

Writing Standards

GRADES 11 & 12



Text Types and Purposes

Standard Code	Standard	Top Score Writing Lessons
CC.11.W.1 CC.12.W.1	Write arguments to support claims in an analysis of substantive topics or texts, using valid reasoning and relevant and sufficient evidence.	Lessons 47-43
	1a. Introduce precise, knowledgeable claim(s), establish the significance of the claim(s), distinguish the claim(s) from alternate or opposing claims, and create an organization that logically sequences claim(s), counterclaims, reasons, and evidence.	Lessons 49-52, 57
	1b. Develop claim(s) and counterclaims fairly and thoroughly, supplying the most relevant evidence for each while pointing out the strengths and limitations of both in a manner that anticipates the audience's knowledge level, concerns, values, and possible biases.	Lessons 55-56, 58-62, 64-67
	1c. Use words, phrases, and clauses as well as varied syntax to link the major sections of the text, create cohesion, and clarify the relationships between claim(s) and reasons, between reasons and evidence, and between claim(s) and counterclaims.	Lesson 57
	1d. Establish and maintain a formal style and objective tone while attending to the norms and conventions of the discipline in which they are writing.	Lessons 47-73
	1e. Provide a concluding statement or section that follows from and supports the argument presented.	Lessons 63-68
CC.11.W.2 CC.12.W.2	Write informative/explanatory texts to examine and convey complex ideas, concepts, and information clearly and accurately through the effective selection, organization, and analysis of content.	Lessons 21-46

Writing Standards

GRADES 11 & 12



	2a. Introduce a topic; organize complex ideas, concepts, and information so that each new element builds on that which precedes it to create a unified whole; include formatting (e.g., headings), graphics (e.g., figures, tables), and multimedia when useful to aid in comprehension.	Lessons 23-26, 30
	2b. Develop the topic thoroughly by selecting the most significant and relevant facts, extended definitions, concrete details, quotations, or other information and examples appropriate to the audience's knowledge of the topic.	Lessons 27-29, 31-35, 37-38
	2c. Use appropriate and varied transitions and syntax to link the major sections of the text, create cohesion, and clarify the relationships among complex ideas and concepts.	Lessons 30, 41
	2d. Use precise language, domain-specific vocabulary, and techniques such as metaphor, simile, and analogy to manage the complexity of the topic.	Lessons 21-46
	2e. Establish and maintain a formal style and objective tone while attending to the norms and conventions of the discipline in which they are writing.	Lessons 21-46
	2f. Provide a concluding statement or section that follows from and supports the information or explanation presented (e.g., articulating implications or the significance of the topic).	Lessons 36, 39-40
CC.11.W.3 CC.12.W.3	Write narratives to develop real or imagined experiences or events using effective techniques, well-chosen details, and well-structured event sequences.	N/A
	3a. Engage and orient the reader by setting out a problem, situation, or observation and its significance, establishing one or multiple point(s) of view, and introducing a narrator and/or characters; create a smooth progression of experiences or events.	N/A

Writing Standards

GRADES 11 & 12



	3b. Use narrative techniques, such as dialogue, pacing, description, reflection, and multiple plot lines, to develop experiences, events, and/or characters.	N/A
	3c. Use a variety of techniques to sequence events so that they build on one another to create a coherent whole and build toward a particular tone and outcome (e.g., a sense of mystery, suspense, growth, or resolution).	N/A
	3d. Use precise words and phrases, telling details, and sensory language to convey a vivid picture of the experiences, events, setting, and/or characters.	N/A
	3e. Provide a conclusion that follows from and reflects on what is experienced, observed, or resolved over the course of the narrative.	N/A

Production and Distribution

Standard Code	Standard	Top Score Writing Lessons
CC.11.W.4 CC.12.W.4	Produce clear and coherent writing in which the development, organization, and style are appropriate to the task, purpose, and audience. (Grade-specific expectations for writing types are defined in Standards 1-3 above.)	Lessons 1-4, 21-24, 47-50
CC.11.W.5 CC.12.W.5	Develop and strengthen writing as needed by planning, revising, editing, rewriting, or trying a new approach, focusing on addressing what is most significant for a specific purpose and audience. (Editing for conventions should demonstrate command of Language Standards 1-3 up to and including Grades 11-12 on page 55.)	Lessons 2-4, 10, 19, 23-24, 43, 45, 49-50, 70, 72-73
CC.11.W.6 CC.12.W.6	Use technology, including the Internet, to produce, publish, and update individual or shared writing products in response to ongoing feedback, including new arguments or information.	Teacher-directed

Writing Standards

GRADES 11 & 12



Research to Build and Present Knowledge

Standard Code	Standard	Top Score Writing Lessons
CC.11.W.7 CC.12.W.7	Conduct short as well as more sustained research projects to answer a question (including a self-generated question) or solve a problem; narrow or broaden the inquiry when appropriate; synthesize multiple sources on the subject, demonstrating understanding of the subject under investigation.	Text sets
CC.11.W.8 CC.12.W.8	Gather relevant information from multiple authoritative print and digital sources, using advanced searches effectively; assess the strengths and limitations of each source in terms of the task, purpose, and audience; integrate information into the text selectively to maintain the flow of ideas, avoiding plagiarism and overreliance on any one source and following a standard format for citation.	Lessons 27-29, 31-33, 37-38, 53-56, 58-60, 64-67
CC.11.W.9 CC.12.W.9	Draw evidence from literary or informational texts to support analysis, reflection, and research.	Lessons 27-29, 31-33, 37-38, 53-56, 58-60, 64-67
	9a. Apply Grades 11–12 Reading standards to literature (e.g., “Demonstrate knowledge of eighteenth-, nineteenth- and early-twentieth-century foundational works of American literature, including how two or more texts from the same period treat similar themes or topics.”).	N/A
	9b. Apply Grades 11–12 Reading standards to literary nonfiction (e.g., “Delineate and evaluate the reasoning in seminal U.S. texts, including the application of constitutional principles and use of legal reasoning [e.g., in U.S. Supreme Court Case majority opinions and dissents) and the premises, purposes, and arguments in works of public advocacy (e.g., The Federalist, presidential addresses].”).	Lessons 21-73

Writing Standards

GRADES 11 & 12



Range of Writing

Standard Code	Standard	Top Score Writing Lessons
CC.11.W.10 CC.12.W.10	Write routinely over extended time frames (time for research, reflection, and revision) and shorter time frames (a single sitting or a day or two) for a range of tasks, purposes, and audiences.	Lessons 1-100