

Grade 8 - E5 Literature

Literature consists of poetry, fiction, non-fiction, and essays as distinguished from instructional, expository, or journalistic writing.

**E5a:** The student responds to non-fiction, fiction, poetry, and drama using interpretive, critical, and evaluative processes; that is, the student:

**E5a.1:** identifies recurring themes across works;

**E5a.2:** interprets the impact of authors' decisions regarding word choice and content, and literary elements;

**E5a.3:** identifies the characteristics of literary forms and genres;

**E5a.4:** evaluates literary merit;

**E5a.5:** identifies the effect of point of view;

**E5a.6:** analyzes the reasons for character's actions, taking into account the situation and basic motivation of the character;

**E5a.7:** identifies stereotypical characters as opposed to fully developed characters;

**E5a.8:** identifies the effect of literary devices such as figurative language, allusion, diction, dialogue, and description;

**E5a.9:** makes inferences and draws conclusions about fictional and non-fictional contexts, events, characters, settings and themes.

*Examples of activities through which students might produce evidence of responding to literature include:*

- ❑ *Analyze stereotypical characters in a popular television production.*
- ❑ *Examine themes in the work (fiction or non-fiction) of one popular young-adult author.*
- ❑ *Compare the literary merits of two or more short stories, biographies of one individual, novels, or plays.*
- ❑ *Evaluate the effect of literary devices in a number of poems by one author or poems on a common topic.*
- ❑ *Write or perform a skit based on a story.*
- ❑ *Write a parody.*
- ❑ *Speculate about point of view in a work read by the class.*

**E5b:** The student produces work in at least one literary genre that follows the conventions of the genre.

*Examples of literary genres include:*

- ❑ *A personal essay.*
- ❑ *A short story.*
- ❑ *A short play.*
- ❑ *A poem.*
- ❑ *A vignette.*