

**Illinois Learning Standards
correlated to
Merit Software Reading Comprehension College Prep 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 Reading Comprehension College Prep programs address the following Illinois Learning standards:

Grades 9-10 pg. 1-2

Grades 11-12 pg. 2-3

Grades 9-10

Subhead	State Goal	Learning Standard	Benchmark	Merit Software
Reading	Read with understanding and fluency.	A. Apply word analysis and vocabulary skills to comprehend selections.	1.A.4b Compare the meaning of words and phrases and use analogies to explain the relationships among them.	Accu-Reading Set 2, Developing Critical Thinking Skills Sets 3-4
Reading	Read with understanding and fluency.	B. Apply reading strategies to improve understanding and fluency.	1.B.4a Preview reading materials, clarify meaning, analyze overall themes and coherence, and relate reading with information from other sources.	Developing Critical Thinking Skills Sets 3-4, Reading Critically Non-fiction Set2 3-4, Literature Based Reading Series 2, Reading Strategies for Career Success Sets 1-2
Reading	Read with understanding and fluency.	B. Apply reading strategies to improve understanding and fluency.	1.B.4c Read age-appropriate material with fluency and accuracy.	Developing Critical Thinking Skills Sets 3-4, Reading Critically Non-fiction Set2 3-4, Literature Based Reading Series 2, Reading Strategies for Career Success Sets 1-2
Reading	Read with understanding and fluency.	C. Comprehend a broad range of reading materials.	1.C.4d Summarize and make generalizations from content and relate them to the purpose of the material.	Accu-Reading Set 2, Developing Critical Thinking Skills Sets 3-4, Reading Critically Non-fiction Sets 3-4, Literature Based Reading Series 2, Reading Strategies for Career Success Sets 1-2

Reading	Read and understand literature representative of various societies, eras and ideas.	A. Understand how literary elements and techniques are used to convey meaning.	2.A.4d Describe the influence of the author's language structure and word choice to convey the author's viewpoint.	Literature Based Reading Series 2
Reading	Read and understand literature representative of various societies, eras and ideas.	B. Read and interpret a variety of literary works.	2.B.4b Analyze form, content, purpose and major themes of American literature and literature of other countries in their historical perspectives.	Literature Based Reading Series 2
Reading	Read and understand literature representative of various societies, eras and ideas.	B. Read and interpret a variety of literary works.	2.B.4c Discuss and evaluate motive, resulting behavior and consequences demonstrated in literature.	Literature Based Reading Series 2

Grades 11-12

Subhead	State Goal	Learning Standard	Benchmark	Merit Software
Reading	Read with understanding and fluency.	A. Apply word analysis and vocabulary skills to comprehend selections.	1.A.5a Identify and analyze new terminology applying knowledge of word origins and derivations in a variety of practical settings.	Accu-Reading Set 2, Developing Critical Thinking Skills Set 4
Reading	Read with understanding and fluency.	A. Apply word analysis and vocabulary skills to comprehend selections.	1.A.5b Analyze the meaning of abstract concepts and the effects of particular word and phrase choices.	Accu-Reading Set 2, Developing Critical Thinking Skills Set 4
Reading	Read with understanding and fluency.	B. Apply reading strategies to improve understanding and fluency.	1.B.5a Relate reading to prior knowledge and experience and make connections to related information.	Developing Critical Thinking Skills Set 4, Reading Critically Non-fiction Set 4, Literature Based Reading Series 2, Reading Strategies for Career Success Set 2
Reading	Read with understanding and fluency.	B. Apply reading strategies to improve understanding and fluency.	1.B.5c Evaluate a variety of compositions for purpose, structure, content and details for use in school or at work.	Developing Critical Thinking Skills Set 4, Reading Critically Non-fiction Set 4, Literature Based Reading Series 2, Reading Strategies for Career Success Set 2
Reading	Read with understanding and fluency.	B. Apply reading strategies to improve understanding and fluency.	1.B.5d Read age-appropriate material with fluency and accuracy.	Developing Critical Thinking Skills Set 4, Reading Critically Non-fiction Set 4, Literature Based Reading Series 2, Reading Strategies for Career Success Set 2

Reading	Read with understanding and fluency.	C. Comprehend a broad range of reading materials.	1.C.5d Summarize and make generalizations from content and relate them to the purpose of the material.	Developing Critical Thinking Skills Set 4, Reading Critically Non-fiction Set 4, Literature Based Reading Series 2, Reading Strategies for Career Success Set 2
Reading	Read and understand literature representative of various societies, eras and ideas.	A. Understand how literary elements and techniques are used to convey meaning.	2.A.5b Evaluate relationships between and among character, plot, setting, theme, conflict and resolution and their influence on the effectiveness of a literary piece.	Literature Based Reading Series 2
Reading	Read and understand literature representative of various societies, eras and ideas.	A. Understand how literary elements and techniques are used to convey meaning.	2.A.5d Evaluate the influence of historical context on form, style and point of view for a variety of literary works.	Literature Based Reading Series 2
Reading	Read and understand literature representative of various societies, eras and ideas.	B. Read and interpret a variety of literary works.	2.B.5a Analyze and express an interpretation of a literary work.	Literature Based Reading Series 2
Reading	Read and understand literature representative of various societies, eras and ideas.	B. Read and interpret a variety of literary works.	2.B.5b Apply knowledge gained from literature as a means of understanding contemporary and historical economic, social and political issues and perspectives.	Literature Based Reading Series 2