

Course: 8th grade Writing

Teacher(s): Phillip Elliott and Estelle Chough

Grade: 8

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Course Overview: This year, our students will refine and build upon previously learned knowledge and skills in increasingly complex essays. On a regular basis, 8th grade students are expected to produce clear and organized five-paragraph essays (with at least seven sentences). 8th grade students are able to select and use different forms of writing for specific purposes such as to inform, persuade, or entertain. 8th graders edit their writing based on their knowledge of grammar and usage, spelling, punctuation, and other conventions of written language. In 8th grade, students use every phase of the writing process and continue to build their knowledge of writing techniques as well as share their work through various modes of presentation.

Materials: 8th Grade Writing Binder and Notebook (stays in class), Chromebook, Writing Utensil

BUGS Proficiency Scale

Rating Scale	Level of Mastery	Explanation of Mastery Levels
4.0	Exceeds Level 3 Expectation	Advanced: Clearly indicates knowledge and skills above Level 3 expectation.
3.5		Mastery with components of more complex concepts
3.0	Meets Expectations for Mastery	Proficient: Clearly demonstrates knowledge and skills that meet level 3 expectations for mastery
2.5		Knowledge and skills beyond the foundation. Moving towards proficiency in the standards required for mastery.
2.0	Approaching Grade Level	Progressing: Knowledge and skills of the foundational concepts of the standards required for mastery.

1.5		Evidence indicates growth in student knowledge and skills beyond beginning levels of understanding.
1.0	Far Below Grade Level	Beginning: Indicates beginning knowledge of standards and skills
0.0		Insufficient or no evidence

Pacing Calendar Overview of Curriculum/Curriculum Scope and Sequence

Subject: 8th Grade Writing

Grade: 8

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Timeframe	Units of Study	Unit Overview	Learning Targets to be Assessed
September -	<i>Unit 0: Grammar</i>	<i>Students will examine the sentence by identifying the various components to making a clear and coherent sentence.</i>	Structure and Organization (SO) Writing Nonfiction (NFW) Research (RS) Language and Conventions (LC) Writing Narratives (with craft) (NW)
October -	<i>Unit 1: Investigative Journalism</i>	<i>Students will conduct interviews, investigate local issues or interests, and present their investigations by crafting articles and reports.</i>	Structure and Organization (SO) Writing Nonfiction (NFW) Research (RS) Language and Conventions (LC) Writing Narratives (with craft) (NW)
November -	<i>Unit 2: Literary Essays</i>	<i>Students will analyze and interpret literary works with an emphasis on theme and narrative techniques and how they impact the reader.</i>	Structure and Organization (SO) Research (RS) Language and Conventions (LC) Writing Narratives (with craft) (NW)
December -	<i>Unit 2: Literary Essays</i>	<i>Students will analyze and interpret literary works with an emphasis on theme and narrative techniques and how they impact the reader.</i>	Structure and Organization (SO) Research (RS) Language and Conventions (LC) Writing Narratives (with craft) (NW)
January -	<i>Unit 3: Position Papers</i>	<i>Students will develop credible claims and counterclaims on controversial topics. They will practice identifying bias and locating credible sources and present their claims through debates, speeches, and essays.</i>	Structure and Organization (SO) Writing Nonfiction (NFW) Research (RS) Language and Conventions (LC)
February -	<i>Unit 3: Position Papers</i>	<i>Students will develop credible claims and counterclaims on controversial topics. They will practice identifying bias and locating credible sources and present their claims through debates, speeches, and essays.</i>	Structure and Organization (SO) Writing Nonfiction (NFW) Research (RS) Language and Conventions (LC)
March -	<i>Unit 4: Test Prep</i>	<i>Students will practice effective strategies to ensure success during the NYS exam. Students will take NYS exams from previous years.</i>	Structure and Organization (SO) Writing Nonfiction (NFW) Research (RS)

			Language and Conventions (LC)
April -	<i>Unit 5: Writing Across Genres</i>	<i>Students will write across genres by applying the various writing techniques they learned across the year.</i>	Structure and Organization (SO) Writing Nonfiction (NFW) Research (RS) Language and Conventions (LC) Writing Narratives (with craft) (NW)
May -	<i>Unit 5: Writing Across Genres</i>	<i>Students will write across genres by applying the various writing techniques they learned across the year.</i>	Structure and Organization (SO) Writing Nonfiction (NFW) Research (RS) Language and Conventions (LC) Writing Narratives (with craft) (NW)