

**Colorado Model Content Standards for Reading and Writing  
correlated to  
Merit Software Reading Comprehension College Prep Programs**

The ability to communicate clearly -- to read, write, speak, and listen -- forms the core of human culture. Reading, writing, speaking, and listening skills are essential tools for learning, for success in the workplace, for enriching and expanding our lives, and for responsible citizenship. Language skills are particularly critical in the area of education. Through language abilities, students understand the academic content areas. Success in learning is grounded in students acquiring solid knowledge and skills in reading, writing, speaking, and listening. The Colorado Model Content Standards set high expectations in these areas for all students.

Merit’s Reading Comprehension College Prep programs address the following Colorado Model Content Standards for Reading and Writing:

- Grade 9           pg. 1-3
- Grade 10         pg. 3-4
- Grade 11         pg. 4
- Grade 12         pg. 5

Grade 9

Subhead	Standard	Grade Level Expectation	Merit Software
Reading	Students read and understand a variety of materials.	• use a full range of strategies to comprehend at the literal and interpretive levels a variety of text (for example, technical writing, newspapers, magazines, poetry, short stories, plays, and novels);	Accu-Reading Set 2, Developing Critical Thinking Skills Set 3, Reading Critically Non-fiction Set 3, Reading Strategies for Career Success Set 1, Literature Based Reading Series 2
Reading	Students read and understand a variety of materials.	• paraphrase, summarize, synthesize, and evaluate information from a variety of text and genres;	Accu-Reading Set 2, Developing Critical Thinking Skills Set 3, Reading Critically Non-fiction Set 3, Reading Strategies for Career Success Set 1, Literature Based Reading Series 2

Reading	Students read and understand a variety of materials.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• identify main idea, supporting details, and sequence in literary, expository, and technical text</li> </ul>	Accu-Reading Set 2, Developing Critical Thinking Skills Set 3, Reading Critically Non-fiction Set 3, Reading Strategies for Career Success Set 1, Literature Based Reading Series 2
Reading	Students read and understand a variety of materials.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• infer and predict using information in a variety of text and genres;</li> </ul>	Accu-Reading Set 2, Developing Critical Thinking Skills Set 3, Reading Critically Non-fiction Set 3, Reading Strategies for Career Success Set 1, Literature Based Reading Series 2
Reading	Students read and understand a variety of materials.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• monitor own comprehension and make modifications when understanding breaks down by rereading a portion, using reference aids, and using contextual information;</li> </ul>	Accu-Reading Set 2, Developing Critical Thinking Skills Set 3, Reading Critically Non-fiction Set 3, Reading Strategies for Career Success Set 1, Literature Based Reading Series 2
Reading	Students read and understand a variety of materials.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• confirm meaning of figurative, idiomatic, and technological language using context clues;</li> </ul>	Accu-Reading Set 2, Developing Critical Thinking Skills Set 3, Reading Critically Non-fiction Set 3, Reading Strategies for Career Success Set 1, Literature Based Reading Series 2
Reading	Students read and understand a variety of materials.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• apply knowledge of letter-sound correspondence, language structures, and context to recognize words;</li> </ul>	Accu-Reading Set 2, Developing Critical Thinking Skills Set 3, Reading Critically Non-fiction Set 3, Reading Strategies for Career Success Set 1, Literature Based Reading Series 2
Reading	Students apply thinking skills to their reading, writing, speaking, listening, and viewing.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• recognize an author's or speaker's point of view and purpose;</li> </ul>	Accu-Reading Set 2, Developing Critical Thinking Skills Set 3, Reading Critically Non-fiction Set 3, Reading Strategies for Career Success Set 1, Literature Based Reading Series 2
Reading	Students apply thinking skills to their reading, writing, speaking, listening, and viewing.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• distinguish between fact and opinion;</li> </ul>	Accu-Reading Set 2, Developing Critical Thinking Skills Set 3, Reading Critically Non-fiction Set 3, Reading Strategies for Career Success Set 1, Literature Based Reading Series 2
Reading	Students apply thinking skills to their reading, writing, speaking, listening, and viewing.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• make predictions, draw conclusions, and analyze what they read, hear, and view.</li> </ul>	Accu-Reading Set 2, Developing Critical Thinking Skills Set 3, Reading Critically Non-fiction Set 3, Reading Strategies for Career Success Set 1, Literature Based Reading Series 2

Reading	Students read and recognize literature as a record of human experience.	• read a given text and identify the theme;	Literature Based Reading Series 2
Reading	Students read and recognize literature as a record of human experience.	• read and respond to classic and contemporary novels, poetry, plays, short stories, non-fiction, essays and speeches, myths, and epics from a variety of cultures and historical periods;	Accu-Reading Set 2, Developing Critical Thinking Skills Set 3, Reading Critically Non-fiction Set 3, Reading Strategies for Career Success Set 1, Literature Based Reading Series 2

Grade 10

Subhead	Standard	Grade Level Expectation	Merit Software
Reading	Students read and understand a variety of materials.	• read and understand literary, expository, and technical text at the literal, interpretive, and evaluative levels;	Accu-Reading Set 2, Developing Critical Thinking Skills Set 4, Reading Critically Non-fiction Set 4, Reading Strategies for Career Success Set 2, Literature Based Reading Series 2
Reading	Students read and understand a variety of materials.	• determine meanings of words, including those with multiple meanings, by using context clues (for example, synonyms, comparisons) and structural clues (for example, roots, suffixes, prefixes);	Accu-Reading Set 2, Developing Critical Thinking Skills Set 4, Reading Critically Non-fiction Set 4, Reading Strategies for Career Success Set 2, Literature Based Reading Series 2
Reading	Students read and understand a variety of materials.	• identify main ideas, supporting details, sequence of events or procedures, facts and opinions in literary, expository, and technical texts;	Accu-Reading Set 2, Developing Critical Thinking Skills Set 4, Reading Critically Non-fiction Set 4, Reading Strategies for Career Success Set 2, Literature Based Reading Series 2
Reading	Students read and understand a variety of materials.	• summarize literary, expository, and technical texts;	Accu-Reading Set 2, Developing Critical Thinking Skills Set 4, Reading Critically Non-fiction Set 4, Reading Strategies for Career Success Set 2, Literature Based Reading Series 2
Reading	Students read and understand a variety of materials.	• infer by making connections within and among texts.	Accu-Reading Set 2, Developing Critical Thinking Skills Set 4, Reading Critically Non-fiction Set 4, Reading Strategies for Career Success Set 2, Literature Based Reading Series 2

Reading	Students apply thinking skills to their reading, writing, speaking, listening, and viewing.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• identify author's viewpoint, purpose, and historical/cultural context from information presented in the text;</li> </ul>	Accu-Reading Set 2, Developing Critical Thinking Skills Set 4, Reading Critically Non-fiction Set 4, Reading Strategies for Career Success Set 2, Literature Based Reading Series 2
Reading	Students apply thinking skills to their reading, writing, speaking, listening, and viewing.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• make predictions, draw conclusions and analyze text (for example, editorials, political cartoons, advertisements, essays);</li> </ul>	Accu-Reading Set 2, Developing Critical Thinking Skills Set 4, Reading Critically Non-fiction Set 4, Reading Strategies for Career Success Set 2, Literature Based Reading Series 2
Reading	Students read and recognize literature as a record of human experience.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• read a given text and identify the theme;</li> </ul>	Literature Based Reading Series 2
Reading	Students read and recognize literature as a record of human experience.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• read and respond to classic and contemporary novels, poetry, plays, short stories, non-fiction, essays and speeches, from a variety of cultures and historical periods;</li> </ul>	Accu-Reading Set 2, Developing Critical Thinking Skills Set 4, Reading Critically Non-fiction Set 4, Reading Strategies for Career Success Set 2, Literature Based Reading Series 2

Grade 11

Subhead	Standard	Grade Level Expectation	Merit Software
Reading	Students read and understand a variety of materials.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• use a full range of strategies to comprehend technical writing, newspapers, magazines, poetry, short stories, plays, and novels.</li> </ul>	Accu-Reading Set 2, Developing Critical Thinking Skills Set 4, Reading Critically Non-fiction Set 4, Reading Strategies for Career Success Set 2, Literature Based Reading Series 2
Reading	Students apply thinking skills to their reading, writing, speaking, listening, and viewing.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• recognize an author's point of view, purpose, and historical and cultural context;</li> </ul>	Accu-Reading Set 2, Developing Critical Thinking Skills Set 4, Reading Critically Non-fiction Set 4, Reading Strategies for Career Success Set 2, Literature Based Reading Series 2
Reading	Students read and recognize literature as a record of human experience.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• read, respond to, and discuss a variety of novels, poetry, short stories, non-fiction, content-area and technical material, plays, essays, and speeches;</li> </ul>	Literature Based Reading Series 2

Grade 12

Subhead	Standard	Grade Level Expectation	Merit Software
Reading	Students read and understand a variety of materials.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• use a full range of strategies to comprehend technical writing, newspapers, magazines, poetry, short stories, plays, and novels.</li> </ul>	Literature Based Reading Series 2
Reading	Students apply thinking skills to their reading, writing, speaking, listening, and viewing.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• recognize an author's point of view, purpose, and historical and cultural context;</li> </ul>	Literature Based Reading Series 2
Reading	Students read and recognize literature as a record of human experience.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• read, respond to, and discuss a variety of novels, poetry, short stories, non-fiction, content-area and technical material, plays, essays, and speeches;</li> </ul>	Literature Based Reading Series 2