

Distance Learning Resources for English Language Arts Middle Level

The Office of Standards and Learning has compiled the resources in this document for middle level English Language Arts learners in light of school closures due to the community impact of COVID-19. The *South Carolina College- and Career-Ready Standard for English Language Arts* informed the selection and organization of these resources.

This document is designed and ready for students. The resources are organized for students to make choices in their learning based on the reading and writing skills that need more practice. There are virtual and non-virtual learning options for students.

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Reading-Literary Text

Dear Student,

Prepare for Learning: Look at some skills below that are needed to determine meaning of text for analysis. Respond to the reflection questions below.

Reading Literary Text Skills (Standard R.L. 5.6.8.11)

- Determine meaning
- Develop logical interpretations
- Summarize key details
- Analyze characters, setting, events, and ideas and they develop
- Author's purpose

Reflection Questions: What reading literary text skills do you understand? How have you shown your understanding of those skills? What reading literary text skills do you need to practice?

During Learning: Click on the Short Stories resource title below. Choose any short story title and read the short story. Make note of the key details, how the characters, setting, events, and ideas develop. What is the overall meaning of the story and how do you know? Respond by explaining what the text says, what the texts mean, and why the texts matter to the overall meaning of the story.

Resource: [Short Stories](#) (Citation: American Literature (n.d.). Short Stories or Middle School. <https://americanliterature.com/middle-school-short-stories>).

If you do not have access to the internet. Look around your home for fictional books, magazines, images, stories told from family members. Read, notice, and listen to the text, image, and/or story. Respond by explaining what the texts says, what the texts mean, and why the texts matter to the overall meaning.

After Learning: Look at some skills below that are needed to determine meaning of text for analysis. Respond to the reflection questions below.

Reading Literary Text Skills (Standard R.L. 5.6.8.11)

- Determine meaning
- Develop logical interpretations
- Summarize key details
- Analyze characters, setting, events, and ideas and they develop
- Author's purpose

Reflection Questions: What reading literary text skills do you now understand? How have you shown your understanding of those skills? What reading literary text skills do you need to continue practicing?

Reading- Informational Text

Dear Student,

Prepare for Learning: Look at some skills below that are needed to determine meaning of text for analysis. Respond to the reflection questions below.

Reading Informational Text Skills (Standard R.I. 5.6.11)

- Determine meaning
- Develop logical interpretations
- Summarize key details
- Author's purpose

Reflection Questions: What reading informational text skills do you understand? How have you shown your understanding of those skills? What reading informational text skills do you need to practice?

During Learning: Click on the KQED resource title below. In the discussion section, click on a topic that interests you. Read the discussion, then watch the video. Take note of the key details used within the argument. Click on view and share citations tab to read additional informational texts on the topic debate. After being informed on the topic from multiple perspectives, respond by explaining what the texts (video and articles) say, what the texts mean, and why the texts matter to the topic.

Resource: [KQED Learn](https://learn.kqed.org/discussions) (Citation: KQED Inc. (2020) KQED Resources. KQED Learn. <https://learn.kqed.org/discussions>)

If you do not have access to the internet. Look around your home for books, magazines, or images. Read and notice the text and/or image. Respond by explaining what the texts (video and articles) say, what the texts mean, and why the texts matter to the topic.

After Learning Look back at some skills below that are needed to determine meaning of text for analysis. Respond to the reflection questions below.

Reading Informational Text Skills (Standard R.I. 5.6.11)

- Determine meaning
- Develop logical interpretations
- Summarize key details
- Author's purpose

Reflection Questions: What reading informational text skills do you now understand? How have you shown your understanding of those skills? What reading informational text skills do you still need to practice?

Writing

Dear Student,

Prepare for Learning: Look at some skills below that are needed to understand and write an argument. Respond to the reflection questions below.

Argument Skills (Standard W.1. a.b.c.d.e)

- Writing a claim from multiple perspectives
- Supporting claim with evidence
- Organizing your reasoning
- Consider counterclaims

Reflection Questions: What argument skills do you understand? How have you shown your understanding of the argument skills? What argument skills do you need to practice?

During Learning: Click on the resource title below. Choose a topic of interest under the header, *Writing Into the Day Options*. Click on the title of the topic you choose. Follow the steps within the document for your focused topic. Work through the directions in order to write your argument.

Resource: [National Writing Project Using Writing Into the Day as Routine Argument Writing](https://docs.google.com/document/d/1m_ZUSOpq5cozWjC2iNWmflnSQTpSep9OR-xweyDNPn0/edit)

(Citation: National Writing Project (2019) Writing Into the Day as Routine Argument. C3W). https://docs.google.com/document/d/1m_ZUSOpq5cozWjC2iNWmflnSQTpSep9OR-xweyDNPn0/edit

If you do not have access to the internet, argument is all around you. Look for advertisements in magazines, TV commercials, or signs. Study the advertisement and decide what argument is being presented. Think about your opinion to the advertisement. Talk with friends or family members about their opinion about the argument. Use the opinions you gather to inform your argument.

After Learning: Look back at some skills below that are needed to understand and write an argument. Respond to the reflection questions below.

Argument Skills (Standard W.1. a.b.c.d.e)

- Writing a claim from multiple perspectives
- Supporting claim with evidence
- Organizing your reasoning
- Consider counterclaims

Reflection Questions: Now what argument skills do you understand? How have you shown your understanding of those argument skills? What argument skills do you need continued to practice?

Dear Student,

Prepare for Learning: Look at some skills below that are needed to understand and write informative/expository. Respond to the reflection questions below.

Informative/Expository Skills (Standard W.2. a.b.d)

- Introduce a topic clearly
- Use relevant facts
- Use credible sources

Reflection Questions: What informative/expository skills do you understand? How have you shown your understanding of the informative/expository skills? What informative/expository skills do you need to practice?

During Learning: Click on the Kelly Gallagher lesson plan resource title below. Read through the lesson plan for daily writing opportunities to write informative/expository pieces about COVID 19 and the impact on you and your community.

Resource: [Kelly Gallagher lesson plans](#)

(Citation: Gallagher, K., & Kittle, P. (2020). Kelly Gallagher Lesson Plans. Retrieved from https://docs.google.com/document/d/163n3AYdR61LJrivXOap7HFb_rtH6U2uWn_tkhKbZ121/edit)

If you do not have access to the internet, ask permission to listen to the different news stations as information regarding COVID 19 is presented. Take note as to the relevant facts being presented. Use that information to write an informative/expository piece.

After Learning: Look at some skills below that are needed to understand and write informative/expository. Respond to the reflection questions below.

Informative/Expository Skills (Standard W.2. a.b.d)

- Introduce a topic clearly
- Use relevant facts
- Use credible sources

Reflection Questions: What informative/expository skills do you now understand? How have you shown your understanding of the informative/expository skills? What informative/expository skills do you need to continue practicing?

Dear Student,

Prepare for Learning: Look at some skills below that are needed to understand and write a narrative. Respond to the reflection questions below.

Narrative Skills (Standard W.3. a.b.c.g)

- Develop real or imagined experiences
- Engage the reader
- Logically organize the events
- Use descriptive details

Reflection Questions: What narrative skills do you understand? How have you shown your understanding of the narrative skills? What narrative skills do you need to practice?

During Learning: Click on the TED ED resource titles below. Watch and learn how to write narratives. Choose between the videos below for ideas to make your narrative descriptive, suspenseful, or funny. Once you have an idea, write a narrative.

Resource: TED ED (Citation: TED (2018). TED ED. <https://ed.ted.com/educator>)

Descriptive Writing Title- [How to write descriptively - Nalo Hopkinson](#)

Suspenseful Writing Title- [How to make your writing suspenseful - Victoria Smith](#)

Comedy Writing Title- [How to make your writing funnier - Cheri Steinkellner](#)

If you do not have access to the internet, look around your home for stories. Stories can come from books, TV, sharing memories with family. Notice how descriptive the stories are as they are shared. Use those ideas to write your own narrative.

After Learning: Look at some skills below that are needed to understand and write a narrative. Respond to the reflection questions below.

Narrative Skills (Standard W.3. a.b.c.g)

- Develop real or imagined experiences
- Engage the reader
- Logically organize the events
- Use descriptive details

Reflection Questions: What narrative skills do you now understand? How have you shown your understanding of the narrative skills? What narrative skills do you need to continue practicing?