

Marsh Valley School District
Quick Reference Curriculum Guide 8th Grade Writing/Language Usage
June 2004

Skills are identified with Introduced (I), Practiced (P), Mastered (M), Reinforced ®)

Composing and the Writing Process

- * □ Generate relevant/researchable questions (P) 744.06.a
- * □ Cite sources when quoting, paraphrasing, or summarizing from resources (I) 744.06.a
- * □ Integrate a quotation from text/media into written works (P)744.02.c
- * □ Use outlining to organize information (M) 744.02.c
- * □ Edit writing to correct and improve it (M) 7 44.02.a
- * □ Use standardized editing symbols (M)744.02.a
- * □ Use word choices appropriate to audience/purpose (M) 744.02.c
- * □ Use effective transition words in written works (P) 744.02.c
- * □ Gather facts/data to create written works (P) 744.02.c
- * □ Sequence ideas in logical order (P)744.02.c
- * □ Utilize the MLA Handbook in writing (P)744.06.a
- * □ Develop the topic with supporting details (P)744.02.c
- * □ Utilize the stages of the writing process (M 744.06.a
- * □ Paraphrase material gathered from text/media as part of a written work (P)744.06.a
- * □ Submit written work that requires little or no editing (P) 744.02.a & 03.c
- * □ Revise writing to eliminate extraneous information (P)744.02.a & 03.c

Basic Grammar and Usage

- * □ Write using correct agreement within sentences: (gender/number, subject/verb, pronoun/antecedent) (P) 744.02.a
- * □ Use adjectives in a sentence correctly (M)744.02.a
- * □ Correctly use adverbs in a sentence (M)744.02.a
- * □ Eliminate shifts in verb tense (P)744.02.a
- * □ Correctly use irregular verbs ®)744.02.a
- * □ Write sentences with no fragments or run-ons (M)744.02.a
- * □ Identify complete subject and predicate ®)744.02.a

Punctuation 744.02.a

- * □ Use commas to separate an independent clause and a dependent clause (P)
- * □ Use commas to separate phrases (P)
- * □ Use commas with an appositive (M)
- * □ Correctly use commas in compound sentences (P)
- * □ Use commas with a parenthetical expression (P)
- * □ Identify and correctly use hyphens in writing (P)
- * □ Identify the correct use of a colon and semicolon(P)
- * □ Use parenthesis correctly (P)
- * □ Use dashes as punctuation appropriately (P)
- * □ Use underlining correctly in punctuation (P)

Capitalization 744.02.a

- * □ Use capital letters correctly (P)

Spelling 744.02.a

- * □ Use correct spelling for words that are appropriate to his/her grade level (P)
- * □ Identify Latin and Greek root words (P)

Composition Structure

- * □ Write using a variety of sentence lengths (P) 7 44.02.c
- * □ Recognize and use complete sentences ®)7 44.02.c
- * □ Apply knowledge of a variety of sentences, including parallel structure (P)7 44.02.c
- * □ Write using a variety of sentence beginnings (P)7 44.02.c

* □ Write formal and informal letters (P)

Continued on back

- * □ Address an envelope (M)
- * □ Recognize and use a thesis statement ®) 744.06.a
- * □ Write an organized paragraph with a topic sentence ®) 7 44.02.c
- * □ Write a completed essay within a time limit ®)7 44.02.c
- * □ Write an effective introductory paragraph ®)7 44.02.c
- * □ Write a clear concluding paragraph ®)7 44.02.c
- * □ Create paragraphs with topic sentences, supporting details, and conclusions ®)7 44.02.c
- * □ Write original creative works for self-expression (P) 7 44.02.c
- * □ Include figurative language in written work (P)7 44.02.c
- * □ Use sensory details when writing (P)7 44.02.c
- * □ Use phrases and clauses in the writing process (M)7 44.02.c
- * □ Write a variety of essays (narrative, expository, descriptive, persuasive) (P) 744.05.c
- * □ Use appropriate voice/tone/mood (P) 7 44.02.c
- * □ Write in response to a prompt (P)7 44.02.c
- * □ Utilize active voice in writing (P) 7 44.02.c
- * □ Write to summarize information accurately ®) 7 44.02.c