

Language Arts – Advanced Writing
Hartley-Melvin-Sanborn CSD
Grade Level/Course Benchmarks

By the end of the Advanced Writing course students will:

Advanced Writing Standard 1

1. prewriting: use a variety of prewriting strategies
2. drafting and revising: use a variety of strategies to draft and revise written work
3. editing and publishing: use a variety of strategies to edit and publish written work
4. evaluate own and others' writing
5. write compositions that are focused for different audiences
6. write compositions that fulfill different purposes
7. write expository compositions
8. write autobiographical, and observational narrative compositions, specific setting for scenes and incidents; provide supporting descriptive detail; descriptions of sounds, smells, specific actions, movements, and gestures
9. write persuasive compositions that evaluate, interpret, and speculate about problems/solutions and causes and effects
10. write descriptive compositions; subject being described; use supporting detail (concrete images, shifting perspectives and vantage points, sensor detail, and factual description of appearance.)
11. write reflective compositions; (e.g., use personal experience as a basis for reflection on some aspect of life, draw abstract comparisons between specific incidents and abstract concepts, maintain a balance between describing incidents and relating them to more general abstract ideas that illustrate personal beliefs, moves from specific examples to generalizations about life
12. write in response to literature; (e.g. suggest an interpretation; recognize possible ambiguities, nuances, and complexities in a text; interpret passages of a novel in terms of their significance to the novel as a whole; focus on the theme of a literary work; explain concepts found in literary works).

Advanced Writing Standard 2

1. use descriptive language that clarify and enhance ideas
2. use paragraph form in writing
3. use a variety of sentence structures and lengths
4. use a variety of transitional devices
5. use a variety of techniques to provide supporting detail

6. organize ideas to achieve cohesion in writing
7. use a variety of techniques to convey a personal style and voice.

Advanced Writing Standard 3

1. use complex and compound-complex sentences in written compositions
2. use conventions of spelling in written compositions
3. use conventions of capitalization in written compositions
4. use conventions of punctuation in written compositions
5. use commonly confused terms in written compositions
6. use standard format in written compositions
7. use the computer to locate books for research topics
8. use the Reader's Guide to Periodical Literature and other indexes to gather information for research topics
9. use the internet to gather information for research topics
10. use a variety of resource materials to gather information for research topics
11. determine the appropriateness of an information source for a research topic
12. organize information and ideas from multiple sources in systematic ways
13. write research papers.

Advanced Writing Standard 4

1. use a variety of primary sources to gather information for research topics
2. determine the validity and reliability of primary and secondary source information and use information accordingly in reporting on a research topic
3. write research papers (e.g., include a thesis statement; synthesize information into a logical sequence)
4. create bibliographies for research topics (e.g., use a style sheet format, such as the *Modern Language Association* or the *American Psychological Association*).

Advanced Writing Standard 5

1. represent key ideas and supporting details in outline or graph form.

Advanced Writing Standard 7

1. scan a passage to determine whether it contains relevant information
2. use discussions with peers as a way of understanding information.

Advanced Writing Standard 8

1. ask questions as a way to broaden and enrich classroom discussions.