

Instructional Vocabulary

Grade 7 ELAR

Unit 1: Understanding Literary Nonfiction and Poetry

- **Meter** – the basic rhythmic structure in verse, composed of stressed and unstressed syllables
- **Rhyme scheme** – the pattern of rhyming lines (e.g. ABAB, ABBA)
- **Personification** - figurative language in which non-human things or abstractions are represented as having human qualities (e.g., necessity is the mother of invention)
- **Idiom** – an expression that has a different meaning from the literal meaning of its individual words (e.g., *have the upper hand* or *under the weather*). Idioms are particular to a given language and usually cannot be translated literally.
- **Hyperbole** – an intentional and extreme exaggeration for emphasis or effect (e.g., *this book weighs a ton*)

Unit 2: Understanding Fiction and Drama

- **Theme** – the central or universal idea of a piece of fiction or the main idea of a nonfiction essay
- **Myth** – a body of traditional or sacred stories to explain a belief or a natural happening
- **Dialogue** – the lines spoken between characters in fiction or a play. Dialogue in a play is the main way in which plot, character, and other elements are established.
- **Stage directions** – a playwright’s descriptive comments that provide information about the dialogue, setting, and actions during the play.

Unit 3: Understanding Informational Text

- **Summarize** – to reduce large sections of text to their essential points and main ideas

Unit 4A: Understanding Persuasive Text and Media

- **Rhetorical fallacy** – an argument that is not sound but may still be convincing
- **Ad hominem** – a rhetorical fallacy in which the intent is to attack the character or circumstance of the proponent of the position in order to distract from the argument
- **Appeal** – the means of persuasion in an argument. According to Aristotle, there are three fundamental appeals to convince a person: reason (*logos*), ethics (*ethos*), and emotion (*pathos*).
- **Logical fallacy** – an incorrect or problematic argument that is not based on sound reasoning (e.g., Because everything is bigger in Texas, you can expect a bigger salary in Texas.) Emotional fallacy – appeal to audience’s emotions
- **Ethical fallacy** – unreasonably advance the writer’s own authority or character
- **Explicit message** – specific, clear, detailed (leaves little room for interpretation)
- **Implicit message** – uses visuals, body language, etc. to communicate meaning; the meaning must be inferred

Unit 4B: Formulating Connections Across Literary Text

- **Theme** – the central or universal idea of a piece of fiction or the main idea of a nonfiction essay
- **Purpose** – the intended goal of a piece of writing; the reason a person writes

Unit 5A: Formulating Connections Across Informational Text

- **Purpose** – the intended goal of a piece of writing; the reason a person writes

Unit 5B: Formulating Connections Across All Genres

- **Theme** – the central or universal idea of a piece of fiction or the main idea of a nonfiction essay
- **Purpose** - the intended goal of a piece of writing; the reason a person writes

Unit 6: Generating Research

- **Constructs** (noun) – the relationships between ideas
- **Paraphrase** – to restate the meaning of something in different words; paraphrasing alters the exact wording of the source and transmits its ideas or information without evaluation or interpretation.
- **Summarize** – to reduce large sections of text to their essential points and main ideas - Note: It is still important to attribute summarized ideas to the original source.
- **Bibliographic information** – the locating information about a source (i.e., book, journal, periodical, or Web site) - For example, a book's bibliographic information consists of author, title, place of publication, publisher, and date of publication.
- **Plagiarize** – to present the ideas or words of another as one's own without crediting the source
- **Reliable source** – a credible or believable source