

**Texas Essential Knowledge and Skills for  
English Language Arts and Reading  
correlated to  
Merit Software Writing Mechanics - Grammar Programs**

The provisions of this subchapter shall be implemented by school districts beginning September 1, 1998, and at that time shall supersede §75.23(a)-(1) of this title (relating to English Language Arts).

To meet Public Education Goal 1 of the Texas Education Code, §4.002, which states, "The students in the public education system will demonstrate exemplary performance in the reading and writing of the English language," students will accomplish the essential knowledge and skills as well as the student expectations for each grade as described in subsection (b) of this section.

Merit's Writing Mechanics- Grammar programs address the following TEKS:

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Grade 3

Subhead	Learning Standard	Benchmark	Merit Software
Writing	(3.15) Writing/penmanship/capitalization/punctuation. The student composes original texts using the conventions of written language such as capitalization and penmanship to communicate clearly.	(B) use capitalization and punctuation such as commas in a series, apostrophes in contractions such as <i>can't</i> and possessives such as <i>Robin's</i> , quotation marks, proper nouns, and abbreviations with increasing accuracy (3).	Grammar Fitness Set 1, Grammar Fitness Set 2, Write it Right Set 1
Writing	(3.17) Writing/grammar/usage. The student composes meaningful texts applying knowledge of grammar and usage.	(A) use correct irregular plurals such as <i>sheep</i> (3);	Grammar Shape Up
Writing	(3.17) Writing/grammar/usage. The student composes meaningful texts applying knowledge of grammar and usage.	(B) use singular and plural forms of regular nouns and adjust verbs for agreement (3);	Grammar Fitness Set 1, Grammar Fitness Set 2, Write it Right Set 1

Writing	(3.17) Writing/grammar/usage. The student composes meaningful texts applying knowledge of grammar and usage.	(C) compose elaborated sentences in written texts and use the appropriate end punctuation (3);	Grammar Fitness Set 1, Grammar Fitness Set 2, Write it Right Set 1
Writing	(3.17) Writing/grammar/usage. The student composes meaningful texts applying knowledge of grammar and usage.	(D) compose sentences with interesting, elaborated subjects (2-3); and	Grammar Fitness Set 1, Grammar Fitness Set 2, Write it Right Set 1
Writing	(3.17) Writing/grammar/usage. The student composes meaningful texts applying knowledge of grammar and usage.	(E) edit writing toward standard grammar and usage, including subject-verb agreement; pronoun agreement, including pronouns that agree in number; and appropriate verb tenses, including <i>to be</i> , in final drafts (2-3).	Grammar Fitness Set 1, Grammar Fitness Set 2, Write it Right Set 1

Grade 4

Subhead	Learning Standard	Benchmark	Merit Software
Writing	(4.16) Writing/penmanship/capitalization/punctuation. The student composes original texts, applying the conventions of written language such as capitalization, punctuation, and penmanship to communicate clearly.	(B) capitalize and punctuate correctly to clarify and enhance meaning such as capitalizing titles, using possessives, commas in a series, commas in direct address, and sentence punctuation (4-5).	Grammar Fitness Set 1, Grammar Fitness Set 2, Write it Right Set 1
Writing	(4.18) Writing/grammar/usage. The student applies standard grammar and usage to communicate clearly and effectively in writing.	(A) use regular and irregular plurals correctly (4-6);	Grammar Shape Up
Writing	(4.18) Writing/grammar/usage. The student applies standard grammar and usage to communicate clearly and effectively in writing.	(B) write in complete sentences, varying the types such as compound and complex to match meanings and purposes (4-5);	Grammar Fitness Set 1, Grammar Fitness Set 2, Write it Right Set 1
Writing	(4.18) Writing/grammar/usage. The student applies standard grammar and usage to communicate clearly and effectively in writing.	(C) employ standard English usage in writing for audiences, including subject-verb agreement, pronoun referents, and parts of speech (4-8);	Grammar Fitness Set 1, Grammar Fitness Set 2, Write it Right Set 1

Writing	(4.18) Writing/grammar/usage. The student applies standard grammar and usage to communicate clearly and effectively in writing.	(D) use adjectives (comparative and superlative forms) and adverbs appropriately to make writing vivid or precise (4-8);	Grammar Shape Up
Writing	(4.18) Writing/grammar/usage. The student applies standard grammar and usage to communicate clearly and effectively in writing.	(E) use prepositional phrases to elaborate written ideas (4-8);	Grammar Shape Up
Writing	(4.18) Writing/grammar/usage. The student applies standard grammar and usage to communicate clearly and effectively in writing.	(F) use conjunctions to connect ideas meaningfully (4-5);	Grammar Shape Up
Writing	(4.18) Writing/grammar/usage. The student applies standard grammar and usage to communicate clearly and effectively in writing.	(G) write with increasing accuracy when using apostrophes in contractions such as <i>it's</i> and possessives such as <i>Jan's</i> (4-8); and	Grammar Fitness Set 2
Writing	(4.18) Writing/grammar/usage. The student applies standard grammar and usage to communicate clearly and effectively in writing.	(H) write with increasing accuracy when using objective case pronouns such as "Dan cooked for you and me." (4-5).	Grammar Fitness Set 1, Grammar Fitness Set 2

Grade 5

Subhead	Learning Standard	Benchmark	Merit Software
Writing	(5.16) Writing/penmanship/capitalization/punctuation. The student composes original texts, applying the conventions of written language, including capitalization, punctuation, and penmanship, to communicate clearly.	(B) capitalize and punctuate correctly to clarify and enhance meaning such as capitalizing titles, using possessives, commas in a series, commas in direct address, and sentence punctuation (4-5).	Grammar Fitness Set 1, Grammar Fitness Set 2, Write it Right Set 1
Writing	(5.18) Writing/grammar/usage. The student applies standard grammar and usage to communicate clearly and effectively in writing.	(A) use regular and irregular plurals correctly (4-6);	Grammar Shape Up

Writing	(5.18) Writing/grammar/usage. The student applies standard grammar and usage to communicate clearly and effectively in writing.	(B) write in complete sentences, varying the types such as compound and complex to match meanings and purposes (4-5);	Grammar Fitness Set 1, Grammar Fitness Set 2, Write it Right Set 1
Writing	(5.18) Writing/grammar/usage. The student applies standard grammar and usage to communicate clearly and effectively in writing.	(C) employ standard English usage in writing for audiences, including subject-verb agreement, pronoun referents, and parts of speech (4-8);	Grammar Fitness Set 1, Grammar Fitness Set 2, Write it Right Set 1
Writing	(5.18) Writing/grammar/usage. The student applies standard grammar and usage to communicate clearly and effectively in writing.	(D) use adjectives (comparative and superlative forms) and adverbs appropriately to make writing vivid or precise (4-8);	Grammar Shape Up
Writing	(5.18) Writing/grammar/usage. The student applies standard grammar and usage to communicate clearly and effectively in writing.	(E) use prepositional phrases to elaborate written ideas (4-8);	Grammar Shape Up
Writing	(5.18) Writing/grammar/usage. The student applies standard grammar and usage to communicate clearly and effectively in writing.	(F) use conjunctions to connect ideas meaningfully (4-5);	Grammar Shape Up
Writing	(5.18) Writing/grammar/usage. The student applies standard grammar and usage to communicate clearly and effectively in writing.	(G) write with increasing accuracy when using apostrophes in contractions such as <i>it's</i> and possessives such as <i>Jan's</i> (4-8); and	Grammar Fitness Set 2
Writing	(5.18) Writing/grammar/usage. The student applies standard grammar and usage to communicate clearly and effectively in writing.	(H) write with increasing accuracy when using objective case pronouns such as "Can you ride with my mom and me?" (4-5).	Grammar Fitness Set 1, Grammar Fitness Set 2

Grade 6

Subhead	Learning Standard	Benchmark	Merit Software
Writing	(16) Writing/penmanship/capitalization/punctuation/spelling. The student composes original texts, applying the conventions of written language such as capitalization, punctuation, penmanship, and spelling to communicate clearly. The student is expected to:	(B) capitalize and punctuate correctly to clarify and enhance meaning such as capitalizing titles, using hyphens, semicolons, colons, possessives, and sentence punctuation (6-8);	Grammar Fitness Set 1, Grammar Fitness Set 2, Write it Right Set 1

Writing	(17) Writing/grammar/usage. The student applies standard grammar and usage to communicate clearly and effectively in writing. The student is expected to:	(A) use regular and irregular plurals correctly (4-6);	Grammar Shape Up
Writing	(17) Writing/grammar/usage. The student applies standard grammar and usage to communicate clearly and effectively in writing. The student is expected to:	(B) write in complete sentences, varying the types such as compound and complex, and use of appropriately punctuated dependent clauses (6);	Grammar Fitness Set 1, Grammar Fitness Set 2, Write it Right Set 1
Writing	(17) Writing/grammar/usage. The student applies standard grammar and usage to communicate clearly and effectively in writing. The student is expected to:	(C) use conjunctions to connect ideas meaningfully (4-8);	Grammar Shape Up
Writing	(17) Writing/grammar/usage. The student applies standard grammar and usage to communicate clearly and effectively in writing. The student is expected to:	(D) use adjectives (comparative and superlative forms) and adverbs appropriately to make writing vivid or precise (4-8);	Grammar Shape Up
Writing	(17) Writing/grammar/usage. The student applies standard grammar and usage to communicate clearly and effectively in writing. The student is expected to:	(E) use prepositional phrases to elaborate written ideas (4-8);	Grammar Shape Up
Writing	(17) Writing/grammar/usage. The student applies standard grammar and usage to communicate clearly and effectively in writing. The student is expected to:	(F) employ standard English usage in writing for audiences, including subject-verb agreement, pronoun referents, and parts of speech (4-8);	Grammar Fitness Set 1, Grammar Fitness Set 2, Write it Right Set 1
Writing	(17) Writing/grammar/usage. The student applies standard grammar and usage to communicate clearly and effectively in writing. The student is expected to:	(G) use verb tenses appropriately and consistently such as present, past, future, perfect, and progressive (6-8);	Grammar Shape Up
Writing	(17) Writing/grammar/usage. The student applies standard grammar and usage to communicate clearly and effectively in writing. The student is expected to:	(H) write with increasing accuracy when using apostrophes in contractions such as doesn't and possessives such as Maria's (4-8); and	Grammar Fitness Set 2
Writing	(17) Writing/grammar/usage. The student applies standard grammar and usage to communicate clearly and effectively in writing. The student is expected to:	(I) write with increasing accuracy when using pronoun case such as "He and they joined him." (6-8).	Grammar Fitness Set 1, Grammar Fitness Set 2

## Grade 7

Subhead	Learning Standard	Benchmark	Merit Software
Writing	(16) Writing/penmanship/capitalization/punctuation/spelling. The student composes original texts, applying the conventions of written language such as capitalization, punctuation, handwriting, penmanship and spelling to communicate clearly. The student is expected to:	(B) capitalize and punctuate correctly to clarify and enhance meaning such as capitalizing titles, using hyphens, semicolons, colons, possessives, and sentence punctuation (6-8);	Grammar Fitness Set 1, Grammar Fitness Set 2, Write it Right Set 1, Grammar Fitness Set 4
Writing	(17) Writing/grammar/usage. The student applies standard grammar and usage to communicate clearly and effectively in writing. The student is expected to:	(A) write in complete sentences, varying the types such as compound and complex sentences, and use appropriately punctuated independent and dependent clauses (7-8);	Grammar Fitness Set 1, Grammar Fitness Set 2, Write it Right Set 1, Grammar Fitness Set 4
Writing	(17) Writing/grammar/usage. The student applies standard grammar and usage to communicate clearly and effectively in writing. The student is expected to:	(B) use conjunctions to connect ideas meaningfully (4-8);	Grammar Shape Up
Writing	(17) Writing/grammar/usage. The student applies standard grammar and usage to communicate clearly and effectively in writing. The student is expected to:	(C) employ standard English usage in writing for audiences, including subject-verb agreement, pronoun referents, and parts of speech (4-8);	Grammar Fitness Set 1, Grammar Fitness Set 2, Write it Right Set 1, Grammar Fitness Set 4
Writing	(17) Writing/grammar/usage. The student applies standard grammar and usage to communicate clearly and effectively in writing. The student is expected to:	(D) use adjectives (comparatives and superlatives forms) and adverbs appropriately to make writing vivid or precise (4-8);	Grammar Shape Up
Writing	(17) Writing/grammar/usage. The student applies standard grammar and usage to communicate clearly and effectively in writing. The student is expected to:	(E) use prepositional phrases to elaborate written ideas (4-8);	Grammar Shape Up
Writing	(17) Writing/grammar/usage. The student applies standard grammar and usage to communicate clearly and effectively in writing. The student is expected to:	(F) use verb tenses appropriately and consistently such as present, past, future, perfect, and progressive (6-8);	Grammar Shape Up

Writing	(17) Writing/grammar/usage. The student applies standard grammar and usage to communicate clearly and effectively in writing. The student is expected to:	(G) write with increasing accuracy when using apostrophes in contractions such as won't and possessives such as Smith's (4-8); and	Grammar Fitness Set 2
Writing	(17) Writing/grammar/usage. The student applies standard grammar and usage to communicate clearly and effectively in writing. The student is expected to:	(H) write with increasing accuracy when using pronoun case such as "She had the party." (6-8).	Grammar Fitness Set 1, Grammar Fitness Set 2, Grammar Fitness Set 4

Grade 8

Subhead	Learning Standard	Benchmark	Merit Software
Writing	(16) Writing/penmanship/capitalization/punctuation/spelling. The student composes original texts, applying the conventions of written language such as capitalization, punctuation, penmanship, and spelling to communicate clearly. The student is expected to:	(B) capitalize and punctuate correctly to clarify and enhance meaning such as capitalizing titles, using hyphens, semicolons, colons, possessives, and sentence punctuation (6-8);	Grammar Fitness Set 1, Grammar Fitness Set 2, Write it Right Set 1, Grammar Fitness Set 4
Writing	(17) Writing/grammar/usage. The student applies standard grammar and usage to communicate clearly and effectively in writing. The student is expected to:	(A) write in complete sentences, varying the types such as compound and complex sentences, and use appropriately punctuated independent and dependent clauses (7-8);	Grammar Fitness Set 1, Grammar Fitness Set 2, Write it Right Set 1, Grammar Fitness Set 4
Writing	(17) Writing/grammar/usage. The student applies standard grammar and usage to communicate clearly and effectively in writing. The student is expected to:	(B) use conjunctions to connect ideas meaningfully (4-8);	Grammar Shape Up
Writing	(17) Writing/grammar/usage. The student applies standard grammar and usage to communicate clearly and effectively in writing. The student is expected to:	(C) employ standard English usage in writing for audiences, including subject-verb agreement, pronoun referents, and parts of speech (4-8);	Grammar Fitness Set 1, Grammar Fitness Set 2, Write it Right Set 1, Grammar Fitness Set 4
Writing	(17) Writing/grammar/usage. The student applies standard grammar and usage to communicate clearly and effectively in writing. The student is expected to:	(D) use adjectives (comparatives and superlative forms) and adverbs appropriately to make writing vivid or precise (4-8);	Grammar Shape Up

Writing	(17) Writing/grammar/usage. The student applies standard grammar and usage to communicate clearly and effectively in writing. The student is expected to:	(E) use prepositional phrases to elaborate written ideas (4-8);	Grammar Shape Up
Writing	(17) Writing/grammar/usage. The student applies standard grammar and usage to communicate clearly and effectively in writing. The student is expected to:	(F) use verb tenses appropriately and consistently such as present, past, future, perfect, and progressive (6-8);	Grammar Shape Up
Writing	(17) Writing/grammar/usage. The student applies standard grammar and usage to communicate clearly and effectively in writing. The student is expected to:	(G) write with increasing accuracy when using apostrophes in contractions such as doesn't and possessives such as Texas's (4-8); and	Grammar Fitness Set 2
Writing	(17) Writing/grammar/usage. The student applies standard grammar and usage to communicate clearly and effectively in writing. The student is expected to:	(H) write with increasing accuracy when using pronoun case such as "She stepped between them and us." (6-8).	Grammar Fitness Set 1, Grammar Fitness Set 2, Grammar Fitness Set 4

Grade 9

Subhead	Learning Standard	Benchmark	Merit Software
Writing	(3) Writing/grammar/usage/conventions/spelling. The student relies increasingly on the conventions and mechanics of written English, including the rules of grammar and usage, to write clearly and effectively. The student is expected to:	(A) produce legible work that shows accurate spelling and correct use of the conventions of punctuation and capitalization such as italics and ellipses;	Grammar Fitness Set 3, Write it Right Set 2, Grammar Fitness Set 4, Business English Fitness
Writing	(3) Writing/grammar/usage/conventions/spelling. The student relies increasingly on the conventions and mechanics of written English, including the rules of grammar and usage, to write clearly and effectively. The student is expected to:	(B) demonstrate control over grammatical elements such as subject-verb agreement, pronoun-antecedent agreement, verb forms, and parallelism;	Grammar Fitness Set 3, Write it Right Set 2, Grammar Fitness Set 4, Business English Fitness
Writing	(3) Writing/grammar/usage/conventions/spelling. The student relies increasingly on the conventions and mechanics of written English, including the rules of grammar and usage, to write clearly and effectively. The student is expected to:	(D) produce error-free writing in the final draft.	Grammar Fitness Set 3, Write it Right Set 2, Grammar Fitness Set 4, Business English Fitness

Writing	(5) Writing/evaluation. The student evaluates his/her own writing and the writings of others. The student is expected to:	(A) evaluate writing for both mechanics and content; and	Grammar Fitness Set 3, Write it Right Set 2, Grammar Fitness Set 4, Business English Fitness
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Grade 10

Subhead	Learning Standard	Benchmark	Merit Software
Writing	(3) Writing/grammar/usage/conventions/spelling. The student relies increasingly on the conventions and mechanics of written English, including the rules of usage and grammar, to write clearly and effectively. The student is expected to:	(A) produce legible work that shows accurate spelling and correct use of the conventions of punctuation and capitalization such as italics and ellipses;	Grammar Fitness Set 3, Grammar Fitness Set 4, Write it Right Set 2, Business English Fitness
Writing	(3) Writing/grammar/usage/conventions/spelling. The student relies increasingly on the conventions and mechanics of written English, including the rules of usage and grammar, to write clearly and effectively. The student is expected to:	(B) demonstrate control over grammatical elements such as subject-verb agreement, pronoun-antecedent agreement, verb forms, and parallelism;	Grammar Fitness Set 3, Grammar Fitness Set 4, Write it Right Set 2, Business English Fitness
Writing	(3) Writing/grammar/usage/conventions/spelling. The student relies increasingly on the conventions and mechanics of written English, including the rules of usage and grammar, to write clearly and effectively. The student is expected to:	(D) produce error-free writing in the final draft.	Grammar Fitness Set 3, Grammar Fitness Set 4, Write it Right Set 2, Business English Fitness
Writing	(5) Writing/evaluation. The student evaluates his/her own writing and the writings of others. The student is expected to:	(A) evaluate writing for both mechanics and content; and	Grammar Fitness Set 3, Grammar Fitness Set 4, Write it Right Set 2, Business English Fitness

Grade 11

Subhead	Learning Standard	Benchmark	Merit Software
Writing	(3) Writing/grammar/usage/conventions/ spelling. The student relies increasingly on the conventions and mechanics of written English, including the rules of usage and grammar, to write clearly and effectively. The student is expected to:	(A) produce legible work that shows accurate spelling and correct use of the conventions of punctuation and capitalization such as italics and ellipses;	Write it Right Set 2, Business English Fitness

Writing	(3) Writing/grammar/usage/conventions/ spelling. The student relies increasingly on the conventions and mechanics of written English, including the rules of usage and grammar, to write clearly and effectively. The student is expected to:	(B) demonstrate control over grammatical elements such as subject-verb agreement, pronoun-antecedent agreement, verb forms, and parallelism;	Write it Right Set 2, Business English Fitness
Writing	(3) Writing/grammar/usage/conventions/ spelling. The student relies increasingly on the conventions and mechanics of written English, including the rules of usage and grammar, to write clearly and effectively. The student is expected to:	(D) produce error-free writing in the final draft; and	Write it Right Set 2, Business English Fitness
Writing	(5) Writing/evaluation. The student evaluates his/her own writing and the writings of others. The student is expected to:	(A) evaluate writing for both mechanics and content; and	Write it Right Set 2, Business English Fitness