

Language Arts Grade 8 – Overview of course expectations

English 8:

English 8 includes the study of Narrative, Expository, Technical and Persuasive Texts. Students experience a variety of literature and genres (novels, short stories, poetry, nonfiction). This course also includes the study of grammar and usage. Students continue to develop research skills and do a variety of writing (using the writing process) that is scored using the Six-trait writing rubrics (ideas and content, organization, voice, word choice, sentence fluency, and conventions).

Students also prepare for the Kansas State Reading assessment.

Communications 8

This course focuses on basic communications skills that will be necessary for success in future career opportunities. Students will gain confidence in public speaking. Listening and speaking skills will be addressed from both the individual and group perspective. Attention will be given to techniques of persuasion, conflict resolution, and the dynamics of communications from a variety of venues.

Applied Reading 8

The course is designed to help improve reading ability of students in 8th grade. Attention is given to the components of reading: vocabulary, fluency, comprehension and word study and extends literature-based instruction. Students receive instruction in reading strategies that can be applied across content. Individualized attention is given to building comprehension and vocabulary development.

Learning Strategies 8

Learning strategies provides students with techniques, strategies that enable them to learn to solve problems and complete tasks independently. This is a support program that focuses on improving higher level writing skills. Students are provided with tutorial help where needed with other classes.