

## College and Career Readiness Anchor Standards K-12 Montana Common Core Writing Standards (CCRA.W)

The K–12 standards on the following pages define what students should understand and be able to do by the end of each grade. They correspond to the College and Career Readiness (CCR) anchor standards below by number. The CCR and grade-specific standards are necessary complements—the former providing broad standards, the latter providing additional specificity—that together define the skills and understandings that all students must demonstrate.

### Text Types and Purposes\*

- CCRA.W.1** Write arguments to support claims in an analysis of substantive topics or texts, using valid reasoning and relevant and sufficient evidence.
- CCRA.W.2** Write informative/explanatory texts to examine and convey complex ideas and information clearly and accurately through the effective selection, organization, and analysis of content.
- CCRA.W.3** Write narratives to develop real or imagined experiences or events using effective technique, well-chosen details, and well-structured event sequences.

### Production and Distribution of Writing

- CCRA.W.4** Produce clear and coherent writing in which the development, organization, and style are appropriate to task, purpose, and audience.
- CCRA.W.5** Develop and strengthen writing as needed by planning, revising, editing, rewriting, or trying a new approach.
- CCRA.W.6** Use technology, including the Internet, to produce and publish writing and to interact and collaborate with others.

### Research to Build and Present Knowledge

- CCRA.W.7** Conduct short as well as more sustained research projects based on focused questions, demonstrating understanding of the subject under investigation.
- CCRA.W.8** Gather relevant information from multiple print and digital sources, assess the credibility and accuracy of each source, and integrate the information while avoiding plagiarism.
- CCRA.W.9** Draw evidence from literary or informational texts to support analysis, reflection, and research.

### Range of Writing

- CCRA.W.10** Write routinely over extended time frames (time for research, reflection, and revision) and shorter time frames (a single sitting or a day or two) for a range of tasks, purposes, and audiences.

\*These broad types of writing include many subgenres. See Appendix A for definitions of key writing types.

# Kindergarten

## Montana Common Core Writing Standards (W.K.)

### Text Types and Purposes

- W.K.1 1. Use a combination of drawing, dictating, and writing to compose opinion pieces in which they tell a reader the topic or the name of the book they are writing about and state an opinion or preference about the topic or book (e.g., *My favorite book is . . .*).
- W.K.2 2. Use a combination of drawing, dictating, and writing to compose informative/explanatory texts in which they name what they are writing about and supply some information about the topic.
- W.K.3 3. Use a combination of drawing, dictating, and writing to narrate a single event or several loosely linked events, tell about the events in the order in which they occurred, and provide a reaction to what happened.

### Production and Distribution of Writing

- W.K.4 4. Begins in grade 3
- W.K.5 5. With guidance and support from adults, respond to questions and suggestions from peers and add details to strengthen writing as needed.
- W.K.6 6. With guidance and support from adults, explore a variety of digital tools to produce and publish writing, including in collaboration with peers.

### Research to Build and Present Knowledge

- W.K.7 7. Participate in shared research and writing projects (e.g., explore a number of books by a favorite author and express opinions about them). Include sources by and about American Indians.
- W.K.8 8. With guidance and support from adults, recall information from experiences or gather information from provided sources to answer a question. Include sources by and about American Indians.
- W.K.9 9. Begins in grade 4
- W.K.10 10. Begins in grade 3

## 1st Grade

### Montana Common Core Writing Standards (W.1)

#### Text Types and Purposes

- W.1.1 1. Write opinion pieces in which they introduce the topic or name the book they are writing about, state an opinion, supply a reason for the opinion, and provide some sense of closure.
- W.1.2 2. Write informative/explanatory texts in which they name a topic, supply some facts about the topic, and provide some sense of closure.
- W.1.3 3. Write narratives in which they recount two or more appropriately sequenced events, include some details regarding what happened, use temporal words to signal event order, and provide some sense of closure.

#### Production and Distribution of Writing

- W.1.4 4. Begins in grade 3
- W.1.5 5. With guidance and support from adults, focus on a topic, respond to questions and suggestions from peers, and add details to strengthen writing as needed.
- W.1.6 6. With guidance and support from adults, use a variety of digital tools to produce and publish writing, including in collaboration with peers.

#### Research to Build and Present Knowledge

- W.1.7 7. Participate in shared research and writing projects (e.g., explore a number of “how-to” books on a given topic and use them to write a sequence of instructions). Include sources by and about American Indians.
- W.1.8 8. With guidance and support from adults, recall information from experiences or gather information from provided sources to answer a question. Include sources by and about American Indians.
- W.1.9 9. Begins in grade 4
- W.1.10 10. Begins in grade 3

## 2nd Grade

### Montana Common Core Writing Standards (W.2.)

#### Text Types and Purposes

- W.2.1 1. Write opinion pieces in which they introduce the topic or book they are writing about, state an opinion, supply reasons that support the opinion, use linking words (e.g., *because*, *and*, *also*) to connect opinion and reasons, and provide a concluding statement or section.
- W.2.2 2. Write informative/explanatory texts in which they introduce a topic, use facts and definitions to develop points, and provide a concluding statement or section.
- W.2.3 3. Write narratives in which they recount a well-elaborated event or short sequence of events, include details to describe actions, thoughts, and feelings, use temporal words to signal event order, and provide a sense of closure.
4. Begins in grade 3
- W.2.4 **Production and Distribution of Writing**
- W.2.5 5. With guidance and support from adults and peers, focus on a topic and strengthen writing as needed by revising and editing.
- W.2.6 6. With guidance and support from adults, use a variety of digital tools to produce and publish writing, including in collaboration with peers.

#### Research to Build and Present Knowledge

- W.2.7 7. Participate in shared research and writing projects (e.g., read a number of books on a single topic to produce a report; record science observations). Include sources by and about American Indians.
- W.2.8 8. Recall information from experiences or gather information from provided sources to answer a question. Include sources by and about American Indians.
- W.2.9 9. Begins in grade 4
- W.2.10 10. Begins in grade 3

# 3rd Grade

## Montana Common Core Writing Standards (W.3.)

### Text Types and Purposes

- W.3.1 1. Write opinion pieces on topics or texts, supporting a point of view with reasons.
- W.3.1a a. Introduce the topic or text they are writing about, state an opinion, and create an organizational structure that lists reasons.
- W.3.1b b. Provide reasons that support the opinion.
- W.3.1c c. Use linking words and phrases (e.g., *because*, *therefore*, *since*, *for example*) to connect opinion and reasons.
- W.3.1d d. Provide a concluding statement or section.
- W.3.2 2. Write informative/explanatory texts to examine a topic and convey ideas and information clearly.
- W.3.2a a. Introduce a topic and group related information together; include illustrations when useful to aiding comprehension.
- W.3.2b b. Develop the topic with facts, definitions, and details.
- W.3.2c c. Use linking words and phrases (e.g., *also*, *another*, *and*, *more*, *but*) to connect ideas within categories of information.
- W.3.2d d. Provide a concluding statement or section.
- W.3.3 3. Write narratives to develop real or imagined experiences or events using effective technique, descriptive details, and clear event sequences.
- W.3.3a a. Establish a situation and introduce a narrator and/or characters; organize an event sequence that unfolds naturally.
- W.3.3b b. Use dialogue and descriptions of actions, thoughts, and feelings to develop experiences and events or show the response of characters to situations.
- W.3.3c c. Use temporal words and phrases to signal event order.
- W.3.3d d. Provide a sense of closure.

### Production and Distribution of Writing

- W.3.4 4. With guidance and support from adults, produce writing in which the development and organization are appropriate to task and purpose. (Grade-specific expectations for writing types are defined in standards 1-3 above.)
- W.3.5 5. With guidance and support from peers and adults, develop and strengthen writing as needed by planning, revising, and editing. (Editing for conventions should demonstrate command of Language standards 1-3 up to and including grade 3.)
- W.3.6 6. With guidance and support from adults, use technology to produce and publish writing (using keyboarding skills) as well as to interact and collaborate with others.

### Research to Build and Present Knowledge

- W.3.7 7. Conduct short research projects that build knowledge about a topic. Include sources by and about American Indians.
- W.3.8 8. Recall information from experiences or gather information from print and digital sources; take brief notes on sources and sort evidence into provided categories. Include sources by and about American Indians.
- W.3.9 9. Begins at grade 4

**Range of Writing**

- W.3.10 10. Write routinely over extended time frames (time for research, reflection, and revision) and shorter time frames (a single sitting or a day or two) for a range of discipline-specific tasks, purposes, and audiences.

## 4th Grade

### Montana Common Core Writing Standards (W.4.)



#### Text Types and Purposes

- W.4.1 1. Write opinion pieces on topics or texts, supporting a point of view with reasons and information.
- W.4.1a a. Introduce a topic or text clearly, state an opinion, and create an organizational structure in which related ideas are grouped to support the writer's purpose.
- W.4.1b b. Provide reasons that are supported by facts and details.
- W.4.1c c. Link opinion and reasons using words and phrases (e.g., *for instance*, *in order to*, *in addition*).
- W.4.1d d. Provide a concluding statement or section related to the opinion presented.
- W.4.2 2. Write informative/explanatory texts to examine a topic and convey ideas and information clearly.
- W.4.2a a. Introduce a topic clearly and group related information in paragraphs and sections; include formatting (e.g., headings), illustrations, and multimedia when useful to aiding comprehension.
- W.4.2b b. Develop the topic with facts, definitions, concrete details, quotations, or other information and examples related to the topic.
- W.4.2c c. Link ideas within categories of information using words and phrases (e.g., *another*, *for example*, *also*, *because*).
- W.4.2d d. Use precise language and domain-specific vocabulary to inform about or explain the topic.
- W.4.2e e. Provide a concluding statement or section related to the information or explanation presented.
- W.4.3 3. Write narratives to develop real or imagined experiences or events using effective technique, descriptive details, and clear event sequences.
- W.4.3a a. Orient the reader by establishing a situation and introducing a narrator and/or characters; organize an event sequence that unfolds naturally.
- W.4.3b b. Use dialogue and description to develop experiences and events or show the responses of characters to situations.
- W.4.3c c. Use a variety of transitional words and phrases to manage the sequence of events.
- W.4.3d d. Use concrete words and phrases and sensory details to convey experiences and events precisely.
- W.4.3e e. Provide a conclusion that follows from the narrated experiences or events.

#### Production and Distribution of Writing

- W.4.4 4. Produce clear and coherent writing in which the development and organization are appropriate to task, purpose, and audience. (Grade-specific expectations for writing types are defined in standards 1-3 above.)
- W.4.5 5. With guidance and support from peers and adults, develop and strengthen writing as needed by planning, revising, and editing.(Editing for conventions should demonstrate command of Language standards 1-3 up to and including grade 4.)
- W.4.6 6. With some guidance and support from adults, use technology, including the Internet, to produce and publish writing as well as to interact and collaborate with others; demonstrate sufficient command of keyboarding skills to type a minimum of one page in a single sitting.
- W.4.7 7. Conduct short research projects that build knowledge through investigation of different aspects of a topic. Include topics and/or sources by and about American Indians.
- W.4.8 8. Recall relevant information from experiences or gather relevant information from print and digital sources; take notes and categorize information, and provide a list of sources.
- W.4.9 9. Draw evidence from literary or informational texts to support analysis, reflection, and research.
- W.4.9a a. Apply *grade 4 Reading standards* to literature (e.g., "Describe in depth a character, setting, or event in a story or drama, drawing on specific details in the text [e.g., *a character's thoughts, words, or actions* ].").
- W.4.9b b. Apply *grade 4 Reading standards* to informational texts (e.g., "Explain how an author uses reasons and evidence to support particular points in a text").

**Range of Writing**

W.4.10 10. Write routinely over extended time frames (time for research, reflection, and revision) and shorter time frames (a single sitting or a day or two) for a range of discipline-specific tasks, purposes, and audiences.

## 5th Grade

### Montana Common Core Writing Standards (W.5.)

#### Text Types and Purposes

- W.5.1 1. Write opinion pieces on topics or texts, supporting a point of view with reasons and information.
- W.5.1a a. Introduce a topic or text clearly, state an opinion, and create an organizational structure in which ideas are logically grouped to support the writer's purpose.
- W.5.1b b. Provide logically ordered reasons that are supported by facts and details.
- W.5.1c c. Link opinion and reasons using words, phrases, and clauses (e.g., *consequently*, *specifically*).
- W.5.1d d. Provide a concluding statement or section related to the opinion presented.
- W.5.2 2. Write informative/explanatory texts to examine a topic and convey ideas and information clearly.
- W.5.2a a. Introduce a topic clearly, provide a general observation and focus, and group related information logically; include formatting (e.g., headings), illustrations, and multimedia when useful to aiding comprehension.
- W.5.2b b. Develop the topic with facts, definitions, concrete details, quotations, or other information and examples related to the topic.
- W.5.2c c. Link ideas within and across categories of information using words, phrases, and clauses (e.g., *in contrast*, *especially*).
- W.5.2d d. Use precise language and domain-specific vocabulary to inform about or explain the topic.
- W.5.2e e. Provide a concluding statement or section related to the information or explanation presented.
- W.5.3 3. Write narratives to develop real or imagined experiences or events using effective technique, descriptive details, and clear event sequences.
- W.5.3a a. Orient the reader by establishing a situation and introducing a narrator and/or characters; organize an event sequence that unfolds naturally.
- W.5.3b b. Use narrative techniques, such as dialogue, description, and pacing, to develop experiences and events or show the responses of characters to situations.
- W.5.3c c. Use a variety of transitional words, phrases, and clauses to manage the sequence of events.
- W.5.3d d. Use concrete words and phrases and sensory details to convey experiences and events precisely.
- W.5.3e e. Provide a conclusion that follows from the narrated experiences or events.

#### Production and Distribution of Writing

- W.5.4 4. Produce clear and coherent writing in which the development and organization are appropriate to task, purpose, and audience. (Grade-specific expectations for writing types are defined in standards 1-3 above.)
- W.5.5 5. With guidance and support from peers and adults, develop and strengthen writing as needed by planning, revising, editing, rewriting, or trying a new approach. (Editing for conventions should demonstrate command of Language standards 1-3 up to and including grade 5.)
- W.5.6 6. With some guidance and support from adults, use technology, including the Internet, to produce and publish writing as well as to interact and collaborate with others; demonstrate sufficient command of keyboarding skills to type a minimum of two pages in a single sitting.

#### Research to Build and Present Knowledge

- W.5.7 7. Conduct short research projects that use several sources to build knowledge through investigation of different aspects of a topic. Include sources and/or topics by and about American Indians.
- W.5.8 8. Recall relevant information from experiences or gather relevant information from print and digital sources; summarize or paraphrase information in notes and finished work, and provide a list of sources.
- W.5.9 9. Draw evidence from literary or informational texts to support analysis, reflection, and research.
- W.5.9a a. Apply *grade 5 Reading standards* to literature (e.g., "Compare and contrast two or more characters, settings, or events in a story or a drama, drawing on specific details in the text [e.g., how characters interact]").
- W.5.9b b. Apply *grade 5 Reading standards* to informational texts (e.g., "Explain how an author uses reasons and evidence to support particular points in a text, identifying which reasons and evidence support which point[s]").

#### Range of Writing

W.5.10 10. Write routinely over extended time frames (time for research, reflection, and revision) and shorter time frames (a single sitting or a day or two) for a range of discipline-specific tasks, purposes, and audiences.

## 6th Grade

### Montana Common Core Writing Standards (W.6.)

#### Text Types and Purposes

- W.6.1 1. Write arguments to support claims with clear reasons and relevant evidence.
- W.6.1a a. Introduce claim(s) and organize the reasons and evidence clearly.
- W.6.1b b. Support claim(s) with clear reasons and relevant evidence, using credible sources, including oral sources, and demonstrating an understanding of the topic or text.
- W.6.1c c. Use words, phrases, and clauses to clarify the relationships among claim(s) and reasons.
- W.6.1d d. Establish and maintain a formal style.
- W.6.1e e. Provide a concluding statement or section that follows from the argument presented.
- W.6.2 2. Write informative/explanatory texts to examine a topic and convey ideas, concepts, and information through the selection, organization, and analysis of relevant content.
- W.6.2a a. Introduce a topic; organize ideas, concepts, and information, using strategies such as definition, classification, comparison/contrast, and cause/effect; include formatting (e.g., headings), graphics (e.g., charts, tables), and multimedia when useful to aiding comprehension.
- W.6.2b b. Develop the topic with relevant facts, definitions, concrete details, quotations, or other information and examples.
- W.6.2c c. Use appropriate transitions to clarify the relationships among ideas and concepts.
- W.6.2d d. Use precise language and domain-specific vocabulary to inform about or explain the topic.
- W.6.2e e. Establish and maintain a formal style.
- W.6.2f f. Provide a concluding statement or section that follows from the information or explanation presented.
- W.6.3 3. Write narratives to develop real or imagined experiences or events using effective technique, relevant descriptive details, and well-structured event sequences.
- W.6.3a a. Engage and orient the reader by establishing a context and introducing a narrator and/or characters; organize an event sequence that unfolds naturally and logically.
- W.6.3b b. Use narrative techniques, such as dialogue, pacing, and description, to develop experiences, events, and/or characters.
- W.6.3c c. Use a variety of transition words, phrases, and clauses to convey sequence and signal shifts from one time frame or setting to another.
- W.6.3d d. Use precise words and phrases, relevant descriptive details, and sensory language to convey experiences and events.
- W.6.3e e. Provide a conclusion that follows from the narrated experiences or events.

#### Production and Distribution of Writing

- W.6.4 4. Produce clear and coherent writing in which the development, organization, and style are appropriate to task, purpose, and audience. (Grade-specific expectations for writing types are defined in standards 1-3 above.)
- W.6.5 5. With some guidance and support from peers and adults, develop and strengthen writing as needed by planning, revising, editing, rewriting, or trying a new approach. (Editing for conventions should demonstrate command of Language standards 1-3 up to and including grade 6.)
- W.6.6 6. Use technology, including the Internet, to produce and publish writing as well as to interact and collaborate with others; demonstrate sufficient command of keyboarding skills to type a minimum of three pages in a single sitting.

#### Research to Build and Present Knowledge

- W.6.7 7. Conduct short research projects to answer a question, drawing on several sources and refocusing the inquiry when appropriate. Include sources and/or topics by and about American Indians.
- W.6.8 8. Gather relevant information from multiple oral, print and digital sources; assess the credibility of each source; and quote or paraphrase the data and conclusions of others while avoiding plagiarism and providing basic bibliographic information for sources.
- W.6.9 9. Draw evidence from literary or informational texts to support analysis, reflection, and research.
- W.6.9a a. Apply *grade 6 Reading standards* to literature (e.g., “Compare and contrast texts in different forms or genres [e.g., stories and poems; historical novels and fantasy stories] in terms of their approaches to similar themes and topics”).
- W.6.9b b. Apply *grade 6 Reading standards* to literary nonfiction (e.g., “Trace and evaluate the argument and specific claims in a text, distinguishing claims that are supported by reasons and evidence from claims that are not”).

#### Range of Writing

- W.6.10 10. Write routinely over extended time frames (time for research, reflection, and revision) and shorter time frames (a single sitting or a day or two) for a range of discipline-specific tasks, purposes, and audiences.

**Text Types and Purposes**

- W.7.1 1. Write arguments to support claims with clear reasons and relevant evidence.
  - W.7.1a a. Introduce claim(s), acknowledge alternate or opposing claims, and organize the reasons and evidence logically.
  - W.7.1b b. Support claim(s) with logical reasoning and relevant evidence, using accurate, credible sources, including oral sources, and demonstrating an understanding of the topic or text.
  - W.7.1c c. Use words, phrases, and clauses to create cohesion and clarify the relationships among claim(s), reasons, and evidence.
  - W.7.1d d. Establish and maintain a formal style.
  - W.7.1E e. Provide a concluding statement or section that follows from and supports the argument presented.
- W.7.2 2. Write informative/explanatory texts to examine a topic and convey ideas, concepts, and information through the selection, organization, and analysis of relevant content.
  - W.7.2a a. Introduce a topic clearly, previewing what is to follow; organize ideas, concepts, and information, using strategies such as definition, classification, comparison/contrast, and cause/effect; include formatting (e.g., headings), graphics (e.g., charts, tables), and multimedia when useful to aiding comprehension.
  - W.7.2b b. Develop the topic with relevant facts, definitions, concrete details, quotations, or other information and examples.
  - W.7.2c c. Use appropriate transitions to create cohesion and clarify the relationships among ideas and concepts.
  - W.7.2d d. Use precise language and domain-specific vocabulary to inform about or explain the topic.
  - W.7.2e e. Establish and maintain a formal style.
  - W.7.2f f. Provide a concluding statement or section that follows from and supports the information or explanation presented.
- W.7.3 3. Write narratives to develop real or imagined experiences or events using effective technique, relevant descriptive details, and well-structured event sequences.
  - W.7.3a a. Engage and orient the reader by establishing a context and point of view and introducing a narrator and/or characters; organize an event sequence that unfolds naturally and logically.
  - W.7.3b b. Use narrative techniques, such as dialogue, pacing, and description, to develop experiences, events, and/or characters.
  - W.7.3c c. Use a variety of transition words, phrases, and clauses to convey sequence and signal shifts from one time frame or setting to another.
  - W.7.3d d. Use precise words and phrases, relevant descriptive details, and sensory language to capture the action and convey experiences and events.
  - W.7.3e e. Provide a conclusion that follows from and reflects on the narrated experiences or events.

**Production and Distribution of Writing**

- W.7.4 4. Produce clear and coherent writing in which the development, organization, and style are appropriate to task, purpose, and audience.(Grade-specific expectations for writing types are defined in standards 1-3.)
- W.7.5 5. With some guidance and support from peers and adults, develop and strengthen writing as needed by planning, revising, editing, rewriting, or trying a new approach, focusing on how well purpose and audience have been addressed.(Editing for conventions should demonstrate command of Language standards 1-3 up to and including grade 7.)
- W.7.6 6. Use technology, including the Internet, to produce and publish writing and link to and cite sources as well as to interact and collaborate with others, including linking to and citing sources.

**Research to Build and Present Knowledge**

- W.7.7 7. Conduct short research projects to answer a question, drawing on several sources and generating additional related, focused questions for further research and investigation. Include sources and/or topics by and about American Indians.
- W.7.8 8. Gather relevant information from multiple print and digital sources, using search terms effectively; assess the credibility and accuracy of each source; and quote or paraphrase the data and conclusions of others while avoiding plagiarism and following a standard format for citation.
- W.7.9 9. Draw evidence from literary or informational texts to support analysis, reflection, and research.

- W.7.9a a. Apply *grade 7 Reading standards* to literature (e.g., “Compare and contrast a fictional portrayal of a time, place, or character and a historical account of the same period as a means of understanding how authors of fiction use or alter history”).
- W.7.9b b. Apply *grade 7 Reading standards* to literary nonfiction (e.g. “Trace and evaluate the argument and specific claims in a text, assessing whether the reasoning is sound and the evidence is relevant and sufficient to support the claims”).

**Range of Writing**

- W.7.10 10. Write routinely over extended time frames (time for research, reflection, and revision) and shorter time frames (a single sitting or a day or two) for a range of discipline-specific tasks, purposes, and audiences.

**Text Types and Purposes**

- W.8.1 1. Write arguments to support claims with clear reasons and relevant evidence.
- W.8.1a a. Introduce claim(s), acknowledge and distinguish the claim(s) from alternate or opposing claims, and organize the reasons and evidence logically.
- W.8.1b b. Support claim(s) with logical reasoning and relevant evidence, using accurate, credible sources including oral sources, and demonstrating an understanding of the topic or text.
- W.8.1c c. Use words, phrases, and clauses to create cohesion and clarify the relationships among claim(s), counterclaims, reasons, and evidence.
- W.8.1d d. Establish and maintain a formal style.
- W.8.1e e. Provide a concluding statement or section that follows from and supports the argument presented.
- W.8.2 2. Write informative/explanatory texts to examine a topic and convey ideas, concepts, and information through the selection, organization, and analysis of relevant content.
- W.8.2a a. Introduce a topic clearly, previewing what is to follow; organize ideas, concepts, and information into broader categories; include formatting (e.g., headings), graphics (e.g., charts, tables), and multimedia when useful to aiding comprehension.
- W.8.2b b. Develop the topic with relevant, well-chosen facts, definitions, concrete details, quotations, or other information and examples.
- W.8.2c c. Use appropriate and varied transitions to create cohesion and clarify the relationships among ideas and concepts.
- W.8.2d d. Use precise language and domain-specific vocabulary to inform about or explain the topic.
- W.8.2e e. Establish and maintain a formal style.
- W.8.2f f. Provide a concluding statement or section that follows from and supports the information or explanation presented.
- W.8.3 3. Write narratives to develop real or imagined experiences or events using effective technique, relevant descriptive details, and well-structured event sequences.
- W.8.3a a. Engage and orient the reader by establishing a context and point of view and introducing a narrator and/or characters; organize an event sequence that unfolds naturally and logically.
- W.8.3b b. Use narrative techniques, such as dialogue, pacing, description, and reflection, to develop experiences, events, and/or characters.
- W.8.3c c. Use a variety of transition words, phrases, and clauses to convey sequence, signal shifts from one time frame or setting to another, and show the relationships among experiences and events.
- W.8.3d d. Use precise words and phrases, relevant descriptive details, and sensory language to capture the action and convey experiences and events.
- W.8.3e e. Provide a conclusion that follows from and reflects on the narrated experiences or events.

**Production and Distribution of Writing**

- W.8.4 4. Produce clear and coherent writing in which the development, organization, and style are appropriate to task, purpose, and audience. (Grade-specific expectations for writing types are defined in standards 1-3 above.)
- W.8.5 5. With some guidance and support from peers and adults, develop and strengthen writing as needed by planning, revising, editing, rewriting, or trying a new approach, focusing on how well purpose and audience have been addressed. (Editing for conventions should demonstrate command of Language standards 1-3 up to and including grade 8.)
- W.8.6 6. Use technology, including the Internet, to produce and publish writing and present the relationships between information and ideas efficiently as well as to interact and collaborate with others.

**Research to Build and Present Knowledge**

- W.8.7 7. Conduct short research projects to answer a question (including a self-generated question), drawing on several sources and generating additional related, focused questions that allow for multiple avenues of exploration. Include sources and/or topics by and about American Indians.
- W.8.8 8. Gather relevant information from multiple print and digital sources, using search terms effectively; assess the credibility and accuracy of each source; and quote or paraphrase the data and conclusions of others while avoiding plagiarism and following a standard format for citation.
- W.8.9 9. Draw evidence from literary or informational texts to support analysis, reflection, and research.

W.8.9a a. Apply *grade 8 Reading standards* to literature (e.g., “Analyze how a modern work of fiction draws on themes, patterns of events, or character types from myths, traditional stories, or religious works such as the Bible, including describing how the material is rendered new”).

W.8.9b b. Apply *grade 8 Reading standards* to literary nonfiction (e.g., “Delineate and evaluate the argument and specific claims in a text, assessing whether the reasoning is sound and the evidence is relevant and sufficient; recognize when irrelevant evidence is introduced”).

**Range of Writing**

W.8.10 10. Write routinely over extended time frames (time for research, reflection, and revision) and shorter time frames (a single sitting or a day or two) for a range of discipline-specific tasks, purposes, and audiences.

## 9-10th Grade

### Montana Common Core Writing Standards (W.9-10.)

#### Text Types and Purposes

- W.9-10.1 1. Write arguments to support claims in an analysis of substantive topics or text, including culturally diverse topics or texts, using valid reasoning and relevant and sufficient evidence.
- W.9-10.1a a. Introduce precise claim(s), distinguish the claim(s) from alternate or opposing claims, and create an organization that establishes clear relationships among claim(s), counterclaims, reasons, and evidence.
- W.9-10.1b b. Develop claim(s) and counterclaims fairly, supplying evidence for each while pointing out the strengths and limitations of both in a manner that anticipates the audience's knowledge level and concerns.
- W.9-10.1c c. Use words, phrases, and clauses to link the major sections of the text, create cohesion, and clarify the relationships between claim(s) and reasons, between reasons and evidence, and between claim(s) and counterclaims.
- W.9-10.1d d. Establish and maintain a formal style and objective tone while attending to the norms and conventions of the discipline in which they are writing.
- W.9-10.1e e. Provide a concluding statement or section that follows from and supports the argument presented.
- W.9-10.2 2. Write informative/explanatory texts to examine and convey complex ideas, concepts, and information clearly and accurately through the effective selection, organization, and analysis of content.
- W.9-10.2a a. Introduce a topic; organize complex ideas, concepts, and information to make important connections and distinctions; include formatting (e.g., headings), graphics (e.g., figures, tables), and multimedia when useful to aiding comprehension.
- W.9-10.2b b. Develop the topic with well-chosen, relevant, and sufficient facts, extended definitions, concrete details, quotations, or other information and examples appropriate to the audience's knowledge of the topic.
- W.9-10.2c c. Use appropriate and varied transitions to link the major sections of the text, create cohesion, and clarify the relationships among complex ideas and concepts.
- W.9-10.2d d. Use precise language and domain-specific vocabulary to manage the complexity of the topic.
- W.9-10.2e e. Establish and maintain a formal style and objective tone while attending to the norms and conventions of the discipline in which they are writing.
- W.9-10.2f f. Provide a concluding statement or section that follows from and supports the information or explanation presented (e.g., articulating implications or the significance of the topic).
- W.9-10.3 3. Write narratives to develop real or imagined experiences or events using effective technique, well-chosen details, and well-structured event sequences.
- W.9-10.3a a. Engage and orient the reader by setting out a problem, situation, or observation, establishing one or multiple point(s) of view, and introducing a narrator and/or characters; create a smooth progression of experiences or events.
- W.9-10.3b b. Use narrative techniques, such as dialogue, pacing, description, reflection, and multiple plot lines, to develop experiences, events, and/or characters.
- W.9-10.3c c. Use a variety of techniques to sequence events so that they build on one another to create a coherent whole.
- W.9-10.3d d. Use precise words and phrases, telling details, and sensory language to convey a vivid picture of the experiences, events, setting, and/or characters.
- W.9-10.3e e. Provide a conclusion that follows from and reflects on what is experienced, observed, or resolved over the course of the narrative.

#### Production and Distribution of Writing

- W.9-10.4 4. Produce clear and coherent writing in which the development, organization, and style are appropriate to task, purpose, and audience. (Grade-specific expectations for writing types are defined in standards 1-3 above.)

- W.9-10.5 5. Develop and strengthen writing as needed by planning, revising, editing, rewriting, or trying a new approach, focusing on addressing what is most significant for a specific purpose and audience. (Editing for conventions should demonstrate command of Language standards 1-3 up to and including grades 9-10.)
- W.9-10.6 6. Use technology, including the Internet, to produce, publish, and update individual or shared writing products, taking advantage of technology's capacity to link to other information and to display information flexibly and dynamically.
- Research to Build and Present Knowledge**
- W.9-10.7 7. Conduct short as well as more sustained research projects to answer a question (including a self-generated question) or solve a problem; narrow or broaden the inquiry when appropriate; synthesize multiple sources on the subject, demonstrating understanding of the subject under investigation.
- W.9-10.8 8. Gather relevant information from multiple authoritative print and digital sources, using advanced searches effectively; assess the usefulness of each source in answering the research question; integrate information into the text selectively to maintain the flow of ideas, avoiding plagiarism and following a standard format for citation.
- W.9-10.9 9. Draw evidence from literary or informational texts, including American Indian texts to support analysis, reflection, and research.
- W.9-10.9a a. Apply *grades 9–10 Reading standards* to literature (e.g., “Analyze how an author draws on and transforms source material in a specific work [e.g., how Shakespeare treats a theme or topic from Ovid or the Bible or how a later author draws on a play by Shakespeare]” and as in James Welch’s *Fools Crow*, the author retells the Pikuni traditional story, “Star Boy.” ).
- W.9-10.9b b. Apply *grades 9–10 Reading standards* to literary nonfiction (e.g., “Delineate and evaluate the argument and specific claims in a text, assessing whether the reasoning is valid and the evidence is relevant and sufficient; identify false statements and fallacious reasoning”).
- Range of Writing**
- W.9-10.10 10. Write routinely over extended time frames (time for research, reflection, and revision) and shorter time frames (a single sitting or a day or two) for a range of tasks, purposes, and audiences.

## 11-12th Grade

### Montana Common Core Writing Standards (W.11-12.)

#### Text Types and Purposes

- W.11-12.1 1. Write arguments to support claims in an analysis of substantive topics or texts, including culturally diverse topics or texts, using valid reasoning and relevant and sufficient evidence.
- W.11-12.1a a. Introduce precise, knowledgeable claim(s), establish the significance of the claim(s), distinguish the claim(s) from alternate or opposing claims, and create an organization that logically sequences claim(s), counterclaims, reasons, and evidence.
- W.11-12.1b b. Develop claim(s) and counterclaims fairly and thoroughly, supplying the most relevant evidence for each while pointing out the strengths and limitations of both in a manner that anticipates the audience's knowledge level, concerns, values, and possible biases.
- W.11-12.1c c. Use words, phrases, and clauses as well as varied syntax to link the major sections of the text, create cohesion, and clarify the relationships between claim(s) and reasons, between reasons and evidence, and between claim(s) and counterclaims.
- W.11-12.1d d. Establish and maintain a formal style and objective tone while attending to the norms and conventions of the discipline in which they are writing.
- W.11-12.1e e. Provide a concluding statement or section that follows from and supports the argument presented.
- W.11-12.2 2. Write informative/explanatory texts to examine and convey complex ideas, concepts, and information clearly and accurately through the effective selection, organization, and analysis of content.
- W.11-12.2a a. Introduce a topic; organize complex ideas, concepts, and information so that each new element builds on that which precedes it to create a unified whole; include formatting (e.g., headings), graphics (e.g., figures, tables), and multimedia when useful to aiding comprehension.
- W.11-12.2b b. Develop the topic thoroughly by selecting the most significant and relevant facts, extended definitions, concrete details, quotations, or other information and examples appropriate to the audience's knowledge of the topic.
- W.11-12.2c c. Use appropriate and varied transitions and syntax to link the major sections of the text, create cohesion, and clarify the relationships among complex ideas and concepts.
- W.11-12.2d d. Use precise language, domain-specific vocabulary, and techniques such as metaphor, simile, and analogy to manage the complexity of the topic.
- W.11-12.2e e. Establish and maintain a formal style and objective tone while attending to the norms and conventions of the discipline in which they are writing.
- W.11-12.2f f. Provide a concluding statement or section that follows from and supports the information or explanation presented (e.g., articulating implications or the significance of the topic).
- W.11-12.3 3. Write narratives to develop real or imagined experiences or events using effective technique, well-chosen details, and well-structured event sequences.
- W.11-12.3a a. Engage and orient the reader by setting out a problem, situation, or observation and its significance, establishing one or multiple point(s) of view, and introducing a narrator and/or characters; create a smooth progression of experiences or events.
- W.11-12.3b b. Use narrative techniques, such as dialogue, pacing, description, reflection, and multiple plot lines, to develop experiences, events, and/or characters.
- W.11-12.3c c. Use a variety of techniques to sequence events so that they build on one another to create a coherent whole and build toward a particular tone and outcome (e.g., a sense of mystery, suspense, growth, or resolution).
- W.11-12.3d d. Use precise words and phrases, telling details, and sensory language to convey a vivid picture of the experiences, events, setting, and/or characters.
- W.11-12.3e e. Provide a conclusion that follows from and reflects on what is experienced, observed, or resolved over the course of the narrative.

#### Production and Distribution of Writing

- W.11-12.4 4. Produce clear and coherent writing in which the development, organization, and style are appropriate to task, purpose, and audience. (Grade-specific expectations for writing types are defined in standards 1-3 above.)
- W.11-12.5 5. Develop and strengthen writing as needed by planning, revising, editing, rewriting, or trying a new approach, focusing on addressing what is most significant for a specific purpose and audience. (Editing for conventions should demonstrate command of Language standards 1-3 up to and including grades 11-12.)

W.11-12.6 6. Use technology, including the Internet, to produce, publish, and update individual or shared writing products in response to ongoing feedback, including new arguments or information.

**Research to Build and Present Knowledge**

- W.11-12.7 7. Conduct short as well as more sustained research projects to answer a question (including a self-generated question) or solve a problem; narrow or broaden the inquiry when appropriate; synthesize multiple sources on the subject, demonstrating understanding of the subject under investigation.
- W.11-12.8 8. Gather relevant information from multiple authoritative print and digital sources, using advanced searches effectively; assess the strengths and limitations of each source in terms of the task, purpose, and audience; integrate information into the text selectively to maintain the flow of ideas, avoiding plagiarism and overreliance on any one source and following a standard format for citation.
- W.11-12.9 9. Draw evidence from literary or informational texts, including those by and about American Indians, to support analysis, reflection, and research.
- W.11-12.9a a. Apply *grades 11–12 Reading standards* to literature (e.g., “Demonstrate knowledge of eighteenth-, nineteenth- and early-twentieth-century foundational works of American literature, including how two or more texts from the same period treat similar themes or topics”).
- W.11-12.9b b. Apply *grades 11–12 Reading standards* to literary nonfiction (e.g., “Delineate and evaluate the reasoning in seminal U.S. texts, including the application of constitutional principles and use of legal reasoning [e.g., in U.S. Supreme Court Case majority opinions and dissents] and the premises, purposes, and arguments in works of public advocacy [e.g., *The Federalist*, presidential addresses, American Indian Policies]”).

**Range of Writing**

- W.11-12.10 10. Write routinely over extended time frames (time for research, reflection, and revision) and shorter time frames (a single sitting or a day or two) for a range of tasks, purposes, and audiences.

# 6-8 Grades Montana Common Core Writing Standards for Literacy in History/Social Studies, Science and Technical Subjects (WHST.6-8)

## Text Types and Purposes

- WHST.6-8.1 1. Write arguments focused on *discipline-specific content*.
- WHST.6-8.1a a. Introduce claim(s) about a topic or issue, acknowledge and distinguish the claim(s) from alternate or opposing claims, and organize the reasons and evidence logically.
- WHST.6-8.1b b. Support claim(s) with logical reasoning and relevant, accurate data and evidence that demonstrate an understanding of the topic or text, using credible sources.
- WHST.6-8.1c c. Use words, phrases, and clauses to create cohesion and clarify the relationships among claim(s), counterclaims, reasons, and evidence.
- WHST.6-8.1d d. Establish and maintain a formal style.
- WHST.6-8.1e e. Provide a concluding statement or section that follows from and supports the argument presented.
- WHST.6-8.2 2. Write informative/explanatory texts, including the narration of historical events, scientific procedures/ experiments, or technical processes.
- WHST.6-8.2a a. Introduce a topic clearly, previewing what is to follow; organize ideas, concepts, and information into broader categories as appropriate to achieving purpose; include formatting (e.g., headings), graphics (e.g., charts, tables), and multimedia when useful to aiding comprehension.
- WHST.6-8.2b b. Develop the topic with relevant, well-chosen facts, definitions, concrete details, quotations, or other information and examples.
- WHST.6-8.2c c. Use appropriate and varied transitions to create cohesion and clarify the relationships among ideas and concepts.
- WHST.6-8.2d d. Use precise language and domain-specific vocabulary to inform about or explain the topic.
- WHST.6-8.2e e. Establish and maintain a formal style and objective tone.
- WHST.6-8.2f f. Provide a concluding statement or section that follows from and supports the information or explanation presented.
- WHST.6-8.3 3. (See note; not applicable as a separate requirement)

## Production and Distribution of Writing

- WHST.6-8.4 4. Produce clear and coherent writing in which the development, organization, and style are appropriate to task, purpose, and audience.
- WHST.6-8.5 5. With some guidance and support from peers and adults, develop and strengthen writing as needed by planning revising, editing, rewriting, or trying a new approach, focusing on how well purpose and audience have been addressed.
- WHST.6-8.6 6. Use technology, including the Internet, to produce and publish writing and present the relationships between information and ideas clearly and efficiently.

## Research to Build and Present Knowledge

- WHST.6-8.7 7. Conduct short research projects to answer a question (including a self-generated question), drawing on several sources and generating additional related, focused questions that allow for multiple avenues of exploration.
- WHST.6-8.8 8. Gather relevant information from multiple oral, print and digital sources, using search terms effectively; assess the credibility and accuracy of each source; and quote or paraphrase the data and conclusions of others while avoiding plagiarism and following a standard format for citation.
- WHST.6-8.9 9. Draw evidence from informational texts to support analysis, reflection, and research. Include texts by and about American Indians.

## Range of Writing

- WHST.6-8.10 10. Write routinely over extended time frames (time for reflection and revision) and shorter time frames (a single sitting or a day or two) for a range of discipline-specific tasks, purposes, and audiences.

**Note:** Students' narrative skills continue to grow in these grades. The Standards require that students be able to incorporate narrative elements effectively into arguments and informative/explanatory texts. In history/social studies, students must be able to incorporate narrative accounts into their analyses of individuals or events of historical import. In science and technical subjects, students must be able to write precise enough descriptions of the step-by-step procedures they use in their investigations or technical work that others can replicate them and (possibly) reach the same results.

## 9-10 Grades Montana Common Core Writing Standards for Literacy in History/Social Studies, Science and Technical Subjects (WHST.9-10)



### Text Types and Purposes

- WHST.9-10.1 **1.** Write arguments focused on *discipline-specific content*.
- WHST.9-10.1a a. Introduce precise claim(s), distinguish the claim(s) from alternate or opposing claims, and create an organization that establishes clear relationships among the claim(s), counterclaims, reasons, and evidence.
- WHST.9-10.1b b. Develop claim(s) and counterclaims fairly, supplying data and evidence for each while pointing out the strengths and limitations of both claim(s) and counterclaims in a discipline-appropriate form and in a manner that anticipates the audience's knowledge level and concerns.
- WHST.9-10.1c c. Use words, phrases, and clauses to link the major sections of the text, create cohesion, and clarify the relationships between claim(s) and reasons, between reasons and evidence, and between claim(s) and counterclaims.
- WHST.9-10.1d d. Establish and maintain a formal style and objective tone while attending to the norms and conventions of the discipline in which they are writing.
- WHST.9-10.1e e. Provide a concluding statement or section that follows from or supports the argument presented.
- WHST.9-10.2 **2.** Write informative/explanatory texts, including the narration of historical events, scientific procedures/ experiments, or technical processes.
- WHST.9-10.2a a. Introduce a topic and organize ideas, concepts, and information to make important connections and distinctions; include formatting (e.g., headings), graphics (e.g., figures, tables), and multimedia when useful to aiding comprehension.
- WHST.9-10.2b b. Develop the topic with well-chosen, relevant, and sufficient facts, extended definitions, concrete details, quotations, or other information and examples appropriate to the audience's knowledge of the topic.
- WHST.9-10.2c c. Use varied transitions and sentence structures to link the major sections of the text, create cohesion, and clarify the relationships among ideas and concepts.
- WHST.9-10.2d d. Use precise language and domain-specific vocabulary to manage the complexity of the topic and convey a style appropriate to the discipline and context as well as to the expertise of likely readers.
- WHST.9-10.2e e. Establish and maintain a formal style and objective tone while attending to the norms and conventions of the discipline in which they are writing.
- WHST.9-10.2f f. Provide a concluding statement or section that follows from and supports the information or explanation presented (e.g., articulating implications or the significance of the topic).

- WHST.9-10.3 **3.** (See note; not applicable as a separate requirement)

### Production and Distribution of Writing

- WHST.9-10.4 **4.** Produce clear and coherent writing in which the development, organization, and style are appropriate to task, purpose, and audience.
- WHST.9-10.5 **5.** Develop and strengthen writing as needed by planning, revising, editing, rewriting, or trying a new approach, focusing on addressing what is most significant for a specific purpose and audience.
- WHST.9-10.6 **6.** Use technology, including the Internet, to produce, publish, and update individual or shared writing products, taking advantage of technology's capacity to link to other information and to display information flexibly and dynamically.

**Research to Build and Present Knowledge**

- WHST.9-10.7 **7.** Conduct short as well as more sustained research projects to answer a question (including a self-generated question) or solve a problem; narrow or broaden the inquiry when appropriate; synthesize multiple sources on the subject, demonstrating understanding of the subject under investigation.
- WHST.9-10.8 **8.** Gather relevant information from multiple authoritative oral, print and digital sources, using advanced searches effectively; assess the usefulness of each source in answering the research question; integrate information into the text selectively to maintain the flow of ideas, avoiding plagiarism and following a standard format for citation.
- WHST.9-10.9 **9.** Draw evidence from informational texts to support analysis, reflection, and research. Include texts by and about American Indians.

**Range of Writing**

- WHST.9-10.10 **10.** Write routinely over extended time frames (time for reflection and revision) and shorter time frames (a single sitting or a day or two) for a range of discipline-specific tasks, purposes, and audiences.

**Note:** Students' narrative skills continue to grow in these grades. The Standards require that students be able to incorporate narrative elements effectively into arguments and informative/explanatory texts. In history/social studies, students must be able to incorporate narrative accounts into their analyses of individuals or events of historical import. In science and technical subjects, students must be able to write precise enough descriptions of the step-by-step procedures they use in their investigations or technical work that others can replicate them and (possibly) reach the same results.

# 11-12 Grades Montana Common Core Writing Standards for Literacy in History/Social Studies, Science and Technical Subjects (WHST.11-12)

## Text Types and Purposes

- WHST.11-12.1 1. Write arguments focused on *discipline-specific content*.
- WHST.11-12.1a a. Introduce precise, knowledgeable claim(s), establish the significance of the claim(s), distinguish the claim(s) from alternate or opposing claims, and create an organization that logically sequences the claim(s), counterclaims, reasons, and evidence.
- WHST.11-12.1b b. Develop claim(s) and counterclaims fairly and thoroughly, supplying the most relevant data and evidence for each while pointing out the strengths and limitations of both claim(s) and counterclaims in a discipline-appropriate form that anticipates the audience's knowledge level, concerns, values, and possible biases.
- WHST.11-12.1c c. Use words, phrases, and clauses as well as varied syntax to link the major sections of the text, create cohesion, and clarify the relationships between claim(s) and reasons, between reasons and evidence, and between claim(s) and counterclaims.
- WHST.11-12.1d d. Establish and maintain a formal style and objective tone while attending to the norms and conventions of the discipline in which they are writing.
- WHST.11-12.1e e. Provide a concluding statement or section that follows from or supports the argument presented.
- WHST.11-12.2 2. Write informative/explanatory texts, including the narration of historical events, scientific procedures/ experiments, or technical processes.
- WHST.11-12.2a a. Introduce a topic and organize complex ideas, concepts, and information so that each new element builds on that which precedes it to create a unified whole; include formatting (e.g., headings), graphics (e.g., figures, tables), and multimedia when useful to aiding comprehension.
- WHST.11-12.2b b. Develop the topic thoroughly by selecting the most significant and relevant facts, extended definitions, concrete details, quotations, or other information and examples appropriate to the audience's knowledge of the topic.
- WHST.11-12.2c c. Use varied transitions and sentence structures to link the major sections of the text, create cohesion, and clarify the relationships among complex ideas and concepts.
- WHST.11-12.2d d. Use precise language, domain-specific vocabulary and techniques such as metaphor, simile, and analogy to manage the complexity of the topic; convey a knowledgeable stance in a style that responds to the discipline and context as well as to the expertise of likely readers.
- WHST.11-12.2e e. Provide a concluding statement or section that follows from and supports the information or explanation provided (e.g., articulating implications or the significance of the topic).

- WHST.11-12.3 3. (See note; not applicable as a separate requirement)

## Production and Distribution of Writing

- WHST.11-12.4 4. Produce clear and coherent writing in which the development, organization, and style are appropriate to task, purpose, and audience.
- WHST.11-12.5 5. Develop and strengthen writing as needed by planning, revising, editing, rewriting, or trying a new approach, focusing on addressing what is most significant for a specific purpose and audience.
- WHST.11-12.6 6. Use technology, including the Internet, to produce, publish, and update individual or shared writing products in response to ongoing feedback, including new arguments or information.

**Research to Build and Present Knowledge**

- WHST.11-12.7 7. Conduct short as well as more sustained research projects to answer a question (including a self-generated question) or solve a problem; narrow or broaden the inquiry when appropriate; synthesize multiple sources on the subject, demonstrating understanding of the subject under investigation.
- WHST.11-12.8 8. Gather relevant information from multiple authoritative oral, print and digital sources, using advanced searches effectively; assess the strengths and limitations of each source in terms of the specific task, purpose, and audience; integrate information into the text selectively to maintain the flow of ideas, avoiding plagiarism and overreliance on any one source and following a standard format for citation.
- WHST.11-12.9 9. Draw evidence from informational texts to support analysis, reflection, and research. Include texts by and about American Indians.

**Range of Writing**

- WHST.11-12.10 10. Write routinely over extended time frames (time for reflection and revision) and shorter time frames (a single sitting or a day or two) for a range of discipline-specific tasks, purposes, and audiences.

**Note:** Students' narrative skills continue to grow in these grades. The Standards require that students be able to incorporate narrative elements effectively into arguments and informative/explanatory texts. In history/social studies, students must be able to incorporate narrative accounts into their analyses of individuals or events of historical import. In science and technical subjects, students must be able to write precise enough descriptions of the step-by-step procedures they use in their investigations or technical work that others can replicate them and (possibly) reach the same results.