

FIELD 206: MIDDLE GRADES ENGLISH LANGUAGE ARTS

TEST FRAMEWORK

April 2022

Content Domain	Range of Competencies	Approximate Percentage of Test Score
I. Reading Comprehension and Analysis of Texts	0001–0003	40%
II. Expressive and Receptive Communication	0004–0008	60%

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READING COMPREHENSION AND ANALYSIS OF TEXTS

0001 Apply knowledge of the developmental reading skills of vocabulary acquisition and reading comprehension.

- Demonstrate knowledge of reading fluency and how it affects reading comprehension.
- Apply knowledge of syntactic rules, word structure, and contextual analysis to determine the denotative and connotative meanings of words and phrases.
- Demonstrate knowledge of factors that influence vocabulary development.
- Demonstrate knowledge of effective, research-based reading strategies to use before, during, and after reading a text for a particular purpose.
- Demonstrate knowledge of effective oral and written language activities to enhance reading comprehension.
- Demonstrate knowledge of strategies for constructing meaning from multiple types of texts at varying comprehension levels (i.e., literal, inferential, evaluative, and synthesis).
- Demonstrate knowledge of general academic and content-specific vocabulary in context.

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0002 Apply knowledge of informational and argumentative texts.

- Analyze organizational structures and text features of informational and argumentative texts.
- Analyze the development of the central idea(s), positions, and claims in informational and argumentative texts.
- Determine authors' perspectives and purposes in informational and argumentative texts.
- Assess the credibility, objectivity, and reliability of sources referenced in informational and argumentative texts.
- Evaluate the relevance, importance, and sufficiency of evidence, examples, and reasons provided to support the central ideas, claims, or counterclaims in informational and argumentative texts.
- Recognize objective summaries of informational and argumentative texts.
- Interpret graphic features used in informational and argumentative texts, such as tables, graphs, and charts.
- Distinguish between facts and opinions presented in informational and argumentative texts.
- Analyze the use of rhetorical devices and techniques in argumentative texts, such as repetition; exaggeration; and logical, emotional, and ethical appeals.

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0003 Apply knowledge of literary texts.

- Demonstrate knowledge of the literary elements and structures of various genres.
- Analyze how literary devices and techniques contribute to meaning, point of view, tone, and mood in literary texts.
- Analyze the use and impact of structural elements in fiction, drama, and poetry.
- Determine the denotative, connotative, and figurative meanings of words and phrases and analyze how word choice affects meaning, tone, or mood in literary texts.
- Analyze the development and interaction of plot, setting, and character in literary texts.
- Determine the themes of literary texts.
- Analyze texts representative of diverse values, attitudes, and beliefs from various regional, ethnic, and cultural groups.
- Analyze how authors from diverse cultural backgrounds and various time periods have explored significant social, cultural, and political events and issues through their literary works.

EXPRESSIVE AND RECEPTIVE COMMUNICATION

0004 Demonstrate knowledge of language acquisition.

- Demonstrate knowledge of language acquisition theories and strategies as they apply to adolescents.
- Demonstrate knowledge of adolescent language and literacy development in the areas of critical thinking, reading, writing, speaking/ expressive communication, and listening/receptive communication.
- Demonstrate knowledge of how adolescents' language use is affected by educational, linguistic, social, cultural, and economic factors.
- Demonstrate knowledge of the relationships across students' linguistic skill sets that may include, but are not limited to, home languages, native languages, dialects, and academic languages as they are learned, developed, and used in the classroom.

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0005 Apply knowledge of the writing process and strategies for writing argumentative, informative, and narrative texts.

- Demonstrate knowledge of the structures and purposes of argumentative, informative, and narrative writing and of methods for selecting an effective organizational approach for writing.
- Demonstrate knowledge of processes for planning, drafting, revising, editing, and publishing texts and of technological tools to use during all stages of the writing process.
- Apply knowledge of how to introduce and support claims in argumentative texts using reasoning supported by relevant evidence from accurate, credible sources.
- Apply knowledge of strategies for anticipating and responding to potential questions, concerns, and counterarguments in argumentative texts.
- Apply knowledge of methods for establishing a clear central idea in informational texts and for developing the idea with relevant facts, details, and other information and examples.
- Apply knowledge of how to use effective and varied transitions to create cohesion and clarify relationships between claims, counterclaims, reasons, and evidence in an argumentative text and between ideas and concepts in an informative text.
- Apply knowledge of strategies for selecting and maintaining style, tone, voice, and diction appropriate to a given task, purpose, and audience.
- Apply knowledge of how to develop, sequence, and pace experiences and events so that they build on one another to create a coherent whole in a personal or fictional narrative.
- Apply knowledge of how to use dialogue, descriptive details, sensory language, and reflection to develop experiences, events, and characters in narrative writing.
- Demonstrate knowledge of academic English conventions, effective word usage, and grammatical sentence structure in written texts.

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0006 Apply knowledge of academic inquiry and research.

- Demonstrate knowledge of strategies for developing research questions and for narrowing or broadening the scope of a research topic.
- Demonstrate knowledge of strategies for locating sources of relevant information for a research topic.
- Demonstrate knowledge of strategies for assessing the credibility, objectivity, and reliability of sources of information.
- Demonstrate knowledge of strategies for accurately paraphrasing, summarizing, and quoting directly from sources while avoiding plagiarism and following standard citation formats.

0007 Apply knowledge of effective listening/receptive communication and speaking/expressive communication.

- Demonstrate knowledge of the characteristics, purposes, and challenges of various modes of listening and communicating.
- Demonstrate knowledge of factors that affect oral language and interpersonal communication development (e.g., familial, cultural, educational, socioeconomic, linguistic, and developmental characteristics).
- Demonstrate knowledge of techniques for planning, initiating, facilitating, and participating in a range of collaborative discussions.
- Demonstrate knowledge of strategies for facilitating respectful, collaborative discussions and decision making.
- Demonstrate knowledge of strategies for effective participation in academic discussions, including posing and responding to questions; referencing supporting evidence; synthesizing comments, claims, and evidence; and clarifying, verifying, and challenging conclusions.
- Demonstrate knowledge of strategies for incorporating effective language styles, rhetorical devices, and vocal techniques into oral presentations for various purposes, audiences, and occasions.

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0008 Apply knowledge of multimedia texts and multimodal discourse.

- Analyze messages, meanings, biases, and themes conveyed through various media and in various combinations of media.
- Demonstrate knowledge of how components of media can be manipulated to misrepresent or alter information and can impact an individual's response or influence public opinion.
- Demonstrate knowledge of how individuals' personal experiences and prior knowledge affect their interpretation of multimedia texts.
- Demonstrate knowledge of strategies for establishing a clear purpose and organizing a presentation to meet the requirements of a particular task, purpose, and audience.
- Demonstrate knowledge of strategies for incorporating various media into presentations in order to engage the audience's interest and promote comprehension of the topic.