

ENGLISH LANGUAGE ARTS Fourth Grade

VALUES AND ATTITUDES	The student will: Develop an understanding of Christian philosophy in relation to literature. Recognize the value of writing to clarify thinking, express emotions, make decisions and solve problems. Recognize that writing can change actions and attitudes. Writing must reflect Christian values and attitudes. Listening involves the mind, heart, and soul. Listen and speak with respect. Appreciate the value of using proper grammar and usage.
-----------------------------	--

STRAND A Reading

OBJECTIVES

Word Analysis and vocabulary development <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Read narrative and expository text aloud with grade-appropriate fluency and accuracy and with appropriate pacing, intonation, and expression.• Use appropriate word identification strategies when encountering unknown words.• Use roots, prefixes, and suffixes to decode words and infer meanings in text.• Use a variety of strategies to identify key words and discover their meanings and relationships.• Increase reading and writing vocabulary through a variety of methods, e.g., knowledge of homophones, synonyms, antonyms, homonyms, elements of the writing process and discussions.• Use knowledge of root words to determine the meaning of unknown words within a passage.• Distinguish and interpret words with multiple meanings.• Identify and comprehend unknown words using reference materials, e.g., glossary, dictionary, and thesaurus.• Daily read independently from self-selected materials consistent with the student's independent reading level. Comprehension <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Use strategies to comprehend text and to clarify meaning of vocabulary, e.g., reread the text, ask for help, and question.• Identify structural patterns found in informational text to strengthen comprehension; e.g., compare and contrast, cause and effect, sequential or chronological order, proposition and support.• Select books appropriate to purpose.• Interact with the text before, during, and after reading, listening, and viewing, e.g. making predictions, formulating questions, and locating relevant information.• Read a variety of texts, including: fiction, nonfiction, poetry, and drama.• Identify and interpret elements of fiction and nonfiction and support by referencing the text to determine the: plot, theme, main idea with supporting details, and author's choice of words.• Make inferences, draw conclusions, make generalizations, and support with referencing the text.• Understand literal meaning by: retelling a story through a variety of methods, sequencing selected events, identifying and recalling the main idea, recalling details, determining the relevancy of details to the selection, summarizing facts/details in the text• Demonstrate inferential meaning by: predicting outcomes before/during reading, relating details to main idea and purpose in a text, and drawing conclusions.
--

- Make and confirm predictions about text by using prior knowledge and ideas presented in the text, including illustrations, titles, topic sentences, important words, and foreshadowing clues.
- Compare and contrast information on the same topic after reading several passages or articles.
- Distinguish between cause and effect and between fact and opinion in expository text.
- Summarize major points from fiction and nonfiction text(s) to clarify and retain information and ideas.
- Determine usefulness of information and ideas consistent with purpose.

STRAND B Writing

OBJECTIVES

Create oral, written and visual texts

- Use oral and written language to: present information, discuss, solve problems and make decisions.
- Use visual aids with an awareness of purpose and audience.
- Share self-selected texts from a variety of genres, e.g., poetry, letters, narratives, essays.
- Use planning strategies to generate topics and organize ideas; e.g., brainstorming, mapping, and webbing.
- Write literary, informational, and practical compositions.
- Compose a draft that conveys major ideas and maintains focus on the topic with specific, relevant, supporting details.
- Edit and revise selected drafts to improve coherence and progression by adding, deleting, consolidating, and rearranging text.
- Compose fiction, nonfiction, poetry, and drama using self-selected and assigned topics and forms.
- Assess growth through journal writing.
- Focus revision on a specific element such as: word choice, sequence of events, transitional words and sentence patterns.
- Produce work that follows the conventions of particular genres, e.g., personal and imaginative narrative, research reports, and letters of request.
- Use technology as a tool to organize, and present information.

Developing a central idea

- Use writing to show understanding in all content areas.
- Select a focus, an organizational structure, and a point of view based upon purpose, audience, length, and format requirements.
- Create multi-paragraph compositions that: provide an introductory paragraph, establish and support a central idea with a topic sentence at or near the beginning of the first paragraph, include supporting paragraphs with simple facts, details, and explanations, conclude with a paragraph that summarizes the points, sequence events logically, use correct indentation, proofread for spelling.
- Determine appropriate style for purpose.
- Quote or paraphrase information sources, citing them appropriately.
- Locate information in reference texts by using organizational features, e.g., prefaces, appendices, and indices.
- Use various reference materials as an aid to writing and support viewpoints, e.g., dictionary, thesaurus, card catalog, encyclopedia, online information.
- Understand the organization of almanacs, newspapers, and periodicals and how to use those print materials.
- Demonstrate basic keyboarding skills and familiarity with computer terminology, e.g., cursor, software, memory, disk drive, and hard drive.
- Conduct research for assigned projects or self-selected projects (with assistance) from a variety of sources.
- Create readable documents using legible handwriting and/or word processing.
- Produce published written work that address key questions, issues, or situations.
- Describe and explain familiar objects, events and experiences.

- Write narratives that: relate ideas, observations, or recollections, express main idea and supporting details, provide a context, use concrete sensory details, provide insight into why the selected event is memorable.
- Write information reports that: frame a central question about an issue or situation, include facts and details for focus, draw from more than one source of information, include summaries that contain the main ideas of the reading selection and the most significant details.

STRAND C Listening and Speaking

OBJECTIVES

Critical listening

- Listen attentively to the speaker.
- Listen actively by: asking questions, paraphrasing, interpreting verbal and non-verbal clues, interpreting speaker's purpose of intent.
- Ask thoughtful questions and respond to relevant questions with appropriate elaboration in oral settings.
- Connect prior experience to what is heard or seen.
- Summarize major ideas and supporting evidence presented in spoken messages and formal presentation.
- Identify how language usages reflect regions and cultures, e.g., sayings, expressions.
- Give precise directions and instructions.

Oral presentations organized around a thesis statement

- Make narrative presentations that: relate ideas and observations provide context and insight into event.
- Make informational presentations that: frame key question, include details for focus, and incorporates more than one source.
- Deliver oral summaries of articles and books that contain the main ideas of the event or article and the most significant details.
- Recite two or three stanzas poems, soliloquies, or dramatic dialogues, using clear diction, tempo, volume, and phrasing.
- Present effective introductions and conclusions that guide and inform the listener's understanding of important ideas and evidence.
- Deliver focused, coherent presentations that convey ideas clearly and relate to the background and interests of the audience.
- Use traditional structures for conveying information, e.g., cause and effect, similarity and difference, and posing and answering a question.
- Emphasize points in ways that help the listener or viewer to follow important ideas and concepts.
- Use details, examples, anecdotes, or experiences to explain or clarify information.
- Use volume, pitch, phrasing, pace, modulation, and gestures appropriately to enhance meaning.

STRAND D Grammar and Language Conventions

OBJECTIVES

Effective communications

- Demonstrate understanding in speaking and writing by appropriate usage of: pronouns, subject/verb agreement, consistent verb tense and subject tense.
- Elaborate ideas in writing and speaking by using: simple and compound sentences, regular and irregular verbs, adverbs, prepositions, and coordinating conjunctions.
- Compose multiple paragraphs with: topic sentences, relevant details, logical progression of ideas, coherence, elaboration, and concluding statement.
- Use visual and meaning-based strategies as primary sources for correct spelling.
- Proofread and correct most misspellings independently using reference materials as resources.
- Use established criteria to edit language conventions and format.
- Demonstrate evidence of language cohesion, e.g., retelling time order sequence of events.
- Use simple and compound sentences in writing and speaking.
- Combine short, related sentences with appositives, participial phrases, adjectives, adverbs, and prepositional phrases.
- Identify and use regular and irregular verbs, adverbs, prepositions, and coordinating conjunctions in writing and speaking.
- Use parentheses, commas in direct quotations, and apostrophes in the possessive case of nouns and in contractions.
- Use underlining, quotation marks or italics to identify titles of documents.
- Capitalize names of magazines, newspapers, works of art, musical compositions, organizations, names of languages, nationalities and the first word in quotations when appropriate.
- Spell roots, inflections, suffixes and prefixes, and syllable constructions correctly.