earlier standards with greater depth in increasingly more complex texts as they become self-directed, critical readers. The student is expected to:</p> <p><b>(E)</b> summarize, paraphrase, and synthesize texts in ways that maintain meaning and logical order within a text and across texts.</p> <p><b>Readiness Standard</b> (Expository) / <b>Supporting Standard</b> (Persuasive)</p>
<p><b>Notes:</b> The above standards are aligned because both require students to paraphrase or summarize informational texts in ways that maintain meaning and logical order.</p>	