

ASSURED LEARNING EXPERIENCES
WRITING – FIVE FORMS
SAU 15
Eighth Grade Expectations

Narrative Writing: Expressive writing includes narratives, personal narratives, stories, poetry, songs, and dramatic process. Writing may be based on real or imagined events.

Grade Level Expectation:

Write a short story that does the following:

- *Uses ideas gathered from the writer's imagination, memories, and observations*
- *Uses descriptive attributes*
- *Uses movements/comparisons which evoke the senses*

The narrative includes the following:

- *A clear and coherent story line*
- *Established context (character motivation, problem/solution, challenge/resolution)*
- *Maintaining a point of view*
- *A variety of transition devices (ellipses, time transitions, white space) to enhance meaning*
- *Create images using descriptive details and sensory language to advance plot/story line*
- *Dialogue to advance plot/story line*
- *Character development through description, dialogue, actions and relationships with other characters, when appropriate*
- *Voice appropriate to purpose*
- *Maintains focus*
- *Controls the pace of the story*

Informational – Persuasive: Persuasive writing is used for the purpose of influencing the reader. The author presents an issue and expresses an opinion in order to convince an audience to agree with the opinion or to take a particular action.

Grade Level Expectation:

Write a persuasive composition (e.g., essay, business letter)) that does the following:

- *States a position or claim*
- *Presents detailed evidence, examples, and reasoning to support effective arguments and emotional appeals*
- *Attributes sources of information when appropriate*
- *Structures ideas*

Write a brochure, commercial, or advertisement that does the following:

- *Addresses a specific audience*
- *Presents a clear message*
- *Includes elements of propaganda (words, pictures, multimedia tie together to convey the message)*

Research Report: Research writing is a process in which the writer identifies a topic or question to be answered. The writer locates and evaluates information about the topic or question and then organizes, summarizes, and synthesizes the information into a finished product.

Grade Level Expectation:

Write a multiple paragraph informational report that includes main idea(s), relevant details, and conclusion including the following: (5 paragraph essay format may be used)

- *Focused topic*
- *Thesis statement*
- *Appropriate facts and relevant details*
- *A logical sequence*
- *Integration of direct quotes*
- *A concluding statement*
- *A list of sources used*
- *Inclusion of works cited, bibliography, or reference page (MLA format)*
- *A summary of information from sources (e.g., encyclopedias, websites, experts)*
- *Paraphrasing to convey ideas and details from sources*

Informational – Procedures Practical: This is non-fictional writing that describes, explains, informs, or summarizes ideas and content. The writing supports a thesis based on research, observation, and/or experience.

Grade Level Expectation:

Write an essay using the 5-paragraph format. Write in a variety of expository forms (e.g., summary, newspaper article, log, journal) Record information and write expository texts (e.g., observations, notes, lists, charts, map labels and legends) related to the topic.

Write an expository essay that does the following:

- *Uses an organization text structure*
- *States and maintains a focus/controlling idea - thesis*
- *Includes facts and details relevant to focus/controlling idea and excluding extraneous information*
- *Selects appropriate information set context, which may include a lead/hook*
- *Includes sufficient details or facts appropriate for depth of information*
- *Uses transition words appropriate to the text structure*

- *Demonstrates a sense of audience when appropriate*
- *Establishes an authoritative voice*
- *Has a conclusion that provides closure*
- *Addresses readers' concerns*
- *Comments on the significance of information, when appropriate*

Text structures include the following: description, sequential, chronology, proposition/support, compare/contrast, problem/solution.

Informational – Communication: This is functional writing that provides specific directions or information related to real world tasks. This includes letters, memos, schedules, directories, signs, manuals, forms, recipes, and technical pieces for specific content areas.

Grade Level Expectation:

Write a friendly letter that includes the following:

- *Heading*
- *Salutation*
- *Body*
- *Closing*
- *Signature*

Write a formal letter that meets the following criteria:

- *Presents information purposefully and succinctly to meet the needs of the intended audience*
- *Follows a conventional business letter format (e.g., block, modified block, email)*

(Example: Write a letter of complaint expressing a consumer problem you've experienced.)

Address an envelope for correspondence that includes:

- *An appropriate return address*
- *An appropriate recipient address*

Write a variety of functional text (e.g., directions, recipes, procedures, rubrics, labels, posters, graphs/tables).