

**Illinois Learning Standards
correlated to
Merit Software Process Writing Programs**

The *Illinois Learning Standards for English Language Arts* goals and standards have not changed since their adoption in 1997. Through the achievement of these goals and standards, students will gain proficiency in the language skills that are basic to all learning, critical to success in the workplace and essential to life as productive citizens. English language arts includes reading, writing, speaking, listening and the study of literature. Through the study of the English language arts, students should be able to read fluently, understanding a broad range of written materials. They must be able to communicate well and listen carefully and effectively. They should develop a command of the language and demonstrate their knowledge through speaking and writing for a variety of audiences and purposes.

Merit’s Process Writing programs address the following Illinois Learning Standards:

- Grades 4-5 pg. 1-2
- Grades 6-8 pg. 2-3
- Grades 9-10 pg. 3
- Grades 11-12 pg. 3-4

Grades 4-5

Subhead	State Goal	Standard	Benchmark	Merit Software
Writing	STATE GOAL 3: Write to communicate for a variety of purposes.	A. Use correct grammar, spelling, punctuation, capitalization and structure.	3.A.2 Write paragraphs that include a variety of sentence types; appropriate use of the eight parts of speech; and accurate spelling, capitalization and punctuation.	Starter Paragraph Punch, Paragraph Punch, Writing About Reading, Grammar Fitness Set 1, Vocabulary Stretch, Vocabulary Fitness
Writing	STATE GOAL 3: <i>Write to communicate for a variety of purposes.</i>	B. Compose well-organized and coherent writing for specific purposes and audiences.	3.B.2a Generate and organize ideas using a variety of planning strategies (e.g., mapping, outlining, drafting).	Starter Paragraph Punch, Paragraph Punch, Writing About Reading
Writing	STATE GOAL 3: <i>Write to communicate for a variety of purposes.</i>	B. Compose well-organized and coherent writing for specific purposes and audiences.	3.B.2b Establish central idea, organization, elaboration and unity in relation to purpose and audience.	Starter Paragraph Punch, Paragraph Punch, Writing About Reading
Writing	STATE GOAL 3: <i>Write to communicate for a variety of purposes.</i>	B. Compose well-organized and coherent writing for specific purposes and audiences.	3.B.2c Expand ideas by using modifiers, subordination and standard paragraph organization.	Starter Paragraph Punch, Paragraph Punch, Writing About Reading

Writing	<i>STATE GOAL 3: Write to communicate for a variety of purposes.</i>	B. Compose well-organized and coherent writing for specific purposes and audiences.	3.B.2d Edit documents for clarity, subjectivity, pronoun-antecedent agreement, adverb and adjective agreement and verb tense; proofread for spelling, capitalization and punctuation; and ensure that documents are formatted in final form for submission and/or publication.	Starter Paragraph Punch, Paragraph Punch, Writing About Reading
Writing	<i>STATE GOAL 3: Write to communicate for a variety of purposes.</i>	C. Communicate ideas in writing to accomplish a variety of purposes.	3.C.2a Write for a variety of purposes and for specified audiences in a variety of forms including narrative (e.g., fiction, autobiography), expository (e.g., reports, essays) and persuasive writings (e.g., editorials, advertisements).	Starter Paragraph Punch, Paragraph Punch, Writing About Reading
Writing	<i>STATE GOAL 3: Write to communicate for a variety of purposes.</i>	C. Communicate ideas in writing to accomplish a variety of purposes.	3.C.2b Produce and format compositions for specified audiences using available technology.	Starter Paragraph Punch, Paragraph Punch, Writing About Reading

Grades 6-8

Subhead	State Goal	Learning Standard	Benchmark	Merit Software
Reading	STATE GOAL 2: Read and understand literature representative of various societies, eras and ideas.	B. Read and interpret a variety of literary works.	2.B.3a Respond to literary material from personal, creative and critical points of view.	Writing About Reading
Writing	STATE GOAL 3: Write to communicate for a variety of purposes.	B. Compose well-organized and coherent writing for specific purposes and audiences.	3.B.3a Produce documents that convey a clear understanding and interpretation of ideas and information and display focus, organization, elaboration and coherence.	Paragraph Punch, Essay Punch, Writing about Reading
Writing	STATE GOAL 3: Write to communicate for a variety of purposes.	B. Compose well-organized and coherent writing for specific purposes and audiences.	3.B.3b Edit and revise for word choice, organization, consistent point of view and transitions among paragraphs using contemporary technology and formats suitable for submission and/or publication.	Paragraph Punch, Essay Punch, Writing about Reading

Writing	STATE GOAL 3: Write to communicate for a variety of purposes.	C. Communicate ideas in writing to accomplish a variety of purposes.	3.C.3a Compose narrative, informative, and persuasive writings (e.g., in addition to previous writings, literature reviews, instructions, news articles, correspondence) for a specified audience.	Paragraph Punch, Essay Punch, Writing about Reading
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Grades 9-10

Subhead	State Goal	Learning Standard	Benchmark	Merit Software
Writing	STATE GOAL 3: Write to communicate for a variety of purposes.	B. Compose well-organized and coherent writing for specific purposes and audiences.	3.B.4a Produce documents that exhibit a range of writing techniques appropriate to purpose and audience, with clarity of focus, logic of organization, appropriate elaboration and support and overall coherence.	Paragraph Punch, Essay Punch, Business Letter Punch, Writing about Reading, Writing for Business
Writing	STATE GOAL 3: Write to communicate for a variety of purposes.	B. Compose well-organized and coherent writing for specific purposes and audiences.	3.B.4b Produce, edit, revise and format work for submission and/or publication (e.g., manuscript form, appropriate citation of sources) using contemporary technology.	Paragraph Punch, Essay Punch, Business Letter Punch, Writing about Reading, Writing for Business
Writing	STATE GOAL 3: Write to communicate for a variety of purposes.	B. Compose well-organized and coherent writing for specific purposes and audiences.	3.B.4c Evaluate written work for its effectiveness and make recommendations for its improvement.	Paragraph Punch, Essay Punch, Business Letter Punch, Writing about Reading, Writing for Business
Writing	STATE GOAL 3: Write to communicate for a variety of purposes.	C. Communicate ideas in writing to accomplish a variety of purposes.	3.C.4a Write for real or potentially real situations in academic, professional and civic contexts (e.g., college applications, job applications, business letters, petitions).	Paragraph Punch, Essay Punch, Business Letter Punch, Writing about Reading, Writing for Business

Grades 11-12

Subhead	State Goal	Learning Standard	Benchmark	Merit Software
Writing	STATE GOAL 3: Write to communicate for a variety of purposes.	B. Compose well-organized and coherent writing for specific purposes and audiences.	3.B.5 Using contemporary technology, produce documents of publication quality for specific purposes and audiences; exhibit clarity of focus, logic of organization, appropriate elaboration and support and overall coherence.	Essay Punch, Business Letter Punch, Writing for Business

Writing	STATE GOAL 3: Write to communicate for a variety of purposes.	C. Communicate ideas in writing to accomplish a variety of purposes.	3.C.5a Communicate information and ideas in narrative, informative and persuasive writing with clarity and effectiveness in a variety of written forms using appropriate traditional and/or electronic formats; adapt content, vocabulary, voice and tone to the audience, purpose and situation.	Essay Punch, Business Letter Punch, Writing for Business
Writing	STATE GOAL 3: Write to communicate for a variety of purposes.	C. Communicate ideas in writing to accomplish a variety of purposes.	3.C.5b Write for real or potentially real situations in academic, professional and civic contexts (e.g., applications, job applications, business letters, resume, petitions).	Essay Punch, Business Letter Punch, Writing for Business