

Massachusetts Curriculum Matrix for English Language Arts

Massachusetts English Language Arts Strands/General Standards/ Learning Standards Grades 9-10	National Essential Skills Study (NESS) Rankings		MCAS	NESS	Priority
	Rank				
1.5 Identify and practice techniques such as setting time limits for speakers and deadlines for decision-making to improve productivity of group discussions.	E10	Participate in (sometimes leading) one-on-one or group discussions by asking questions, asking for clarification, taking turns speaking, agreeing and/or disagreeing courteously, making informed judgments, and working toward a common goal.	L	H	M
4.23 Identify and use correctly idioms, cognates, words with literal and figurative meanings, and patterns of word changes that indicate different meanings or functions.	E5	Develop processes or techniques for building vocabulary, decoding unfamiliar words/texts, and understanding or remembering information by using such strategies as context clues, word structure, letter-sound relationships, word histories, and mnemonics.	M	H	H
8.29 Identify and analyze patterns of imagery or symbolism.	E37	Evaluate an author's uses of language, literary devices, and text characteristics (plot, setting, theme, character, point of view, genre, etc.) to evoke a response in a reader.	H	M	H
8.30 Identify and interpret themes and give supporting evidence from a text.	E41	Assess the significance and importance of themes in literary text.	H	L	M
8.31 Analyze the logic and use of evidence in an author's argument.	E13	Assess the validity, reliability, authenticity, quality, and accuracy of an informational or literary text.	H	H	H
	E30	Apply personal, ethical, or impartial criteria for evaluating informational, persuasive, and literary materials.			
9.6 Relate a literary work to primary source documents of its literary period or historical setting.	E23	Create a connection to a text by understanding the personal, social, cultural, and historical significance of it.	L	M	M
10.5 Compare and contrast the presentation of a theme or topic across genres to explain how the selection of genre shapes the message.	E41	Assess the significance and importance of themes in literary text.	L	L	L
	E42	Compare/contrast literary genres (science fiction, romance, drama, etc.) or delivery systems (books, live performance, film, etc.).			