

# ISPS Language Arts Pre-K-12 Standards and Benchmarks

## Grade 12

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### **Course Description:**

This course explores the relationship between literature and the media. Students analyze the work of key writers, such as Ernest Hemingway and Gabriel Garcia Marquez, to determine how their backgrounds in journalism influenced their writing and consequently the development of literature over the past 50 years. Students compare both the journalism and fiction writing of these authors. Students use the skills that they apply in analyzing themes and thesis statements in literature and apply those skills to analyze magazine and newspaper leads, academic research papers, and other examples of journalism, such as nonfiction books, so that they have a better understanding of how the media uses literary elements. Objective vs. Subjective writing is a key focus of this course and students will determine the difference by critiquing all aspects of the media including news and feature writing, editorials, and commentaries. Students are also introduced to the theory of film editing and apply their knowledge about editing to movie reviews. Students use various media presentations for projects that emphasize research skills.

### **Theme:**

How do language and literature affect communication in today's world?

### **Essential Questions:**

- How do journalists and writers use subjective vs. objective writing to convey information and persuade an audience?
- How has journalism affected literature and how is literature affected by journalism?
- Why are journalistic ethics important to me and the society that I live in?
- Why is it important that I understand how the media influences me?

### **Strands:**

1. Listening and Speaking
2. Reading
3. Writing

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## 4. Media and Technology

### **Strand 1 – Listening**

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**Standard 1 - Students will listen and respond to oral communication.**

**Benchmarks - By the end of Grade 12, students will:**

- 1 – 1 Demonstrate positive listening behaviors and attitudes
- 1 – 2 Demonstrate an ability to listen to multi-task instructions
- 1 – 3 Demonstrate respect and consideration for others' opinions

**Standard 2 - Students will deliver coherent, well-focused, informal and formal oral presentations.**

**Benchmarks - By the end of Grade 12, students will:**

- 2 – 1 Present multi-media projects in a professional manner that includes effective presentations where information flows in an interesting and organized manner
- 2 – 2 Present their points in classroom discussions in a mature, scholarly manner that emphasizes literary support for their opinions

### **Strand 2 – Reading**

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**Standard 3 - Students will comprehend, respond to and analyze a wide variety of literary texts (includes variety of genres).  
\*Research**

**Benchmarks - By the end of Grade 12, students will:**

- 3 – 1 Read a variety of literature including magazine and newspaper articles and nonfiction books
- 3 – 2 Read fiction by authors who started their careers as journalists
- 3 – 3 Read fiction that made an impact in the media
- 3 – 4 Read academic essays

**Standard 4 - Students will read fluently using the skills and strategies of the reading process.**

**Benchmarks - By the end of Grade 12, students will:**

- 4 – 1 Decode words in context
- 4 – 2 Use and expand vocabulary through reading
- 4 – 3 Use a dictionary and thesaurus to determine meanings of word

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## **Strand 3 – Writing (Content, Organization, Style, Mechanics, Legibility)**

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**Standard 5 - Students will write with clarity, logic, validity and effectiveness on a wide range of topics and for a variety of purposes and audiences.**

- 5 – 1 Write to communicate ideas, respond to text, and refine knowledge.
- 5 – 2 Write in a variety of genres
- 5 – 3 Use the writing process
- 5 – 4 Write for a variety of purposes
- 5 – 5 Use expanded vocabulary in writing
- 5 – 6 Use literature that demonstrates the writer’s craft as a model for various forms of writing
- 5 – 7 Use a variety of literature that illustrates the relationship between writing and visual structures to create various structures for essays
- 5 – 8 Understand the five methods of characterization
- 5 – 9 Understand the structure of persuasive and informative essays
- 5 – 10 Understand the process of using visual structures to create beginnings and transitions
- 5 – 11 Demonstrate an understanding of the content of various forms of fiction and nonfiction literature and an understanding of how the content is structured by writing essays that discuss how form is used to present content
- 5 – 12 When writing essays, use visual structures analyzed in literature, such as comics and movies, to discuss the elements of literature such as theme, tone, and character
- 5 – 13 Create a visual structure to present and link abstract ideas in an essay

**Standard 6 - Students use grammatical and mechanical conventions in written work.**

**Benchmarks - By the end of Grade 12, students will:**

- 6 – 1 Write essays that comply with grammar rules and other means of convention, but also break convention to create an effect
- 6 – 2 Demonstrate focus, coherence and organization in their writing
- 6 – 3 Demonstrate understanding of the structure of written language.
- 6 – 4 Write essays in which the subject is always clearly identified by using active voice

## **Strand 4 – Media and Technology**

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**Standard 7 - Students understand the characteristics and components of visual and print media.**

**Benchmarks - By the end of Grade 12, students will:**

- 7 – 1 Understand the theory of how comics work
- 7 – 2 Identify structure in a film
- 7 – 3 Identify characterization in a film
- 7 – 4 Follow the basic elements of literature as they are presented in a film
- 7 – 5 Compare differences that result from using the medium of film to adapt a piece of literature
- 7 – 6 Demonstrate an understanding of the relationship between pictures and words for an effective presentation
- 7 – 7 Use technology to create power point presentations
- 7 – 8 Use Internet to resource information for support in essays
- 7 – 9 Use music and lyrics to convey tone and mood in a presentation using pictures