

ENGLISH LANGUAGE ARTS INSTRUCTIONAL MATERIALS SCREENING INSTRUMENT

Grade 6

SECTION I

Alignment to Shifts

*Materials must meet **100%** of indicators in Section I.*

The instructional shifts are key to understanding the increased rigor of the standards. They reflect the skills and knowledge students need to be successful in the postsecondary or workforce arena. In an English language arts course, students should experience: building knowledge through content-rich literary and informational text, regular practice with complex text and its academic vocabulary; reading and writing grounded in evidence from both literary and informational text; and.

Knowledge: Materials are specifically chosen to build knowledge through content-rich literary and informational texts.	Yes	No	Evidence/Notes
a. Text sets: Materials provide a strategic sequence of texts organized around a variety of concepts or topics. Students build knowledge systematically through interacting with the texts.			
b. Vocabulary: Materials provide direct and contextual instruction for Tier 2 and Tier 3 vocabulary that support knowledge building.			
c. End-of-unit/culminating tasks: Materials provide students with multiple opportunities to demonstrate their literacy skills and convey their knowledge acquisition.			
Text Complexity: Materials ensure students engage in regular practice with complex text and its academic vocabulary.	Yes	No	Evidence/Notes
d. Anchor Texts are at grade level as determined by quantitative and qualitative measurements. See Appendix A of the <i>Tennessee English Language Arts Standards</i> for further guidance on text complexity metrics.			
e. Text plays a central role in the English class period.			
f. Text selection should include a balanced representation of both literature and informational text across the year as indicated by the grade-level standards.			
Evidence: Materials ensure that reading and writing are grounded in evidence from both literary and informational text.	Yes	No	
g. Text-dependent questions: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Most questions and tasks require students to draw on textual evidence to support inferences and conclusions. High-quality questions are strategically sequenced to scaffold students in building a deeper understanding of a text. 			

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h. Writing to sources: The majority of writing tasks require students to respond to texts and/or include textual evidence.			
i. Evidence-based discussions: Materials provide students regular and frequent opportunities to engage in collaborative discussions that are grounded in text.			
Additional comments on the three instructional shifts within the materials:			
Materials meet 100% alignment with Section I: Shifts in instruction? This means that all boxes in Section I were marked "Yes" and no boxes were marked "No" in Section I. <u>If any "No" boxes are marked, then this program does <u>not</u> pass.</u>	Yes	No	

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SECTION II

Alignment to Tennessee English Language Arts Standards

Materials must meet at least **90%** of indicators in Section II.

*The instructional materials represent alignment with the Tennessee English Language Arts Standards and explicitly focus teaching and learning on the grade-level standards, at the rigor necessary for students to reach mastery. Tennessee expects the **full breadth and depth** of the standards to be taught in an **integrated** and **spiraled** manner throughout the school year.*

READING STANDARDS		Meets Expectations?		Evidence/Notes
		Yes	No	
Standard 1 Category Key Ideas and Details Cornerstone Read closely to determine what a text says explicitly and to make logical inferences from it; cite specific textual evidence when writing or speaking to support conclusions drawn from the text.	Literature: 6.RL.KID.1 Analyze what a text says explicitly and draw logical inferences; cite textual evidence to support conclusions.			
	Informational Text: 6.RI.KID.1 Analyze what a text says explicitly and draw logical inferences; cite textual evidence to support conclusions.			
Standard 2 Category Key Ideas and Details Cornerstone Determine central ideas or themes of a text and analyze their development; summarize the key supporting details and ideas.	Literature: 6.RL.KID.2 Determine a theme or central idea of a text and analyze its development over the course of the text; provide an objective summary.			
	Informational Text: 6.RI.KID.2 Determine a central idea of a text and how it is conveyed through details; provide an objective summary.			

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Standard 3 Category Key Ideas and Details Cornerstone Analyze how and why individuals, events, and ideas develop and interact over the course of a text.	Literature: 6.RL.KID.3 Describe how the plot of a story or drama unfolds, as well as how the characters respond or change as the plot moves toward a resolution.			
	Informational Text: 6.RI.KID.3 Analyze in detail how a key individual, event, or idea is introduced, illustrated, and developed in a text.			
Standard 4 Category Craft and Structure Cornerstone Interpret words and phrases as they are used in a text, including technical, connotative, and figurative meanings, and analyze how specific word choices shape meaning or tone.	Literature: 6.RL.CS.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 allusions to other texts.			
	Informational Text: 6.RI.CS.4 Determine the meaning of words and phrases as they are used in a text, including figurative, connotative, and technical meanings.			
Standard 5 Category Craft and Structure Cornerstone Analyze the structure of texts, including how specific sentences, paragraphs, and larger portions of a text (e.g., a section, chapter, scene, or stanza) relate to each other and the whole.	Literature: 6.RL.CS.5 Analyze how a particular sentence, chapter, scene, or stanza fits into the overall structure of a text and contributes to the development of the theme, setting, or plot.			
	Informational Text: 6.RI.CS.5 Analyze how a particular sentence, paragraph, chapter, or section fits into the overall structure of a text and contributes to the development of the ideas.			

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Standard 6 Category Craft and Structure Cornerstone Assess how point of view or purpose shapes the content and style of a text	Literature: 6.RL.CS.6 Explain how an author establishes and conveys the point of view of the narrator or speaker in a text.			
	Informational Text: 6.RI.CS.6 Determine an author's point of view or purpose in a text and explain how it is conveyed in a text.			
Standard 7 Category Integration of Knowledge and Ideas Cornerstone Integrate and evaluate content presented in diverse formats and media, including visually and quantitatively, as well as in words.	Literature: 6.RL.IKI.7 Compare and contrast the written version of a story, drama, or poem to the experience of listening to or viewing an audio, video, or live production of a text.			
	Informational Text: 6.RI.IKI.7 Integrate information presented in different media or formats, such as in tables, images, diagrams, and words to develop a coherent understanding of a topic or issue.			
Standard 8 Category Integration of Knowledge and Ideas Cornerstone Delineate and evaluate the argument and specific claims in a text, including the validity of the reasoning as well as the relevance and sufficiency of the evidence.	Literature: Not applicable			
	Informational Text: 6.RI.IKI.8 Trace and evaluate the argument and specific claims in a text, distinguishing claims that are supported by reasons and evidence from claims that are not.			

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Standard 9 Category Integration of Knowledge and Ideas Cornerstone Analyze how two or more texts address similar themes or topics in order to build knowledge or to compare the approaches an author takes.	Literature: 6.RL.IKI.9 Compare and contrast texts in different forms or genres in terms of their approaches to similar themes and topics.			
	Informational Text: 6.RI.IKI.9 Compare and contrast two or more authors' presentation of the same topic or event.			
Standard 10 Category Range of Reading and Level of Text Complexity Cornerstone Read and comprehend complex literary and informational texts independently and proficiently.	Literature: 6.RL.RRTC.10 Read and comprehend a variety of literature at the high end of the grades 6-8 text complexity band proficiently, with a gradual release of scaffolding as needed.			
	Informational Text: 6.RI.RRTC.10 Read and comprehend a variety of literary nonfiction at the high end of the grades 6-8 text complexity band proficiently, with a gradual release of scaffolding as needed.			
WRITING STANDARDS		Meets Expectations?		Evidence/Notes
		Yes	No	
Standard 1 Category Text Types and Protocols Cornerstone Write arguments to support claims in an analysis of substantive topics or texts, using valid reasoning and relevant and sufficient evidence.	6.W.TTP.1 Write arguments to support claims with clear reasons and relevant evidence. <ol style="list-style-type: none"> Introduce claim(s). Support claim(s) with logical reasoning and relevant, sufficient evidence; acknowledge alternate or opposing claims. Organize the reasons and evidence clearly and clarify the relationships among claim(s) and reasons. Use credible sources and demonstrate an understanding of the topic or source material. 			

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	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> e. Craft an effective and relevant conclusion that supports the argument presented. f. Use precise language and content-specific vocabulary. g. Use appropriate transitions to create cohesion and clarify the relationships among ideas and concepts. h. Use varied sentence structure to enhance meaning and reader interest. i. Establish and maintain a formal style. 			
Standard 2 Category Text Types and Protocols Cornerstone Write informative/ explanatory texts to examine and convey complex ideas and information clearly and accurately through the effective selection, organization, and analysis of content.	6.W.TTP.2 Write informative/explanatory texts to examine a topic and convey ideas, concepts, and information through the selection, organization, and analysis of relevant content. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> a. Introduce a topic clearly, using the introduction to prepare the reader for what is to follow. b. Organize ideas, concepts, and information using effective strategies to create cohesion and aid in comprehension. c. Develop the topic with relevant facts, definitions, concrete details, quotations, or other information and examples. d. Thoroughly and accurately explain and elaborate on the evidence provided, demonstrating a clear understanding of the topic and the source material. e. Craft an effective and relevant conclusion. f. Include formatting, graphics, and multimedia when appropriate. g. Use appropriate transitions to create cohesion and clarify the relationships among ideas and concepts. h. Use precise language and domain-specific vocabulary. i. Use varied sentence structure to enhance meaning and reader interest. j. Establish and maintain a formal style. 			

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<p>Standard 3</p> <p>Category Text Types and Protocols</p> <p>Cornerstone Write narratives to develop real or imagined experiences or events using effective techniques, well-chosen details, and well-structured event sequences.</p>	<p>6.W.TTP.3 Write narratives (fiction and nonfiction) to develop real or imagined experiences or events using effective techniques, relevant descriptive details, and well-structured event sequences.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> a. Engage and orient the reader by establishing a context and point of view and introducing a speaker/narrator and/or participants/characters. b. Organize an event sequence that unfolds naturally and logically. c. Create a smooth progression of experiences or events. d. Use narrative techniques, such as dialogue, pacing, and description when appropriate, to develop experiences, events, and/or characters. e. Use a variety of transition words, phrases, and clauses to convey sequence and signal shifts and show the relationships among experiences and events. f. Craft an effective and relevant conclusion that reflects on the narrated experiences or events. d. Use precise words and phrases, relevant descriptive details, and sensory language to convey experiences and events. 			
<p>Standard 4</p> <p>Category Production and Distribution of Writing</p> <p>Cornerstone Produce clear and coherent writing in which the development and organization are appropriate to task, purpose, and audience.</p>	<p>6.W.PDW.4 Produce clear and coherent writing in which the development, organization, and style are appropriate to task, purpose, and audience. (Grade-specific expectations for writing types are defined in standards 1-3 above.)</p>			

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Standard 5 Category Production and Distribution of Writing Cornerstone Develop and strengthen writing as needed by planning, revising, editing, rewriting, or trying a new approach.	6.W.PDW.5 With some guidance and support from peers and adults, develop and strengthen writing as needed by planning, revising, editing, rewriting, or trying a new approach. (Editing for conventions should demonstrate command of Foundational Literacy standard 6 and Language standards 1–3 up to and including grade 6.)			
Standard 6 Category Production and Distribution of Writing Cornerstone Use technology, including the Internet, to produce and publish writing and to interact and collaborate with others.	6.W.PDW. 6 Use technology, including the Internet, to produce and publish writing and to collaborate with others; type a complete product in a single sitting as defined in W.1-3.			
Standard 7 Category Research to Build and Present Knowledge Cornerstone Conduct short as well as more sustained research projects based on focus questions, demonstrating new understanding of the subject under investigation.	6.W.RBPK.7 Conduct research to answer a question, drawing on multiple sources and refocusing the inquiry when appropriate.			
Standard 8 Category	6.W.RBPK.8 Integrate relevant and credible information from print and digital sources; quote or paraphrase the data and conclusions of others			

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<p>Research to Build and Present Knowledge</p> <p>Cornerstone Integrate relevant and credible information from multiple print and digital sources while avoiding plagiarism.</p>	<p>while avoiding plagiarism and providing basic bibliographic information for sources.</p>			
<p>Standard 9</p> <p>Category Research to Build and Present Knowledge</p> <p>Cornerstone Draw evidence from literary or informational texts to support analysis, reflection, and research.</p>	<p>6.W.RBPK.9 Support interpretations, analyses, reflections, or research with evidence found in literature or literary nonfiction texts, applying grade 6 standards for reading.</p>			
<p>Standard 10</p> <p>Category Range of Writing</p> <p>Cornerstone 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.</p>	<p>6.W.RW.10 Write routinely over extended time frames and shorter time frames for a range of discipline-specific tasks, purposes, and audiences.</p>			
SPEAKING AND LISTENING STANDARDS		Meets Expectations?		Evidence/Notes
		Yes	No	
<p>Standard 1</p> <p>Category Comprehension and Collaboration</p>	<p>6.SL.CC.1 Prepare for collaborative discussions on 6th grade level topics and texts; engage effectively with varied partners, building on others' ideas and expressing their own ideas clearly.</p>			

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Cornerstone Prepare for and participate effectively in a range of conversations and collaborations with varied partners, building on others' ideas and expressing their own clearly and persuasively.				
Standard 2 Category Comprehension and Collaboration Cornerstone Integrate and evaluate information presented in diverse media formats, such as visual, quantitative, and oral formats.	6.SL.CC.2.2 Interpret information presented in diverse media formats; explain how source information contributes to a topic, text, or issue under study.			
Standard 3 Category Comprehension and Collaboration Cornerstone Evaluate a speaker's point of view, reasoning, and use of evidence and rhetoric.	6.SL.CC.3 Explain a speaker's argument and specific claims, distinguishing claims that are supported by reasons and evidence from claims that are not.			
Standard 4 Category Presentation of Knowledge and Ideas Cornerstone Present information, findings, and supporting evidence such that listeners can follow the line of reasoning; the organization,	6.SL.PKI.4 Present claims and findings, sequencing ideas logically and using pertinent descriptions, facts, and details to accentuate main ideas or themes; use appropriate eye contact, adequate volume, and clear pronunciation.			

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development, and style are appropriate to task, purpose, and audience.				
Standard 5 Category Presentation of Knowledge and Ideas Cornerstone Make strategic use of digital media and visual displays of data to express information and enhance understanding of presentations.	6.SL.PKI.5 Include multimedia components and visual displays in presentations to clarify information.			
Standard 6 Category Comprehension and Collaboration Cornerstone Adapt speech to a variety of contents and communicative tasks, demonstrating command of formal English when indicated or appropriate.	6.SL.PKI.6 Adapt speech to a variety of contexts and tasks, demonstrating command of formal English when indicated or appropriate.			
FOUNDATIONAL LITERACY STANDARDS		Meets Expectations?		Evidence/Notes
		Yes	No	
Standard 6 Category Sentence Composition Cornerstone Demonstrate command of the conventions of standard English grammar and	<i>The Foundational Literacy standards appear only in grades K-5. However, the sentence compositions skills outlined in FL.SC.6 are reinforced in the high school grade levels as they are applied to increasingly sophisticated contexts.</i> <i>See the K-12 Foundational Literacy and Language Progression chart for additional information.</i>			

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usage when speaking and conventions of standard English grammar and usage, including capitalization and punctuation, when writing.				
LANGUAGE STANDARDS		Meets Expectations?		Evidence/Notes
		Yes	No	
Standard 1 Category Conventions of Standard English Cornerstone Demonstrate command of the conventions of standard English grammar and usage when writing or speaking.	6.L.CSE.1 Demonstrate command of the conventions of standard English grammar and usage. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> a. When reading or listening, explain the function of pronouns (case, intensive pronouns, pronoun antecedent agreement). b. When writing or speaking, use pronouns (case, intensive pronouns, pronoun antecedent agreement) effectively. c. When reading and listening, explain the function of phrases and clauses. d. When writing or speaking, use simple, compound, and complex sentences. 			
Standard 2 Category Conventions of Standard English Cornerstone Demonstrate command of the conventions of standard English capitalization, punctuation, and spelling when writing.	6.L.CSE.2 Demonstrate command of the conventions of standard English capitalization, punctuation, and spelling. When reading or writing, explain the functions of commas, parentheses, and dashes to set off parenthetical elements and use them correctly to do so.			
Standard 3 Category Knowledge of Language Cornerstone	6.L.KL.3 When writing and speaking, vary sentence patterns for meaning, reader/listener interest, and style; maintain consistency in style and tone.			

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Apply knowledge of language to understand how language functions in different contexts, to make effective choices for meaning or style, and to comprehend more fully when reading or listening.				
Standard 4 Category Vocabulary Acquisition and Use Cornerstone Determine or clarify the meaning of unknown and multiple-meaning words and phrases by using context clues, analyzing meaningful word parts, and consulting general and specialized reference materials, as appropriate.	6.L.VAU.4 Determine or clarify the meaning of unknown and multiple-meaning words and phrases based on 6 th grade-level text by choosing flexibly from a range of strategies. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> a. Use context as a clue to the meaning of a word or a phrase. b. Use common grade-appropriate morphological elements as clues to the meaning of a word or a phrase. c. Consult reference materials, both print and digital, to find the pronunciation of a word or phrase. d. Use etymological patterns in spelling as clues to the meaning of a word or phrase. 			
Standard 5 Category Vocabulary Acquisition and Use Cornerstone Demonstrate understanding of figurative language, word relationships, and nuances in word meanings.	6.L.VAU.5 When reading, listening, writing, and speaking, explain the function of figurative language, word relationships, and connotation/denotation and use them correctly and effectively.			
Standard 6 Category Vocabulary Acquisition and Use Cornerstone	6.L.VAU.6 Acquire and accurately use grade-appropriate general academic and domain-specific words and phrases; develop vocabulary knowledge when considering a word or phrase important to comprehension or expression.			

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Acquire and use accurately a range of general academic and domain-specific words and phrases sufficient for reading, writing, speaking, and listening at the post-secondary and workforce level; demonstrate independence in gathering vocabulary knowledge when considering a word or phrase important to comprehension or expression.				
Additional comments on alignment to ELA standards:				
Materials meet at least 90% alignment with Section II: ELA Standards. This means that <u>no more than 4</u> boxes were marked "No" in Section II. <u>If more than 4 "No"</u> boxes are marked, then this program does <u>not</u> pass. <i>(Note: Reading Literature and Reading Informational Text count as separate standards. If the screening instrument was checked "no" for 2 Reading Literature standards and 3 Informational Text standards, then it would NOT pass the screening instrument.)</i>	Yes	No		

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SECTION III

High-Quality Instruction: Unit Design, Text Sets, Questions, and Tasks

Materials meet **at least 80%** of indicators in Section III.

Standards are taught in an integrated fashion to support students in developing proficiency as readers and writers as they make meaning of texts through reading, writing, speaking and listening. Instructional decisions for standards instruction centers on the texts that have been selected to strategically build students' knowledge, and the standards are spiraled throughout the year to promote continued practice and application with ever increasing text complexity.

Indicator	Yes	No	Evidence/Notes
a. Units are built around a concept, topic, or theme, and include essential questions and enduring understandings.			
b. Each <u>lesson</u> integrates two or more strands of the Tennessee English Language Arts standards.			
c. Most texts used for core instruction must be authentic and previously published. All commissioned texts are of publishable quality.			
d. Materials provide a wide array of texts and genres, including full-length texts and strategically excerpted texts.			
e. Materials include texts that are culturally relevant and/or are reflective of the varied experiences of adolescents.			
f. Materials provide high-quality texts from diverse and multicultural perspectives (e.g., gender, cultural, age, geographical) while appealing to students' interests.			
g. Students have varied opportunities to engage with text, such as read-alouds, small-group reading, and independent reading.			
h. Materials include multiple opportunities for students to engage in repeated reads of a text with varying purposes for each reading (i.e., close reading).			
i. Materials provide instructions, accountability structures, and recommended texts to support students in reading a high volume of text.			
j. Materials embed regular opportunities for students to engage in writing as they respond to reading, synthesize learning, and explain their thinking.			
k. Within and across units, writing assignments, including both shorter on-demand writing, and lengthier, recursive, process-based writing, progress in breadth, depth, and development.			

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l. Writing tasks are balanced across writing modes (narrative, informative/explanatory, argument).			
m. Writing mini-lessons provide explicit instruction about the writing process, organization/structure, and writing craft.			
n. Instruction in conventions, syntax, and style is direct and contextual (mentor texts), increases in sophistication, and is applied to authentic writing experiences.			
o. Explicit vocabulary instruction includes morphology and Latin or Greek roots.			
p. Materials provide instruction in specific academic language and structures associated with different modes of writing (e.g. use of flashback in narrative, chronological vs. descriptive techniques in informative/explanatory, and rhetoric in opinion/argumentative).			
q. Lessons promote academic discussions around appropriate grade-level concepts and texts and include listening prompts, questions, and evaluation tools to strengthen students' ability to listen to and respond in increasingly sophisticated ways with relevant evidence.			
r. Units and lessons clearly consider student learning differences in the design of instruction, activities, and the classroom environment to provide access for all students, including English Learners, students with disabilities, and students performing below grade level.			
s. Formative and summative assessments are embedded throughout instructional materials and include multiple methods to measure what students know and are able to do. Possible formats include, but are not limited to, checks for understanding, pre-assessments, student self-assessments, selected response (multiple choice, multiple select), constructed responses (short and extended), performance tasks, open-ended questions, etc.			
t. Publisher-produced assessment alignment documents clearly indicate which standards are being addressed by specific questions, tasks, and assessment items.			
Additional comments about high-quality instruction within the materials:			
Materials meet at least 80% alignment with Section III: High-Quality instruction?	Yes	No	
This means <u>no more than 4</u> indicators were marked "No" in Section III. <u>If more than 4 "No"</u> boxes were marked, then this program does <u>not</u> pass.			

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SECTION IV: Additional Components

These components are areas that districts consider when making purchasing decisions to meet the unique needs of their districts. Although these additional components do not prevent publishers from being on the state-approved adoption list, they do provide districts with additional information to use during their decision-making process.

Teacher Support	Yes	No	Evidence/Notes
a. Teacher-facing materials provide background information about previously published texts, including author, content, context, and information about illustrations, if any, to support teacher delivery of lessons.			
b. Close reading passages include extensive annotations aligned to the Tennessee English Language Arts Standards.			
c. Standards and learning objectives in teacher-facing materials are explicitly and readily identifiable.			
d. When appropriate, topics and/or enduring understandings are connected to grade-level content from other Tennessee Academic Standards (e.g., science, social studies, health, and fine arts). Standards connections are clearly documented.			
e. Lessons include teacher think-alouds to model appropriate application of literacy skills.			
f. Teacher-facing materials provide guidance to support teachers in identifying student misconceptions that may prevent student mastery of the Tennessee English Language Arts Standards.			
g. The program includes extensions for advanced students already meeting mastery and/or students with high interest.			
h. Extended learning opportunities (e.g., homework) should reinforce classroom instruction and provide additional practice of skills that have already been taught.			
i. Teacher-facing materials provide suggestions in daily lessons or units of instruction on appropriate opportunities for formative assessments and adjusting lessons if necessary.			
j. Materials provide protocols (e.g., cooperative talk structures) for text-based discussions.			
k. Materials promote use of multimedia and technology to enhance teaching and learning of Tennessee English Language Arts Standards.			

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Monitoring Student Progress			
l. Materials provide scoring guides and tools such as rubrics, portfolios, teacher observation checklist, and anchor papers.			
m. Materials include quarterly benchmark assessments aligned to the Tennessee English Language Arts Standards.			
n. Materials include tools, routines, and guidance that allow for the monitoring of student progress.			
o. Materials include suggestions and tools to keep students and parents informed about students' progress.			
Organization			
p. Content is sufficient to provide instruction across the school year and includes daily lessons organized into coherent units of study.			
q. Units and instructional sequences are coherent and organized in a logical manner that build upon knowledge and skills learned in prior grade levels or earlier in the grade.			
r. Program components, lesson plans, and the relationships among the parts are clear.			
s. Program materials provide a scope and sequence aligned with the Tennessee English Language Arts Standards for the academic instructional year.			
t. Each lesson contains a list of required materials.			
u. Lessons, chapters, and units contain estimated instructional times.			
v. Student materials provide for individual students to have access to text (classroom sets of texts and/or digital platform texts).			
w. Teacher and student materials include an overview of chapters, table of contents, indexes, and glossaries that contain important ELA terms.			
x. Materials contain an explanation of the research behind the program, including instructional approaches within the program.			
y. A list of Tennessee English Language Arts Standards is provided in teacher-facing materials.			
Additional Comments about Section IV: Additional Components			