Coal City Unit District #1
Pre-AP 1
Language Arts Curriculum

BIG IDEA 1: ENGAGING WITH TEXTS

ENDURING UNDERSTANDING 1.1
Close, critical reading of complex literary and nonfiction texts leads to a deeper understanding of the explicit and implicit meanings of the works.

Learning Objectives:

- LO 1.1A – Analyze a wide range of texts for multiple meanings.
- LO 1.1B – Understand how structural, stylistic, visual, and graphic elements of a text (e.g., photographs, charts, graphs, illustrations, headings, fonts) contribute to its meaning.
- LO 1.1C – Use a repertoire of active reading strategies appropriate to the text and task.

ENDURING UNDERSTANDING 1.2
Evaluating an argument is a complex task that includes analyzing stated and implied claims, logical reasoning, supporting evidence, and stylistic elements.

Learning Objectives:

- LO 1.2A – Analyze the development of an argument, evaluating its central claim(s), the soundness of the reasoning, and the relevance and sufficiency of the evidence.
- LO 1.2B – Explain how the rhetorical features of an argument contribute to its effect and meaning.

ENDURING UNDERSTANDING 1.3
Analyzing literature is a complex task that includes making inferences, examining an author's use of literary and stylistic elements, and drawing conclusions about the meaning of the work as a whole.

Learning Objectives:

- LO 1.3A – Analyze how literary elements interact to develop the central ideas of a work of literature.
- LO 1.3B – Analyze how the writer's use of stylistic elements contributes to a work of literature's effects and meaning.

ENDURING UNDERSTANDING 1.4
A text may be read in conversation with other texts or in the broader context in which it was written or read.

Learning Objectives:

- LO 1.4A – Explain the relationship between a text and its historical or cultural context.
- LO 1.4B – Synthesize ideas from multiple texts and explain how the texts may convey different perspectives on a common theme or idea.

BIG IDEA 2: CONSTRUCTING TEXTS

ENDURING UNDERSTANDING 2.1
Composing is a recursive process that can be used to explore ideas and illuminate concepts for both the writer and the reader.

Learning Objectives:

- LO 2.1A – Establish a purpose for the composition and make deliberate choices about genre, organization, and language according to the purpose and intended audience.
- LO 2.1B – Gather and generate a variety of ideas, and select the most appropriate based on the purpose of the composition.
- LO 2.1C – Compose, revise, edit, and eventually share written work to ensure communication is clear and the intended rhetorical purpose and effect are achieved.
- LO 2.1D – Reflect on the writing process and how it shapes one's ongoing development as a writer.

ENDURING UNDERSTANDING 2.2
Constructing an argument is a crucial skill with importance in academic, civic, social, and workplace settings.

Learning Objectives:

- LO 2.2A – Assert a precise central claim.
- LO 2.2B – Develop a line of sound reasoning and choose an organizing structure to convey that reasoning to the reader.
- LO 2.2C – Support a claim by selecting and incorporating evidence that is relevant, sufficient, and convincing.
- LO 2.2D – Recognize and address counterclaims effectively.
- LO 2.2E – Use carefully selected language, syntax, and stylistic and persuasive elements to strengthen an argument.

ENDURING UNDERSTANDING 2.3
Writing an analysis requires interpreting the relevant details and features of a work and explaining their relationship to the meaning of the work as a whole.

Learning Objectives:

- LO 2.3A – Assert a precise central claim that establishes the relationship between a work's features and overall meaning.
- LO 2.3B – Organize ideas and evidence to effectively develop and support a thesis.
- LO 2.3C – Select and incorporate relevant and compelling evidence to support a thesis.
- LO 2.3D – Use an appropriate style and carefully selected language to strengthen an analysis.

ENDURING UNDERSTANDING 2.4
Writing a narrative allows a writer to convey experience, share perspective, or deepen their own understanding.

Learning Objectives:

- LO 2.4A – Establish a narrative point of view.
- LO 2.4B – Use a variety of techniques to advance plot, theme, and the evolution of character(s).
- LO 2.4C – Use carefully selected language to help the reader imagine or share the experience conveyed in the narrative.

BIG IDEA 3: FOCUSING ON LANGUAGE

ENDURING UNDERSTANDING 3.1
Critical readers develop a sense of word consciousness that motivates them to investigate word meanings.

Learning Objectives:

- LO 3.1A – Use context clues to infer the meaning of multiple-meaning or unfamiliar words.
- LO 3.1B – Analyze a word based on its parts (base word and affixes), and relate its morphology to its meaning.
- LO 3.1C – Research a word's various meanings by consulting online and print reference sources (e.g., dictionaries, thesauri, usage guides).

ENDURING UNDERSTANDING 3.2
Precise word choice and compelling language patterns can stir the thoughts, emotions, and actions of readers.

Learning Objectives:

- LO 3.2A – Compose or revise language to honor precision and economy in word choice.
- LO 3.2B – Compose or revise language to ensure that word choice and language patterns are consistent with the intended style, voice, register, and tone of a text or presentation.

ENDURING UNDERSTANDING 3.3
Conventions of Standard English are used to aid the reader's understanding, and authors may use or defy these conventions to achieve different stylistic effects.

Learning Objectives:

- LO 3.3A – Compose or revise language to ensure sentences are grammatically correct and that their internal structures provide clarity.
- LO 3.3B – Compose or revise language to ensure proper agreement and appropriate verb tense.
- LO 3.3C – Understand the ways in which language choices can be made to achieve intended effects.

BIG IDEA 4: INVESTIGATING THROUGH RESEARCH

ENDURING UNDERSTANDING 4.1
Research is a powerful, recursive process used to gain knowledge, solve problems, make informed decisions, and enhance understanding.

Learning Objectives:

- LO 4.1A – Identify a problem, idea, or central question and complete preliminary readings to determine the purpose, scope, and process of the research.
- LO 4.1B – Gather, evaluate, and synthesize evidence from multiple authoritative sources (e.g., print, digital, multimedia) to address the research question or problem.
- LO 4.1C – Determine the credibility, reliability, and relevancy of selected sources.

ENDURING UNDERSTANDING 4.2
Research presentations and reports include new findings as well as a synthesis of the prior research of others.

Learning Objectives:

- LO 4.2A – Make an independent claim that addresses the research question or problem and is supported by the findings.
- LO 4.2B – Communicate findings and their significance, incorporating written, spoken, and multimedia approaches according to task, purpose, and audience.
- LO 4.2C – Summarize, paraphrase, or directly quote others' words appropriately and effectively.
- LO 4.2D – Attend to the ethical responsibilities of research, including the presentation of citations and references in a specified, standard format (e.g., APA, MLA) and the use of appropriate and legal sources for texts, images, and sound.

BIG IDEA 5: ENTERING THE CONVERSATION

ENDURING UNDERSTANDING 5.1
Academic discourse requires collaboration to advance and deepen understanding of topics or texts.

Learning Objectives:

- LO 5.1A – Extend the conversation around an idea, topic, or text by formulating questions and recognizing the claims and perspectives of others.
- LO 5.1B – Cite relevant evidence and evaluate the evidence presented by others.

ENDURING UNDERSTANDING 5.2
Effective speakers design and deliver presentations according to their subject, purpose, audience, and occasion.

Learning Objectives:

- LO 5.2A – Determine the purpose for communication and select an appropriate format.
- LO 5.2B – Incorporate effective visual and multimedia tools to enhance the presentation and achieve the intended effect.
- LO 5.2C – Demonstrate an awareness of the audience during both the planning and delivery of a presentation, and make adjustments based on the audience's responses.
- LO 5.2D – Communicate clearly and effectively, using appropriate verbal and nonverbal techniques.