

Billings Public Schools English Language Arts
Grade 9 Core Requirements

UPDATED WRITING STANDARDS GRADE 9

Semester One

- write routinely over shorter time frames to impress specific writing skills, practice text-based analysis, and/or improve college-career readiness
- multi-paragraph technical piece (See [Writing That Works: A Teacher's Guide to Technical Writing](#) and at bit.ly/TechWritingIdeas)
- write a multi-paragraph narrative (creative, fiction, nonfiction, or personal)
- implement the following research skills in formal writing:
 - source-based evidence (quoting)
 - citing sources using MLA conventions
 - MLA-formatted outline
- introduce paraphrasing and summarizing in formal writing

Semester Two

- write routinely over shorter time frames to impress specific writing skills, practice text-based analysis, and/or improve college-career readiness
- multi-paragraph argumentative paper incorporating researching skills
- write a multi-paragraph comparison/contrast informative paper
- implement the following research skills in formal writing:
 - source-based evidence (quoting, paraphrasing, and summarizing)
 - citing sources using MLA conventions
 - MLA-formatted outline