



**WIT &  
WISDOM®**

# Curiosity, Inquiry, Knowledge

Illinois Learning  
Standards for English  
Language Arts (2010)  
Correlation to *Wit &  
Wisdom*

**Grade 8 | November 2024**



## ABOUT *WIT & WISDOM*

*Wit & Wisdom*® is a Kindergarten through Grade 8 English language arts (ELA) curriculum created by Great Minds. Founded in 2007, Great Minds PBC has evolved from an education advocacy start-up to a respected curriculum developer providing the highest quality materials and professional development to schools and districts nationwide. In pursuit of its goal to raise expectations for every student, Great Minds enlists educators to write curricula that use proven learning strategies to reward students' natural curiosity, build knowledge, and cultivate lifelong critical-thinking skills. Writing teams collaborate to ensure a consistent structure and vision for learning within and across all grade levels.

With *Wit & Wisdom*, every text a student explores is authentic and of the highest quality. Students use these texts at every turn—to learn, and eventually master, essential reading, writing, speaking, listening, grammar, and vocabulary skills. All students read and discuss grade-level texts, and the curriculum includes suggestions for supporting this learning at key moments in the lessons.

*Wit & Wisdom* is composed of four modules per grade level. Each artfully explores a specific topic to develop depth of understanding and inspire curiosity. Modules build students' knowledge of important topics in the arts, science, and social studies through the use of diverse and culturally relevant texts. The core of each module is a selection of literary works, informational texts, and visual art. Modules are made up of approximately 30 lessons that are covered in six to eight weeks. All modules integrate reading, writing, speaking, listening, and language instruction.

*Wit & Wisdom* was intentionally designed to be implemented alongside a high-quality, research-based foundational skills program therefore the majority of the foundational skills standards will fall into this category. With strategic placement of supplemental materials, students can be successful in achieving the proficiencies of The New Illinois Learning Standards for English Language Arts Incorporating the Common Core standards while benefiting from the rich texts and knowledge building of *Wit & Wisdom*. For more information on *Wit & Wisdom*'s alignment to the science of reading, please see [The Science of Reading and \*Wit & Wisdom\*](#) and [Examining Scarborough's Rope: Background Knowledge](#). A detailed analysis of the alignment between The New Illinois Learning Standards for English Language Arts Incorporating the Common Core Standards and *Wit & Wisdom* is provided in the table on the pages that follow this introduction.

An adoption of *Wit & Wisdom* brings to your classroom:

## HIGH RATINGS

The independent, nonprofit reviewer EdReports.org gives *Wit & Wisdom* top ratings for text quality, building knowledge, and usability. *Wit & Wisdom* received a Tier 1 designation for all grades, Kindergarten through Grade 8, from the Louisiana Department of Education.

## PROVEN RESULTS

Schools and districts nationwide are experiencing increased student engagement and growth with *Wit & Wisdom*. See their stories and data at <https://greatminds.org/research>. Data stories from districts can be found at <https://greatminds.org/case-studies>. Finally, we are proud to share *The Knowledge Map Project*, an initiative of the Institute of Educational Policy at Johns Hopkins University and Chiefs for Change. This study provided *Wit & Wisdom* with high marks, saying it contains “high-quality texts with extensive topical coverage,” and “makes especially good use of the visual arts.” Read more at <https://edpolicy.education.jhu.edu/knowledge-map/>.

## ONGOING SUPPORT

Great Minds offers *Wit & Wisdom* curriculum-specific professional development that values educators’ experiences and unique contexts. Our professional development helps teachers build their content knowledge and instructional practices to guide them in how to develop habits of inquiry in their students through rich experiences with the curriculum’s complex texts. Ongoing support includes:

### Introducing *Wit & Wisdom*

- *Wit & Wisdom* Blog and Online Resources
- Implementation Guide
- Module Zero (GK–2, G3–5, G6–8)
- *Wit & Wisdom* Preparation Protocols
- On-Demand Professional Development and Implementation Support Videos

### Extending *Wit & Wisdom*

- Family Tip Sheets
- Multilingual Glossary
- Volume of Reading text list
- *Wit & Wisdom* assessment resources (Standards Trackers and Question Sets)
- The Art of *Wit & Wisdom* (lessons and vocabulary relating to the curriculum’s rich artwork)

## Reading Standards for Literature

### Key Ideas and Details

Illinois Learning Standards for English Language Arts	Aligned Components of Wit & Wisdom
<p><b>RL.8.1</b></p> <p>Cite the textual evidence that most strongly supports an analysis of what the text says explicitly as well as inferences drawn from the text.</p>	<p>Grade 8, Module 1, Lessons 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, 8, 9, 10, 11, 13, 14, 15, 16, 17, 18, 19, 20, 21, 22, 29</p> <p>Grade 8, Module 2, Lessons 6, 7, 8, 9, 10, 11, 13, 14, 15, 16, 17, 18, 19, 20, 21, 22, 23, 24, 26, 27, 28, 30, 33, 34, 35, 36</p> <p>Grade 8, Module 3, Lessons 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, 8, 9, 10, 11, 17, 18, 19, 20, 21, 22, 23, 24, 25, 26, 27, 29, 30, 31, 32, 33, 34, 36</p>
<p><b>RL.8.2</b></p> <p>Determine a theme or central idea of a text and analyze its development over the course of the text, including its relationship to the characters, setting, and plot; provide an objective summary of the text.</p>	<p>Grade 8, Module 1, Lessons 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, 8, 10, 12, 13, 13DD, 14, 15, 16, 17, 18, 19, 21, 22, 29, 29DD, 30</p> <p>Grade 8, Module 2, Lessons 8, 9, 10, 13, 14, 15, 16, 17, 18, 19, 20, 21, 22, 23, 24, 25, 26, 27, 28, 29, 30, 33, 34, 35, 36</p> <p>Grade 8, Module 3, Lessons 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, 8, 9, 10, 11, 17, 20, 21, 22, 23, 24, 25, 26, 27, 29, 30, 31, 32, 33, 34, 36</p>
<p><b>RL.8.3</b></p> <p>Analyze how particular lines of dialogue or incidents in a story or drama propel the action, reveal aspects of a character, or provoke a decision.</p>	<p>Grade 8, Module 1, Lessons 2, 3, 5, 6, 7, 10, 13, 14, 15, 16, 17, 29</p> <p>Grade 8, Module 2, Lessons 6, 7, 8, 9, 10, 11, 13, 14, 15, 16, 17, 20, 22, 23, 24, 25, 27, 28, 29, 30, 34, 35, 36</p> <p>Grade 8, Module 3, Lessons 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, 8, 9, 10, 20, 21, 22, 24</p>

## Reading Standards for Literature

### Craft and Structure

Illinois Learning Standards for English Language Arts	Aligned Components of Wit & Wisdom
<b>RL.8.4</b> 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 analogies or allusions to other texts.	Grade 8, Module 1, Lessons 1, 2, 3, 4, 4DD, 5, 10, 11DD, 14, 15, 16, 21, 22, 24DD, 29, 32DD, 33DD  Grade 8, Module 2, Lessons 6DD, 7DD, 8, 8DD, 9, 10, 10DD, 11, 11DD, 13, 14, 15, 17, 18, 19, 20, 22, 22DD, 23, 24, 25, 26, 29, 30, 34, 35  Grade 8, Module 3, Lessons 1, 2, 2DD, 3, 4, 4DD, 5, 6, 6DD, 7, 8, 9, 9DD, 10, 10DD, 11, 18DD, 20, 20DD, 21, 21DD, 22, 23, 24DD, 25, 28, 29, 30, 30DD
<b>RL.8.5</b> Compare and contrast the structure of two or more texts and analyze how the differing structure of each text contributes to its meaning and style.	Grade 8, Module 1, Lessons 3, 5, 8, 9, 10, 11, 12, 14, 15, 16, 17, 20, 21, 22, 30, 31, 32, 33, 34  Grade 8, Module 2, Lessons 19, 26
<b>RL.8.6</b> Analyze how differences in the points of view of the characters and the audience or reader (e.g., created through the use of dramatic irony) create such effects as suspense or humor.	Grade 8, Module 3, Lessons 18, 19, 20, 21, 22, 24, 29

## Reading Standards for Literature

### Integration of Knowledge and Ideas

Illinois Learning Standards for English Language Arts	Aligned Components of Wit & Wisdom
<b>RL.8.7</b> Analyze the extent to which a filmed or live production of a story or drama stays faithful to or departs from the text or script, evaluating the choices made by the director or actors.	Grade 8, Module 2, Lessons 21, 22, 25, 26, 34  Grade 8, Module 3, Lesson 18

<b>RL.8.9</b> Analyze how a modern work of fiction draws on themes, patterns of events, or character types from myths, traditional stories, or religious works such as the Bible, including describing how the material is rendered new.	Grade 8, Module 3, Lessons 24, 25, 26, 27
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## Reading Standards for Literature

### Range of Reading and Level of Text Complexity

Illinois Learning Standards for English Language Arts	Aligned Components of Wit & Wisdom
<b>RL.8.10</b> By the end of the year, read and comprehend literature, including stories, dramas, and poems, at the high end of grades 6–8 text complexity band independently and proficiently.	Grade 8, Module 1–4  <i>Wit &amp; Wisdom</i> considers this standard a Continuing Standard. Because it is fundamental to the learning design, it is addressed continually across all lessons and modules.

## Reading Standards for Informational Text

### Key Ideas and Details

Illinois Learning Standards for English Language Arts	Aligned Components of Wit & Wisdom
<b>RI.8.1</b> Cite the textual evidence that most strongly supports an analysis of what the text says explicitly as well as inferences drawn from the text.	Grade 8, Module 1, Lessons 11, 12, 23, 24, 25, 26, 27, 28, 29, 30  Grade 8, Module 2, Lessons 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 12, 14, 31, 32, 33  Grade 8, Module 3, Lessons 12, 13, 14, 15, 16, 17  Grade 8, Module 4, Lessons 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, 8, 9, 10, 11, 12, 13, 14, 15, 16, 17, 18, 19, 20, 21, 22, 23, 24, 33
<b>RI.8.2</b> Determine a central idea of a text and analyze its development over the course of the text, including its relationship to supporting ideas; provide an objective summary of the text.	Grade 8, Module 1, Lessons 11, 12, 23, 24, 25, 26, 27, 28, 29, 30, 32  Grade 8, Module 2, Lessons 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 12, 14, 31, 32, 34  Grade 8, Module 3, Lessons 13, 15, 16, 17



	Grade 8, Module 4, Lessons 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, 10, 12, 13, 14, 15, 16, 17, 18, 19, 20, 21, 22, 23, 24
<b>RI.8.3</b> Analyze how a text makes connections among and distinctions between individuals, ideas, or events (e.g., through comparisons, analogies, or categories).	Grade 8, Module 1, Lessons 12, 23, 24, 25 Grade 8, Module 2, Lessons 1, 2, 4, 12, 31, 32, 33 Grade 8, Module 3, Lessons 13, 14 Grade 8, Module 4, Lessons 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, 10, 11, 12, 13, 14, 15, 17, 20, 21, 23

## Reading Standards for Informational Text

### Craft and Structure

Illinois Learning Standards for English Language Arts	Aligned Components of Wit & Wisdom
<b>RI.8.4</b> Determine the meaning of words and phrases as they are used in a text, including figurative, connotative, and technical meanings; analyze the impact of specific word choices on meaning and tone, including analogies or allusions to other texts.	Grade 8, Module 1, Lessons 11, 12, 12DD, 13DD, 23, 23DD, 24, 25, 27DD, 32DD, 33DD Grade 8, Module 2, Lessons 1, 2DD, 3, 4, 4DD, 12, 12DD, 31, 32 Grade 8, Module 3, Lessons 12, 13, 14, 14DD, 15DD Grade 8, Module 4, Lessons 1, 2, 3, 3DD, 4, 5, 6, 7, 10, 10DD, 11, 12, 13, 14, 15DD, 17, 17DD, 18, 19, 19DD, 20, 20DD, 21, 22, 24
<b>RI.8.5</b> Analyze in detail the structure of a specific paragraph in a text, including the role of particular sentences in developing and refining a key concept.	Grade 8, Module 1, Lesson 27 Grade 8, Module 2, Lessons 1, 3 Grade 8, Module 4, Lessons 1, 14, 19, 20, 21
<b>RI.8.6</b>	Grade 8, Module 1, Lesson 24 Grade 8, Module 3, Lessons 12, 14

Determine an author's point of view or purpose in a text and analyze how the author acknowledges and responds to conflicting evidence or viewpoints.	Grade 8, Module 4, Lessons 7, 11, 12, 15, 16, 18, 19, 20, 24
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## Reading Standards for Informational Text

### Integration of Knowledge and Ideas

Illinois Learning Standards for English Language Arts	Aligned Components of Wit & Wisdom
<b>RI.8.7</b> Evaluate the advantages and disadvantages of using different mediums (e.g., print or digital text, video, multimedia) to present a particular topic or idea.	Grade 8, Module 4, Lessons 3, 6, 7, 8, 9
<b>RI.8.8</b> Delineate and evaluate the argument and specific claims in a text, assessing whether the reasoning is sound and the evidence is relevant and sufficient; recognize when irrelevant evidence is introduced.	Grade 8, Module 3, Lessons 13, 14, 15, 16 Grade 8, Module 4, Lessons 20, 23
<b>RI.8.9</b> Analyze a case in which two or more texts provide conflicting information on the same topic and identify where the texts disagree on matters of fact or interpretation.	Grade 8, Module 4, Lessons 5, 20, 23, 24

## Reading Standards for Informational Text

### Range of Reading and Level of Text Complexity

Illinois Learning Standards for English Language Arts	Aligned Components of Wit & Wisdom
<b>RI.8.10</b>	Grade 8, Module 1–4



By the end of the year, read and comprehend literary nonfiction at the high end of the grades 6–8 text complexity band independently and proficiently.

*Wit & Wisdom* considers this standard a Continuing Standard. Because it is fundamental to the learning design, it is addressed continually across all lessons and modules.

## Writing Standards

### Text Types and Purposes

Illinois Learning Standards for English Language Arts	Aligned Components of Wit & Wisdom
<b>W.8.1</b> Write arguments to support claims with clear reasons and relevant evidence.	See W.8.1a–e below.
<b>W.8.1.a</b> Introduce claim(s), acknowledge and distinguish the claim(s) from alternate or opposing claims, and organize the reasons and evidence logically.	Grade 8, Module 3, Lessons 3, 4, 6, 7, 8, 9, 10, 17, 18, 19, 20, 22, 23, 24, 26, 31, 32, 33, 34, 35
<b>W.8.1.b</b> Support claim(s) with logical reasoning and relevant evidence, using accurate, credible sources and demonstrating an understanding of the topic or text.	Grade 8, Module 3, Lessons 3, 4, 6, 7, 8, 9, 10, 17, 26, 31, 34, 35
<b>W.8.1.c</b> Use words, phrases, and clauses to create cohesion and clarify the relationships among claim(s), counterclaims, reasons, and evidence.	Grade 8, Module 3, Lessons 6, 8, 9, 18, 19, 20, 22, 26, 31, 32, 35
<b>W.8.1.d</b> Establish and maintain a formal style.	Grade 8, Module 3, Lessons 29, 30, 31
<b>W.8.1.e</b>	Grade 8, Module 3, Lessons 13, 30, 31, 35

Provide a concluding statement or section that follows from and supports the argument presented.	
<b>W.8.2</b> Write informative/explanatory texts to examine a topic and convey ideas, concepts, and information through the selection, organization, and analysis of relevant content.	See W.8.2a–f below.
<b>W.8.2.a</b> Introduce a topic clearly, previewing what is to follow; organize ideas, concepts, and information into broader categories; include formatting (e.g., headings), graphics (e.g., charts, tables), and multimedia when useful to aiding comprehension.	Grade 8, Module 2, Lessons 5, 9, 10, 11, 15, 18, 21, 27, 28, 31, 32, 34, 35, 36, 37  Grade 8, Module 3, Lessons 16, 27  Grade 8, Module 4, Lesson 12
<b>W.8.2.b</b> Develop the topic with relevant, well-chosen facts, definitions, concrete details, quotations, or other information and examples.	Grade 8, Module 1, Lessons 16, 28  Grade 8, Module 2, Lessons 2, 3, 4, 5, 8, 25, 26, 32, 34, 35, 36, 37  Grade 8, Module 3, Lessons 5, 6, 8, 16, 27  Grade 8, Module 4, Lesson 12
<b>W.8.2.c</b> Use appropriate and varied transitions to create cohesion and clarify the relationships among ideas and concepts.	Grade 8, Module 2, Lessons 13, 15, 36, 37  Grade 8, Module 3, Lessons 16, 27  Grade 8, Module 4, Lesson 12
<b>W.8.2.d</b> Use precise language and domain-specific vocabulary to inform about or explain the topic.	Grade 8, Module 1, Lesson 28  Grade 8, Module 2, Lessons 5, 25, 26  Grade 8, Module 3, Lessons 16, 27
<b>W.8.2.e</b>	Grade 8, Module 2, Lessons 23, 26

Establish and maintain a formal style.	Grade 8, Module 3, Lesson 16
<b>W.8.2.f</b> Provide a concluding statement or section that follows from and supports the information or explanation presented.	Grade 8, Module 2, Lessons 25, 26, 32, 36, 37 Grade 8, Module 4, Lesson 12
<b>W.8.3</b> Write narratives to develop real or imagined experiences or events using effective technique, relevant descriptive details, and well-structured event sequences.	See W.8.3a–e below.
<b>W.8.3.a</b> Engage and orient the reader by establishing a context and point of view and introducing a narrator and/or characters; organize an event sequence that unfolds naturally and logically.	Grade 8, Module 1, Lessons 12, 13, 14, 17, 29 Grade 8, Module 2, Lesson 16
<b>W.8.3.b</b> Use narrative techniques, such as dialogue, pacing, description, and reflection, to develop experiences, events, and/or characters.	Grade 8, Module 1, Lessons 7, 11, 12, 13, 14, 15, 17, 21, 29, 31 Grade 8, Module 2, Lessons 14, 16
<b>W.8.3.c</b> Use a variety of transition words, phrases, and clauses to convey sequence, signal shifts from one time frame or setting to another, and show the relationships among experiences and events.	<i>Wit &amp; Wisdom</i> addresses this standard in Grade 7. Grade 7, Module 2 Lessons 11DD, 12DD
<b>W.8.3.d</b> Use precise words and phrases, relevant descriptive details, and sensory language to capture the action and convey experiences and events.	Grade 8, Module 1, Lessons 5, 6, 7, 8, 10, 11, 13, 15, 17, 21, 29, 31 Grade 8, Module 2, Lessons 3, 14, 16
<b>W.8.3.e</b>	Grade 8, Module 1, Lessons 12, 13, 14, 17, 29

Provide a conclusion that follows from and reflects on the narrated experiences or events.

## Writing Standards

### Production and Distribution of Writing

Illinois Learning Standards for English Language Arts	Aligned Components of Wit & Wisdom
<b>W.8.4</b> Produce clear and coherent writing in which the development, organization, and style are appropriate to task, purpose, and audience.	Grade 8, Module 1, Lessons 7, 21, 31, 32 Grade 8, Module 2, Lessons 5, 16, 32, 37 Grade 8, Module 3, Lessons 5, 36 Grade 8, Module 4, Lessons 8, 27, 28
<b>W.8.5</b> 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, focusing on how well purpose and audience have been addressed.	Grade 8, Module 1, Lessons 11, 17, 28, 29, 30, 32 Grade 8, Module 2, Lessons 8, 34, 37DD Grade 8, Module 3, Lessons 10, 24, 26, 33, 34, 35, 35DD, 36, 36DD Grade 8, Module 4, Lessons 16, 26, 27, 31
<b>W.8.6</b> Use technology, including the Internet, to produce and publish writing and present the relationships between information and ideas efficiently as well as to interact and collaborate with others.	Grade 8, Module 1, Lesson 22 Grade 8, Module 4, Lessons 9, 32, 33

## Writing Standards

### Research to Build and Present Knowledge

Illinois Learning Standards for English Language Arts	Aligned Components of Wit & Wisdom
<b>W.8.7</b> Conduct short research projects to answer a question (including a self-generated question), drawing on several sources and generating additional related, focused questions that allow for multiple avenues of exploration.	Grade 8, Module 2, Lesson 1  Grade 8, Module 3, Lessons 1, 8  Grade 8, Module 4, Lessons 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 10, 11, 15, 16, 17, 18, 19, 24, 25, 27, 33
<b>W.8.8</b> Gather relevant information from multiple print and digital sources, using search terms effectively; assess the credibility and accuracy of each source; and quote or paraphrase the data and conclusions of others while avoiding plagiarism and following a standard format for citation.	Grade 8, Module 2, Lesson 1  Grade 8, Module 3, Lessons 1, 8  Grade 8, Module 4, Lessons 3, 5, 10, 13, 15, 16, 18, 21, 22, 23, 24, 25, 26, 27, 33
<b>W.8.9</b> Draw evidence from literary or informational texts to support analysis, reflection, and research.	See W.8.9a–b below.
<b>W.8.9.a</b> Apply grade 8 Reading standards to literature (e.g., “Analyze how a modern work of fiction draws on themes, patterns of events, or character types from myths, traditional stories, or religious works such as the Bible, including describing how the material is rendered new.”).	Grade 8, Module 1, Lesson 16  Grade 8, Module 3, Lessons 5, 8, 27, 31
<b>W.8.9.b</b> Apply grade 8 Reading standards to literary nonfiction (e.g., “Delineate and evaluate the argument and specific claims in a text, assessing whether the reasoning is sound and the evidence is relevant and sufficient; recognize when irrelevant evidence is introduced.”).	Grade 8, Module 3, Lesson 16  Grade 8, Module 4, Lesson 27

## Writing Standards

### Range of Writing

Illinois Learning Standards for English Language Arts	Aligned Components of Wit & Wisdom
<b>W.8.10</b>  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 discipline-specific tasks, purposes, and audiences.	Grade 8, Module 1, Lessons 2, 3, 19, 23, 27  Grade 8, Module 2, Lessons 1, 6, 7, 11, 12, 14, 17, 19, 20, 22, 23, 24, 28, 29, 30, 33  Grade 8, Module 3, Lessons 1, 2, 3, 6, 7, 8, 9, 10, 11, 13, 14, 15, 18, 19, 22, 23, 24, 25  Grade 8, Module 4, Lessons 1, 2, 4, 6, 7, 9, 10, 11, 12, 13, 14, 15, 17, 18, 19, 20, 21, 22, 23, 24, 33

## Speaking and Listening Standards

### Comprehension and Collaboration

Illinois Learning Standards for English Language Arts	Aligned Components of Wit & Wisdom
<b>SL.8.1</b>  Engage effectively in a range of collaborative discussions (one-on-one, in groups, and teacher-led) with diverse partners on grade 8 topics, texts, and issues, building on others' ideas and expressing their own clearly.	See SL.8.1a–d below.
<b>SL.8.1.a</b>  Come to discussions prepared, having read or researched material under study; explicitly draw on that preparation by referring to evidence on the topic, text, or issue to probe and reflect on ideas under discussion.	Grade 8, Module 3, Lessons 11, 26  Grade 8, Module 4, Lessons 9, 24
<b>SL.8.1.b</b>	Grade 8, Module 2, Lessons 24, 33  Grade 8, Module 3, Lesson 11



Follow rules for collegial discussions and decision-making, track progress toward specific goals and deadlines, and define individual roles as needed.	
<b>SL.8.1.c</b> Pose questions that connect the ideas of several speakers and respond to others' questions and comments with relevant evidence, observations, and ideas.	Grade 8, Module 3, Lesson 11
<b>SL.8.1.d</b> Acknowledge new information expressed by others, and, when warranted, qualify or justify their own views in light of the evidence presented.	<i>Wit &amp; Wisdom</i> addresses this standard in Grade 7.  Grade 7, Module 1, Lesson 7  Grade 7, Module 2, Lesson 30  Grade 7, Module 3, Lessons 29, 37  Grade 7, Module 4, Lesson 31
<b>SL.8.2</b> Analyze the purpose of information presented in diverse media and formats (e.g., visually, quantitatively, orally) and evaluate the motives (e.g., social, commercial, political) behind its presentation.	Grade 8, Module 1, Lessons 4, 9, 18, 19  Grade 8, Module 2, Lessons 2, 3, 4, 6, 7, 11, 12, 13, 14, 15, 17, 18, 19, 20, 21, 22, 25, 26, 33, 34  Grade 8, Module 3, Lesson 18  Grade 8, Module 4, Lessons 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, 8, 9, 10, 11, 12, 13, 14, 15, 17, 18, 19, 20, 24, 33
<b>SL.8.3</b> Delineate a speaker's argument and specific claims, evaluating the soundness of the reasoning and relevance and sufficiency of the evidence and identifying when irrelevant evidence is introduced.	Grade 8, Module 3, Lessons 6, 9, 11, 17, 29, 32, 34

## Speaking and Listening Standards

### Presentation of Knowledge and Ideas

Illinois Learning Standards for English Language Arts	Aligned Components of Wit & Wisdom
<b>SL.8.4</b> Present claims and findings, emphasizing salient points in a focused, coherent manner with relevant evidence, sound valid reasoning, and well-chosen details; use appropriate eye contact, adequate volume, and clear pronunciation.	Grade 8, Module 1, Lessons 18, 19, 20, 21, 22, 33 Grade 8, Module 3, Lesson 17 Grade 8, Module 4, Lessons 24, 28, 29, 30, 31, 32
<b>SL.8.5</b> Integrate multimedia and visual displays into presentations to clarify information, strengthen claims and evidence, and add interest.	Grade 8, Module 1, Lessons 18, 19, 20, 21, 22, 33 Grade 8, Module 3, Lesson 28 Grade 8, Module 4, Lessons 9, 29, 30, 31, 32
<b>SL.8.6</b> Adapt speech to a variety of contexts and tasks, demonstrating command of formal English when indicated or appropriate.	Grade 8, Module 1, Lessons 15, 18, 19, 20, 21, 22, 27, 33 Grade 8, Module 2, Lessons 18, 19, 20, 21, 22, 23, 24, 25, 33, 36 Grade 8, Module 3, Lessons 26, 29 Grade 8, Module 4, Lessons 9, 24, 33

## Language Standards

### Conventions of Standard English

Illinois Learning Standards for English Language Arts	Aligned Components of Wit & Wisdom
<b>L.8.1</b> Demonstrate command of the conventions of standard English grammar and usage when writing or speaking.	See L.8.1a–d below.
<b>L.8.1.a</b> Explain the function of verbals (gerunds, participles, infinitives) in general and their function in particular sentences.	Grade 8, Module 4, Lessons 1DD, 2DD, 4DD, 7DD, 8, 8DD, 13DD, 14DD, 16, 16DD, 21DD, 22DD, 23, 23DD, 24DD

<b>L.8.1.b</b> Form and use verbs in the active and passive voice.	Grade 8, Module 1, Lessons 10, 11  Grade 8, Module 2, Lessons 16, 21DD, 23DD, 24DD, 25, 25DD, 26, 26DD, 32, 37, 37DD  Grade 8, Module 4, Lessons 26DD, 27DD
<b>L.8.1.c</b> Form and use verbs in the indicative, imperative, interrogative, conditional, and subjunctive mood.	Grade 8, Module 1, Lessons 2DD, 5DD, 8DD, 9DD, 10, 21  Grade 8, Module 2, Lessons 14DD, 15DD, 16DD, 37, 37DD  Grade 8, Module 3, Lessons 11DD, 13DD, 16, 16DD, 17DD, 23DD, 25DD, 26DD, 27, 27DD, 29DD, 31, 36DD  Grade 8, Module 4, Lessons 27, 32DD
<b>L.8.1.d</b> Recognize and correct inappropriate shifts in verb voice and mood.	Grade 8, Module 1, Lesson 8DD  Grade 8, Module 2, Lessons 14DD, 15, 15DD, 16, 16DD, 25, 25DD, 26, 26DD, 37, 37DD  Grade 8, Module 3, Lessons 16, 17DD, 27, 29DD, 31, 36, 36DD
<b>L.8.2</b> Demonstrate command of the conventions of standard English capitalization, punctuation, and spelling when writing.	See L.8.2a–c below.
<b>L.8.2.a</b> Use punctuation (comma, ellipsis, dash) to indicate a pause or break.	Grade 8, Module 1, Lessons 18DD, 19DD, 20DD, 22DD  Grade 8, Module 3, Lessons 1DD, 3DD, 5, 5DD, 35DD, 36
<b>L.8.2.b</b> Use an ellipsis to indicate an omission.	Grade 8, Module 2, Lessons 31DD, 32, 32DD, 33DD, 37, 37DD
<b>L.8.2.c</b>	Grade 8, Module 2, Lessons 1DD, 32

Spell correctly.	Grade 8, Module 3, Lessons 30DD, 31, 31DD, 32DD, 36
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## Language Standards

### Knowledge of Language

Illinois Learning Standards for English Language Arts	Aligned Components of Wit & Wisdom
<b>L.8.3</b> Use knowledge of language and its conventions when writing, speaking, reading, or listening.	See L.8.3a below.
<b>L.8.3.a</b> Use verbs in the active and passive voice and in the conditional and subjunctive mood to achieve particular effects (e.g., emphasizing the actor or the action; expressing uncertainty or describing a state contrary to fact).	Grade 8, Module 1, Lesson 11  Grade 8, Module 2, Lessons 24DD, 32  Grade 8, Module 3, Lessons 16DD, 17DD, 25DD, 26DD, 27, 27DD, 29DD  Grade 8, Module 4, Lessons 25DD, 26DD, 27DD, 30DD, 31DD, 32DD

## Language Standards

### Vocabulary Acquisition and Use

Illinois Learning Standards for English Language Arts	Aligned Components of Wit & Wisdom
<b>L.8.4</b> Determine or clarify the meaning of unknown and multiple-meaning words or phrases based on grade 8 reading and content, choosing flexibly from a range of strategies.	See L.8.4a–d below.
<b>L.8.4.a</b>	Grade 8, Module 1, Lessons 4DD, 11DD, 12, 12DD, 13DD, 15, 23, 27DD, 32DD, 33DD

<p>Use context (e.g., the overall meaning of a sentence or paragraph; a word's position or function in a sentence) as a clue to the meaning of a word or phrase.</p>	<p>Grade 8, Module 2, Lessons 1, 2, 2DD, 3, 4, 6, 6DD, 7DD, 8, 8DD, 9, 10, 10DD, 11DD, 12, 12DD, 13, 17, 18, 18DD, 19, 20, 22, 22DD, 23, 25, 27, 29, 30, 31, 32, 34DD</p> <p>Grade 8, Module 3, Lessons 1, 2, 2DD, 3, 4, 6DD, 7, 9, 10, 10DD, 14, 14DD, 15DD, 18DD, 19DD, 20, 20DD, 21, 21DD, 22, 23, 24DD, 30DD, 33DD</p> <p>Grade 8, Module 4, Lessons 3DD, 4, 5, 7, 10, 10DD, 13, 15, 15DD, 17, 17DD, 19, 19DD, 20DD, 21, 28DD, 29DD</p>
<p><b>L.8.4.b</b></p> <p>Use common, grade-appropriate Greek or Latin affixes and roots as clues to the meaning of a word (e.g., <i>precede</i>, <i>recede</i>, <i>secede</i>).</p>	<p>Grade 8, Module 1, Lessons 3DD, 4DD, 12DD, 13DD</p> <p>Grade 8, Module 2, Lessons 10DD, 20DD, 22DD, 29DD</p> <p>Grade 8, Module 3, Lessons 7DD, 10DD, 12DD, 14DD, 18DD, 20DD, 21DD, 22DD, 30DD</p> <p>Grade 8, Module 4, Lessons 1, 6DD, 10, 17, 17DD, 28DD</p>
<p><b>L.8.4.c</b></p> <p>Consult general and specialized reference materials (e.g., dictionaries, glossaries, thesauruses), both print and digital, to find the pronunciation of a word or determine or clarify its precise meaning or its part of speech.</p>	<p>Grade 8, Module 1, Lessons 3DD, 4DD, 11DD, 13DD, 15DD, 23DD, 24DD, 27DD, 29DD</p> <p>Grade 8, Module 2, Lessons 1, 1DD, 4, 6DD, 7DD, 10DD, 12DD, 20DD, 29DD, 30DD</p> <p>Grade 8, Module 3, Lessons 1, 2, 3, 6, 6DD, 7DD, 8, 9, 9DD, 10DD, 12, 12DD, 15DD, 18, 18DD, 19, 20DD, 21, 21DD, 22, 22DD, 30, 30DD, 31DD</p> <p>Grade 8, Module 4, Lessons 2, 3DD, 5, 10, 10DD, 12, 13, 15DD, 17DD, 19DD, 20DD</p>
<p><b>L.8.4.d</b></p> <p>Verify the preliminary determination of the meaning of a word or phrase (e.g., by checking the inferred meaning in context or in a dictionary).</p>	<p>Grade 8, Module 1, Lessons 3DD, 4DD, 11DD, 12, 12DD, 13DD, 15, 23, 23DD, 27DD</p>

	<p>Grade 8, Module 2, Lessons 1, 4, 6DD, 7DD, 10DD, 12, 12DD, 13, 20DD, 22DD, 29DD, 31</p> <p>Grade 8, Module 3, Lessons 1, 2, 3, 6DD, 10, 10DD, 14, 18DD, 20, 21DD, 30DD</p> <p>Grade 8, Module 4, Lessons 2, 3DD, 10, 10DD, 15DD, 17, 17DD, 19DD, 20DD</p>
<p><b>L.8.5</b></p> <p>Demonstrate understanding of figurative language, word relationships, and nuances in word meanings.</p>	See L.8.5a–c below.
<p><b>L.8.5.a</b></p> <p>Interpret figures of speech (e.g. verbal irony, puns) in context.</p>	<p>Grade 8, Module 1, Lessons 4, 8DD, 21DD</p> <p>Grade 8, Module 2, Lessons 9DD, 10, 11, 14, 15, 18, 19, 20, 22, 29</p> <p>Grade 8, Module 3, Lessons 2, 3, 4, 4DD, 5, 6, 8, 9, 10, 11, 19, 20, 20DD, 22, 28, 29, 30</p> <p>Grade 8, Module 4, Lessons 18, 20, 22</p>
<p><b>L.8.5.b</b></p> <p>Use the relationship between particular words to better understand each of the words.</p>	<p>Grade 8, Module 1, Lessons 1, 1DD, 23DD, 27DD, 29DD</p> <p>Grade 8, Module 2, Lessons 1, 2DD, 10, 13DD, 17, 18DD, 27, 31</p> <p>Grade 8, Module 3, Lessons 20, 23, 29, 30</p> <p>Grade 8, Module 4, Lessons 1, 5, 5DD, 6, 6DD, 10, 11, 11DD, 12, 15, 17, 21</p>
<p><b>L.8.5.c</b></p> <p>Distinguish among the connotations (associations) of words with similar denotations (definitions) (e.g., bullheaded, willful, firm, persistent, resolute).</p>	<p>Grade 8, Module 1, Lessons 15DD, 24DD</p> <p>Grade 8, Module 2, Lessons 2DD, 4DD, 15, 19, 30DD, 31, 32</p> <p>Grade 8, Module 3, Lessons 2, 2DD, 7DD, 9DD, 10, 14, 15DD, 21</p> <p>Grade 8, Module 4, Lessons 15DD, 21</p>



<p><b>L.8.6</b></p> <p>Acquire and use accurately grade-appropriate general academic and domain-specific words and phrases; gather vocabulary knowledge when considering a word or phrase important to comprehension or expression.</p>	<p>Grade 8, Module 1–4</p> <p><i>Wit &amp; Wisdom</i> considers this standard a Continuing Standard. Because it is fundamental to the learning design, it is addressed continuously across all lessons and modules.</p>
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