

Language Arts – American Literature
Hartley-Melvin-Sanborn CSD
Grade Level/Course Benchmarks

By the end of the American Literature course, students will:

Language Arts Standard 5

- AL.1 determine figurative, idiomatic, and technical meanings of terms through, context
- AL.2 extend general and specialized reading vocabulary
- AL.3 use a range of automatic monitoring and self-correction methods
- AL.4 understand influences on a reader's response to a text
- AL.5 identify and analyze the philosophical assumptions and basic beliefs underlying an author's work

Language Arts Standard 6

- AL.6 apply reading skills and strategies to a variety of literary texts
- AL.7 know the defining characteristics of a variety of literary forms and genres
- AL.8 analyze the effectiveness of complex elements of plot
- AL.9 identify the simple and complex actions between main and subordinate characters in texts containing complex character structures
- AL.10 make connections among literary works based on theme
- AL.11 understand the effects of complex literary devices and techniques on the overall quality of a work
- AL.12 understand historical and cultural influences on literary work
- AL.13 make abstract connections between his or her own life and the characters, events, motives, and causes of conflict in texts
- AL.14 relate personal response to the text with that seemingly intended by the author

Language Arts Standard 7

- AL. 15 apply reading skills and strategies to a variety of texts
- AL.16 know the refining characteristics of a variety of texts
- AL.17 summarize and paraphrase complex, implicit hierarchic structures in texts, including the relationships among the concepts and details in those structures
- AL.18 use discussions with peers as a way of understanding information

Language Arts Standard 9

AL.19 independently apply the reading process and strategies to pieces of literature
AL.20 understand the defining features and structures of different types of literature
Language Arts Standard 11

AL.21 demonstrate an understanding of why certain literary works may be considered classics or works of enduring quality and substance.