

Skills Focus for Upcoming Students			
	Reading	Writing	Suggestions for Summer
Incoming Ninth	<p>Students entering the 9th grade should focus on their reading stamina. In the 9th grade, students will be expected to read a variety of literary and informational texts for basic comprehension.</p> <p>At the freshman level, students should be able to answer the questions <i>“What topic is addressed in the text?”</i> and <i>“What is being said about that topic?”</i> for any given text.</p>	<p>Students entering the 9th grade need to have a strong foundation in basic grammar and foundational punctuation and mechanics, as well as be able to produce grade-level grammatical sentences (meaning compositions include proper capitalization and end punctuation, proper subject verb agreement, proper verb tense, no sentence fragments, no run-on sentences, correct pronoun usage and agreement, etc.).</p>	<p>Students should read a grade-appropriate novel for twenty minutes a day and at least once a week read and respond to an article from Kelly Gallagher’s “Article of the Week” (<a href="http://www.kellygallagher.org/article-of-the-week">http://www.kellygallagher.org/article-of-the-week</a>).</p> <p>Rising 9th graders should respond to the first Possible Response Question provided.</p>
Incoming Tenth	<p>Students entering the 10th grade are expected to be able to analyze beyond the basic comprehension questions of ninth grade. Students should be able to accurately describe in detail the author's purpose and audience of any given text.</p> <p>At the sophomore level, students should be able to answer the questions <i>“Why was the text written and who was it written for?”</i> for any given text.</p>	<p>Students entering the 10th grade need a basic understanding of constructing a paragraph as well as organizing and drafting a basic essay.</p> <p>Students should also have a basic understanding of MLA format (8<sup>th</sup> edition).</p>	<p>Students should read a grade-appropriate novel for twenty minutes a day and at least once a week read and respond to an article from Kelly Gallagher’s “Article of the Week” (<a href="http://www.kellygallagher.org/article-of-the-week">http://www.kellygallagher.org/article-of-the-week</a>).</p> <p>Rising 10th graders should respond to the first and second Possible Response Questions provided. To practice MLA formatting, students should create a citation for the article using citation guidelines at <a href="https://owl.purdue.edu/owl/research_and_citation/mla_style/mla_formatting_and_style_guide/mla_formatting_and_style_guide.html">https://owl.purdue.edu/owl/research_and_citation/mla_style/mla_formatting_and_style_guide/mla_formatting_and_style_guide.html</a></p> <p>Additional Guidance for MLA: <a href="https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=bjbMfl92b7g&amp;t=1s&amp;disable_polymer=true">https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=bjbMfl92b7g&amp;t=1s&amp;disable_polymer=true</a></p>

<p>Incoming Eleventh</p>	<p>Students entering the 11th grade should be able to take their reading analysis a step further from prior years. They should be able to consider not only <i>why</i> a text was written, but also <i>how</i> it was constructed.</p> <p>At the junior level, students should be able to answer the questions, “<i>What writing moves did the author make?</i>” and “<i>What tools does the author use to push his purpose?</i>” for any given text.</p>	<p>Students entering the 11th grade should have a strong foundation in the writing process, including planning, drafting, and revising an essay, and they should understand that revision and editing do differ. Students should have the basic ability to proofread and correct drafts.</p> <p>Students should be able to write a basic argument.</p> <p>Students should have a proficient and comfortable understanding of MLA format (8<sup>th</sup> edition)..</p>	<p>Students should read a grade-appropriate novel for twenty minutes a day and at least once a week read and respond to an article from Kelly Gallagher’s “Article of the Week” (<a href="http://www.kellygallagher.org/article-of-the-week">http://www.kellygallagher.org/article-of-the-week</a>).</p> <p>Rising 11th graders should respond to the third Possible Response Question provided to practice writing argument. To practice MLA style, students should format their documents in MLA, including a Works Cited page based on the guidelines at <a href="https://owl.purdue.edu/owl/research_and_citation/mla_style/mla_formatting_and_style_guide/mla_formatting_and_style_guide.html">https://owl.purdue.edu/owl/research_and_citation/mla_style/mla_formatting_and_style_guide/mla_formatting_and_style_guide.html</a></p> <p>Additional Guidance for MLA: <a href="https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=bjbMfl92b7g&amp;t=1s&amp;disable_polymer=true">https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=bjbMfl92b7g&amp;t=1s&amp;disable_polymer=true</a></p>
<p>Incoming Twelfth</p>	<p>Twelfth grade is about an application of previously taught skills. Students entering the 12th grade should be able to interpret and describe in detail both the <i>why</i> and <i>how</i> of any text given, especially those texts of a complex nature.</p>	<p>Writing-wise, eleventh grade is a year of compositional variety, where students engage in multiple essay types: compare contrast, cause and effect, analysis, process, and the other rhetorical patterns.</p> <p>Elements of style (syntax, diction, language use, etc.) are also introduced junior year, meaning students entering the 12th grade should be able to write in any rhetorical pattern asked, be able to proficiently use stylistic elements, and respond in a variety of modes to a variety of stimuli when prompted.</p>	<p>Students should read a grade-appropriate novel for twenty minutes a day.</p> <p>Students should also read the article from the <i>New York Times</i> (<a href="https://www.nytimes.com/2020/04/13/smarter-living/why-you-should-start-a-coronavirus-diary.html">https://www.nytimes.com/2020/04/13/smarter-living/why-you-should-start-a-coronavirus-diary.html</a>) and start a journal dealing with current events and including evidence from reading they have done about events and issues. They should focus on documenting events and responding to them.</p>