

Supporting Activities for ELA Resources

All resources can be found: [Washington State Learning Standards Review](#)

Purpose

To support building and district focused understanding and implementation of the initial adoption of the Washington State K-12 Learning Standards for English Language Arts.

As you explore the resources, consider three levels of reflection:

1. What do you notice?
2. What might this mean for English Language Arts teaching and learning?
3. What implications might this have for your district/school's instructional materials, instruction, pacing, and assessment systems?

ELA Learning Standards (2026) Key Shift and What's New –

Documents to support: [Key Shift in the K-12 Learning Standards for ELA](#), [What's New in the K-12 Learning Standards for ELA](#)

Possible Discussion Questions

- How will these changes affect your teaching practice and/or lesson planning?
- Which standards at your grade level or course exemplify the Key Shift? What might it look like to teach these standards in the spirit of the Key Shift?
- What support or resources do you need to actualize this shift in the curriculum/instructional materials/instruction?
- Look at the WA ELA 2026 standards side-by-side with the CCSS in a particular unit of instruction. How do the key shifts manifest in this unit? What are the implications of those shifts for students in the context of these specific skills and learning targets?
- How might students experience ELA differently because of these shifts?
- Which shift feels most significant for your grade level, and why?

Initial ELA Word Document

Review the document: [Initial WA K-12 Learning Standards ELA](#)

Read the introduction of this document. There are more details included on the process for updating the standards, organization of the standards, and other relevant information to help understand the learning standards.

All grade level standards are listed in order by grade in a print-friendly version.



ELA Excel Spreadsheet -

Review the document: [ela26-initial-adoption-spreadsheet.xlsx](#)

Take notice of the tabs across the bottom of the spreadsheet.

“What is New” Tab

Review the coding system. Notice that the Common Core State Standards for ELA Strand coding is in place to support the crosswalk to current district instructional materials. What are some things you noticed with the coding system? How do these support your alignment to your adopted instructional materials?

“Domains” Tab

Review the five broad domains that the WA ELA 2026 standards have been arranged in. How does this support the connections and relationships of the ELA standards as they are applied together? Where might students benefit from seeing relationships between standards and across domains?

“Priority Standards” Tab

Read the definition of “Priority Learning Standards.” Consider these questions:

- How does the definition fit within your district’s practices in identifying standards?
- What may be the same? What may be different?
- If you have already identified district priority standards, what standards are in alignment? Which standards are different?
- What may be some topics of discussion regarding connections to instructional materials, local assessments, etc.?

“ELA26 and Connections” Tab

Practice using the features of the spreadsheet to filter and sort. Try filtering for just the identified priority standards, a standard as it moves vertically through the grades, or to see the newly added Media Literacy standards. Notice the additional columns to the right of the Priority column for additional supports to be added with a future version.

“Crosswalk” Tab

This tab shows the changes in learning standards from the CCSS ELA standards to the current WA ELA 2026 standards. Notice the differences in the coding structure between the two sets of standards. Look at how multiple CCSS standards might align with the new WA ELA 2026 by rearranging them.

Consider these questions:

- What is similar? What is different?

- How can you use the new structure to find the connections with your district adopted instructional materials or local assessments?
- What implications or changes in language have on your instruction or district materials and resources?
- How might this crosswalk support conversations about instructional materials or classroom-based assessments?

“Glossary” Tab

Review the glossary tab for terms used in the WA ELA 2026 standards. What terms would be helpful to review individually or as a collaborative team to develop a shared understanding?

“Links and Resources” Tab

More information to come in later versions.