

**New York State Standards
correlated to
Merit Software Process Writing Programs**

This revised edition (March 1996) of the *Learning Standards for English Language Arts* incorporates changes to the content standards and performance indicators based on extensive review by the public. It should be considered a working document; as educational practice improves, these standards will continually be revised.

Merit’s Process Writing programs address the following New York State Standards:

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

Grades 3-5

Subhead	Standard	Key Ideas	Performance Indicators	Merit Software
Speaking and Writing	Standard 1: Students will read, write, listen, and speak for information and understanding.	2. Speaking and writing to acquire and transmit information requires asking probing and clarifying questions, interpreting information in one’s own words, applying information from one context to another, and presenting the information and interpretation clearly, concisely, and comprehensibly.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • present information clearly in a variety of oral and written forms such as summaries, paraphrases, brief reports, stories, posters, and charts 	Starter Paragraph Punch, Paragraph Punch, Writing About Reading
Speaking and Writing	Standard 1: Students will read, write, listen, and speak for information and understanding.	2. Speaking and writing to acquire and transmit information requires asking probing and clarifying questions, interpreting information in one’s own words, applying information from one context to another, and presenting the information and interpretation clearly, concisely, and comprehensibly.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • select a focus, organization, and point of view for oral and written presentations 	Starter Paragraph Punch, Paragraph Punch, Writing About Reading

Speaking and Writing	Standard 1: Students will read, write, listen, and speak for information and understanding.	2. Speaking and writing to acquire and transmit information requires asking probing and clarifying questions, interpreting information in one's own words, applying information from one context to another, and presenting the information and interpretation clearly, concisely, and comprehensibly.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • use a few traditional structures for conveying information such as chronological order, cause and effect, and similarity and difference 	Starter Paragraph Punch, Paragraph Punch, Writing About Reading
Speaking and Writing	Standard 1: Students will read, write, listen, and speak for information and understanding.	2. Speaking and writing to acquire and transmit information requires asking probing and clarifying questions, interpreting information in one's own words, applying information from one context to another, and presenting the information and interpretation clearly, concisely, and comprehensibly.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • use details, examples, anecdotes, or personal experiences to explain or clarify information 	
Speaking and Writing	Standard 1: Students will read, write, listen, and speak for information and understanding.	2. Speaking and writing to acquire and transmit information requires asking probing and clarifying questions, interpreting information in one's own words, applying information from one context to another, and presenting the information and interpretation clearly, concisely, and comprehensibly.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • include relevant information and exclude extraneous material 	Starter Paragraph Punch, Paragraph Punch, Writing About Reading
Speaking and Writing	Standard 1: Students will read, write, listen, and speak for information and understanding.	2. Speaking and writing to acquire and transmit information requires asking probing and clarifying questions, interpreting information in one's own words, applying information from one context to another, and presenting the information and interpretation clearly, concisely, and comprehensibly.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • use the process of pre-writing, drafting, revising, and proofreading (the "writing process") to produce well-constructed informational texts 	Starter Paragraph Punch, Paragraph Punch, Writing About Reading

Speaking and Writing	Standard 1: Students will read, write, listen, and speak for information and understanding.	2. Speaking and writing to acquire and transmit information requires asking probing and clarifying questions, interpreting information in one's own words, applying information from one context to another, and presenting the information and interpretation clearly, concisely, and comprehensibly.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • observe basic writing conventions, such as correct spelling, punctuation, and capitalization, as well as sentence and paragraph structures appropriate to written forms. 	Starter Paragraph Punch, Paragraph Punch, Writing About Reading
Speaking and Writing	Standard 2: Students will read, write, listen, and speak for literary response and expression.	2. Speaking and writing for literary response involves presenting interpretations, analyses, and reactions to the content and language of a text. Speaking and writing for literary expression involves producing imaginative texts that use language and text structures that are inventive and often multilayered.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • present personal responses to literature that make reference to the plot, characters, ideas, vocabulary, and text structure 	Starter Paragraph Punch, Paragraph Punch, Writing About Reading
Speaking and Writing	Standard 2: Students will read, write, listen, and speak for literary response and expression.	2. Speaking and writing for literary response involves presenting interpretations, analyses, and reactions to the content and language of a text. Speaking and writing for literary expression involves producing imaginative texts that use language and text structures that are inventive and often multilayered.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • create their own stories, poems, and songs using the elements of the literature they have read and appropriate vocabulary 	Starter Paragraph Punch, Paragraph Punch, Writing About Reading
Speaking and Writing	Standard 2: Students will read, write, listen, and speak for literary response and expression.	2. Speaking and writing for literary response involves presenting interpretations, analyses, and reactions to the content and language of a text. Speaking and writing for literary expression involves producing imaginative texts that use language and text structures that are inventive and often multilayered.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • observe the conventions of grammar and usage, spelling, and punctuation. 	Starter Paragraph Punch, Paragraph Punch, Writing About Reading

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Speaking and Writing	Standard 1: Students will read, write, listen, and speak for information and understanding.	2. Speaking and writing to acquire and transmit information requires asking probing and clarifying questions, interpreting information in one's own words, applying information from one context to another, and presenting the information and interpretation clearly, concisely, and comprehensibly.	develop information with appropriate supporting material, such as facts, details, illustrative examples or anecdotes, and exclude extraneous material	Paragraph Punch, Essay Punch, Writing about Reading
Speaking and Writing	Standard 1: Students will read, write, listen, and speak for information and understanding.	2. Speaking and writing to acquire and transmit information requires asking probing and clarifying questions, interpreting information in one's own words, applying information from one context to another, and presenting the information and interpretation clearly, concisely, and comprehensibly.	use the process of pre-writing, drafting, revising, and proofreading (the "writing process") to produce well constructed informational texts	Paragraph Punch, Essay Punch, Writing about Reading
Speaking and Writing	Standard 3: Students will read, write, listen, and speak for critical analysis and evaluation.	2. Speaking and writing for critical analysis and evaluation requires presenting opinions and judgments on experiences, ideas, information, and issues clearly, logically, and persuasively with reference to specific criteria on which the opinion or judgment is based.	present (in essays, position papers, speeches, and debates) clear analyses of issues, ideas, texts, and experiences, supporting their positions with well-developed arguments	Paragraph Punch, Essay Punch, Writing about Reading
Speaking and Writing	Standard 3: Students will read, write, listen, and speak for critical analysis and evaluation.	2. Speaking and writing for critical analysis and evaluation requires presenting opinions and judgments on experiences, ideas, information, and issues clearly, logically, and persuasively with reference to specific criteria on which the opinion or judgment is based.	develop arguments with effective use of details and evidence that reflect a coherent set of criteria (e.g., reporting results of lab experiments to support a hypothesis)	Paragraph Punch, Essay Punch, Writing about Reading

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Speaking and Writing	Standard 1: Students will read, write, listen, and speak for information and understanding.	2. Speaking and writing to acquire and transmit information requires asking probing and clarifying questions, interpreting information in one's own words, applying information from one context to another, and presenting the information and interpretation clearly, concisely, and comprehensibly.	write and present research reports, feature articles, and thesis/support papers on a variety of topics related to all school subjects	Paragraph Punch, Essay Punch, Writing for Business, Writing about Reading
Speaking and Writing	Standard 1: Students will read, write, listen, and speak for information and understanding.	2. Speaking and writing to acquire and transmit information requires asking probing and clarifying questions, interpreting information in one's own words, applying information from one context to another, and presenting the information and interpretation clearly, concisely, and comprehensibly.	present a controlling idea that conveys an individual perspective and insight into the topic	Paragraph Punch, Essay Punch, Writing for Business, Writing about Reading
Speaking and Writing	Standard 1: Students will read, write, listen, and speak for information and understanding.	2. Speaking and writing to acquire and transmit information requires asking probing and clarifying questions, interpreting information in one's own words, applying information from one context to another, and presenting the information and interpretation clearly, concisely, and comprehensibly.	support interpretations and decisions about relative significance of information with explicit statement, evidence, and appropriate argument	Paragraph Punch, Essay Punch, Writing for Business, Writing about Reading
Speaking and Writing	Standard 1: Students will read, write, listen, and speak for information and understanding.	2. Speaking and writing to acquire and transmit information requires asking probing and clarifying questions, interpreting information in one's own words, applying information from one context to another, and presenting the information and interpretation clearly, concisely, and comprehensibly.	revise and improve early drafts by restructuring, correcting errors, and revising for clarity and effect	Paragraph Punch, Essay Punch, Writing for Business, Writing about Reading

Speaking and Writing	Standard 3: Students will read, write, listen, and speak for critical analysis and evaluation.	2. Speaking and writing for critical analysis and evaluation requires presenting opinions and judgments on experiences, ideas, information, and issues clearly, logically, and persuasively with reference to specific criteria on which the opinion or judgment is based.	present orally and in writing well-developed analyses of issues, ideas, and texts, explaining the rationale for their positions and analyzing their positions from a variety of perspectives in such forms as formal speeches, debates, thesis/support papers, literary critiques, and issues analyses	Paragraph Punch, Essay Punch, Writing for Business, Writing about Reading
Speaking and Writing	Standard 3: Students will read, write, listen, and speak for critical analysis and evaluation.	2. Speaking and writing for critical analysis and evaluation requires presenting opinions and judgments on experiences, ideas, information, and issues clearly, logically, and persuasively with reference to specific criteria on which the opinion or judgment is based.	make effective use of details, evidence, and arguments and of presentational strategies to influence an audience to adopt their position	Paragraph Punch, Essay Punch, Writing for Business, Writing about Reading