

2026-27 - 8th Grade - ELA Assessment Matrix

Literary Texts IAB: September 28 - October 9 End of Quarter October 9	Research IAB: November 9 - November 13	Informational Texts IAB: December 7 -18 End of Quarter December 18	ELA Performance Task IAB: March 1 - 12 End of Quarter March 12
Literary Texts IAB	Research IAB	Informational Texts IAB	ELA Performance Task
8.RL.1: Cite the textual evidence that most strongly supports an analysis of what the text says explicitly as well as inferences drawn from the text. 8.RL.2: Determine a theme or central idea of a text and analyze its development over the course of the text, including its relationship to the characters, setting, and plot; provide an objective summary of the text. 8.RL.3: Analyze how particular lines of dialogue or incidents in a story or drama propel the action, reveal aspects of a character, or provoke a decision. 8.RL.4: Determine the meaning of words and phrases as they are used in a text, including figurative and connotative meanings; analyze the impact of specific word choices on meaning and tone, including analogies or allusions to other texts. 8.RL.5: Compare and contrast the structure of two or more texts and analyze how the differing structure of each text contributes to its meaning and style.	8.RI.8: Delineate and evaluate the argument and specific claims in a text, assessing whether the reasoning is sound and the evidence is relevant and sufficient; recognize when irrelevant evidence is introduced. 8.RI.9: Analyze a case in which two or more texts provide conflicting information on the same topic and identify where the texts disagree on matters of fact or interpretation. 8.W.8: Gather relevant information from multiple print and digital sources, using search terms effectively; assess the credibility and accuracy of each source; and quote or paraphrase the data and conclusions of others while avoiding plagiarism and following a standard format for citation. 8.RH.1: Cite specific textual evidence to support analysis of primary and secondary sources. 6-8.WHST.8: Gather relevant information from multiple print and digital sources, using search terms effectively; assess the credibility of each source; and quotation. 6-8.RST.1: Cite specific textual evidence to support analysis of science and technical texts. 6-8.RH.1: Cite specific textual evidence to support analysis of primary and secondary sources.	8.RI.1: Cite the textual evidence that most strongly supports an analysis of what the text says explicitly as well as inferences drawn from the text. 8.RI.2: Determine a central idea of a text and analyze its development over the course of the text, including its relationship to supporting ideas; provide an objective summary of the text. 8.RI.3: Analyze how a text makes connections among and distinctions between individuals, ideas, or events (e.g., through comparison, analogy, or categorization). 8.RI.4: Determine the meaning of words and phrases as they are used in a text, including figurative, connotative, and technical meanings; analyze the impact of specific word choices on meaning and tone. 8.RI.8: Delineate and evaluate the argument and specific claims in a text, assessing whether the reasoning is sound and the evidence is relevant and sufficient; recognize when irrelevant evidence is introduced. 8.L.5: Demonstrate understanding of figurative language, word relationships, and nuances in word meanings.	8.W.1b: Support claim(s) with logical reasoning and relevant evidence, using accurate, credible sources and demonstrating an understanding of the topic or text. 8.W.2b: Develop the topic with relevant, well-chosen facts, definitions, concrete details, quotations, or other information and examples. 8.W.8: Gather relevant information from multiple print and digital sources, using search terms effectively; assess the credibility and accuracy of each source; and quote or paraphrase the data and conclusions of others while avoiding plagiarism and following a standard format for citation.

2026-27 8th Grade ELA Instructional Matrix

Unit 1 - StudySync		Unit 2 - StudySync		Unit 3 - StudySync		Unit 4 - StudySync	
Key standards per unit. For full standards see CA State Standards							
RL.8.1: Citing textual evidence accurately.	RI.8.2: Determine central idea, summary.	RL.8.1: Citing textual evidence accurately.	RI.8.1: Cite textual evidence accurately.	RL.8.1: Citing textual evidence accurately.	RI.8.1: Cite textual evidence accurately.	RL.8.1: Citing textual evidence accurately.	RI.8.1: Cite textual evidence accurately.
RL.8.2: Theme, central idea, summary.	RI.8.3: Analyze connections and distinctions.	RL.8.2: Theme, central idea, summary.	RI.8.2: Determine central idea, summary.	RL.8.2: Theme, central idea, summary.	RI.8.2: Determine central idea, summary.	RL.8.2: Theme, central idea, summary.	RI.8.2: Determine central idea, summary.
RL.8.3: Analyze dialogue, incidents, character.	RI.8.4: Determine word meanings, tone.	RL.8.3: Analyze dialogue, incidents, character.	RI.8.3: Analyze connections and distinctions.	RL.8.3: Analyze dialogue, incidents, character.	RI.8.4: Determine word meanings, tone.	RL.8.4: Word meaning, figurative language.	RI.8.3: Analyze connections and distinctions.
RL.8.4: Word meaning, figurative language.	RI.8.6: Author's purpose, point of view.	RL.8.5: Compare, contrast text structures.	RI.8.5: Analyze text structure, arguments.	RL.8.4: Word meaning, figurative language.	RI.8.6: Author's purpose, point of view.	RL.8.5: Compare, contrast text structures.	RI.8.4: Determine word meanings, tone.
RL.8.5: Compare, contrast text structures.		RL.8.6: Analyze differing points of view.	RI.8.6: Author's purpose, point of view.	RL.8.5: Compare, contrast text structures.	RI.8.9: Analyze two texts on topic.	RL.8.6: Analyze differing points of view.	RI.8.5: Analyze text structure, arguments.
RL.8.6: Analyze differing points of view.		RL.8.7: Analyze modern fiction adaptations.	RI.8.7: Evaluate advantages of media.	RL.8.6: Analyze differing points of view.		RL.8.9: Analyze modern fiction, historical source.	RI.8.6: Author's purpose, point of view.
		RL.8.9: Analyze modern fiction,	RI.8.8: Delineate and evaluate arguments.	RL.8.7: Analyze modern fiction adaptations.			RI.8.8: Delineate and evaluate arguments.
			RI.8.9: Analyze two texts on topic.				RI.8.9: Analyze two texts on topic.
W.8.1: Write arguments with evidence. W.8.2: Write informative/explanatory texts. W.8.4: Produce clear, coherent writing. W.8.5: Plan, revise, and rewrite. W.8.7: Conduct short research projects. W.8.8: Gather, assess, cite information. W.8.9: Draw evidence to support analysis. W.8.10: Write routinely over time.		W.8.1: Write arguments with evidence. W.8.2: Write informative/explanatory texts. W.8.4: Produce clear, coherent writing. W.8.5: Plan, revise, and rewrite. W.8.7: Conduct short research projects. W.8.8: Gather, assess, cite information. W.8.9: Draw evidence to support analysis. W.8.10: Write routinely over time.		W.8.2: Write informative/explanatory texts. W.8.3: Write narratives, real or imagined. W.8.4: Produce clear, coherent writing. W.8.5: Plan, revise, and rewrite. W.8.6: Use technology to produce, publish. W.8.7: Conduct short research projects. W.8.8: Gather, assess, cite information. W.8.9: Draw evidence to support analysis. W.8.10: Write routinely over time.		W.8.1: Write arguments with evidence. W.8.2: Write informative/explanatory texts. W.8.4: Produce clear, coherent writing. W.8.5: Plan, revise, and rewrite. W.8.7: Conduct short research projects. W.8.8: Gather, assess, cite information. W.8.9: Draw evidence to support analysis. W.8.10: Write routinely over time.	
L.8.1: Demonstrate command of grammar. L.8.2: Demonstrate command of capitalization. L.8.3: Use knowledge of language. L.8.4: Determine word meanings, usage. L.8.5: Demonstrate figurative language understanding. L.8.6: Acquire and use vocabulary.		L.8.1: Demonstrate command of grammar. L.8.2: Demonstrate command of capitalization. L.8.3: Use knowledge of language. L.8.4: Determine word meanings, usage. L.8.5: Demonstrate figurative language understanding. L.8.6: Acquire and use vocabulary.		L.8.1: Demonstrate command of grammar. L.8.2: Demonstrate command of capitalization. L.8.3: Use knowledge of language. L.8.4: Determine word meanings, usage. L.8.5: Demonstrate figurative language understanding. L.8.6: Acquire and use vocabulary.		L.8.1: Demonstrate command of grammar. L.8.2: Demonstrate command of capitalization. L.8.3: Use knowledge of language. L.8.4: Determine word meanings, usage. L.8.5: Demonstrate figurative language understanding. L.8.6: Acquire and use vocabulary.	