

West Virginia Arts Education Curriculum Matrix for English Language Arts

West Virginia English Language Arts Standards/Objectives Grade 8	National Essential Skills Study (NESS) Rankings	WESTEST Data NA	Visual Arts	Dance	Music	Theatre
Standard 1: Reading						
RLA. S.8.1 - Students will use skills to read for literacy experiences, read to inform and read to perform a task by identifying and using the dimensions of reading components (phonemic awareness, phonics, background knowledge/vocabulary, high frequency words/fluency, comprehension, writing and motivation to read) and employing a wide variety of literature in developing independence as readers.						
RLA.O.8.1.01 - compare/contrast connotation and denotation in complex passages to understand and enhance meaning of words, sentences and shorter passages.	E5		H	H	H	H
RLA.O.8.1.02 - use knowledge of Greek and Latin roots, prefixes and suffixes to determine the meaning of words, spell words, change word meanings and generate new words appropriate to grade level, recognize that knowledge of the origins and history of word meanings enhances understanding of a word's meaning.	E5		H	H	H	H
RLA.O.8.1.03 - use etymology, context clues, affixes, synonyms or antonyms to increase grade appropriate vocabulary.	E5		H	H	H	H

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RLA.O.8.1.04 - analyze the defining characteristics, build background knowledge and apply reading skills to understand a variety of literary passages and genres by West Virginia, national and international authors: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • fiction • nonfiction • myths • fantasies • biographies • autobiographies • science fiction • tall tales • supernatural tales 	E23 E35 E42		H	H	H	H
RLA.O.8.1.05 - use pre-reading and comprehension strategies (e.g., generating questions and previewing, activating and evaluating prior knowledge and scanning or skimming texts) to critically analyze and evaluate the composition of literary and informational texts for <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • making judgments • hypothesizing • making complex or abstract summaries 	E12		H	H	H	H
RLA.O.8.1.06 - determine and interpret the elements of literature to construct meaning and recognize author's purpose and/or reader's purpose: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • theme • character • setting • internal conflict • rising and falling action • point of view • antagonist • protagonist • hero 	E35 E37		H	H	H	H