



Founded in 2007, Great Minds PBC has evolved from an education advocacy start-up to a respected curriculum developer providing the highest-quality materials and professional development to schools and districts nationwide. In pursuit of its goal of raising expectations for every student, Great Minds© enlists educators to write curricula based on proven learning strategies to reward students' natural curiosity, build knowledge, and cultivate lifelong critical-thinking skills. Writing teams collaborate to ensure a consistent structure and vision for learning within and across all grade levels. We are pleased to bring you our newest kindergarten through grade level 8 English language arts (ELA) offering, *Arts & Letters*™.

Arts & Letters students engage with high-quality texts to explore science and social studies topics, literature, and fine art. By studying topics in depth, students build knowledge of the lived experiences of others and learn how a deeper knowledge of those experiences can change the world. The text-based lessons build strong readers, writers, and communicators through effective use

of grammar and vocabulary. All students read and discuss grade-level texts, and the curriculum provides guidance for supporting all learners at key moments in the lessons.

There are four topic-driven modules for each grade level in *Arts & Letters*. The modules last between six and eight weeks and contain approximately 40 lessons. The core of each module is a selection of literary works, informational texts, and visual art. All modules integrate reading, writing, speaking, listening, and language instruction.

Arts & Letters was intentionally designed to be implemented alongside a high-quality, research-based foundational skills program. With strategic placement of supplemental materials, students can successfully achieve the proficiencies of Montana standards while benefiting from the rich texts and knowledge-building of *Arts & Letters*. A detailed alignment analysis between Montana standards and *Arts & Letters* follows.

Reading - Comprehension

Montana Standards	Aligned Components of Arts & Letters
<p>MT.4.RC.1</p> <p>Refer to specific details and examples in a text to explain what it explicitly states and to draw inferences, including those by and about Montana Indigenous Peoples.</p>	<p><i>Arts & Letters</i> partially addresses this standard; the program does not explicitly address referring to specific details and examples in a text to explain what it explicitly states and to draw inferences through texts by and about Montana Indigenous Peoples.</p> <p>Level 4, Module 1, Lessons 3, 4, 5, 27, 28, 29, 30, 31, 32, 33, 35, 36</p> <p>Level 4, Module 2, Lessons 3, 4, 5, 7, 9, 10, 11, 12, 13, 14, 15, 16, 17, 18, 19, 20, 23, 24, 25, 26, 27, 28, 29, 30, 31, 32, 33, 34, 36, 37</p> <p>Level 4, Module 3, Lessons 10, 11, 12, 13, 14, 15, 16, 24, 25, 26, 27, 28, 29, 30, 31, 32, 35, 36, 37</p> <p>Level 4, Module 4, Lessons 14, 27, 28, 29, 37</p>
<p>MT.4.RC.2</p> <p>Summarize a portion of a text.</p>	<p>Level 4, Module 1, Lessons 10, 23, 28, 30</p> <p>Level 4, Module 2, Lessons 3, 4, 9, 10, 12, 14, 16, 17, 23, 26, 27, 30</p> <p>Level 4, Module 3, Lessons 4, 30</p> <p>Level 4, Module 4, Lessons 7, 13, 15, 27</p>
<p>MT.4.RC.3</p> <p>Identify and explain a stated or implied central idea or theme and how it is developed with key details in a text, including those by and about Montana Indigenous Peoples.</p>	<p>Level 4, Module 1, Lessons 5, 13, 32</p> <p>Level 4, Module 2, Lessons 19, 33</p> <p>Level 4, Module 3, Lessons 14, 27, 32</p> <p>Level 4, Module 4, Lessons 20, 29</p>
<p>MT.4.RC.4</p> <p>Explain the connections between elements within a fictional story; explain the relationships between events or ideas within nonfiction texts.</p>	<p>Level 4, Module 1, Lessons 27, 28, 29, 30, 31, 32</p> <p>Level 4, Module 2, Lessons 3, 4, 9, 10, 11, 12, 13, 14, 15, 16, 17, 18, 19, 23, 26, 27, 28, 29, 30, 31, 32, 33</p> <p>Level 4, Module 3, Lessons 12, 13, 25, 26, 27</p> <p>Level 4, Module 4, Lessons 27, 28, 29</p>

Montana Standards	Aligned Components of <i>Arts & Letters</i>
<p>MT.4.RC.5 Identify and explain how figurative language contributes to the meaning of the text.</p>	<p>Level 4, Module 1, Lessons 9, 11, 12, 13 Level 4, Module 2, Lessons 15, 28 Level 4, Module 3, Lessons 2, 5 Level 4, Module 4, Lessons 5, 6, 8, 28, 29</p>
<p>MT.4.RC.6 Describe how an author's structural choices and text features contribute to the overall meaning.</p>	<p>Level 4, Module 1, Lessons 3, 4, 9, 11, 12, 20, 28 Level 4, Module 2, Lessons 6, 18, 24, 25 Level 4, Module 3, Lesson 14 Level 4, Module 4, Lessons 2, 4, 11, 12, 13, 16</p>
<p>MT.4.RC.7 Compare and contrast the point of view from which different texts are written, including those by and about Montana Indigenous Peoples.</p>	<p><i>Arts & Letters</i> partially addresses this standard; the program does not explicitly address comparing and contrasting the point of view from which different texts are written through texts by and about Montana Indigenous Peoples. Level 4, Module 3, Lessons 6, 7, 20, 31 Level 4, Module 4, Lesson 22</p>

Reading - Fluency

Montana Standards	Aligned Components of <i>Arts & Letters</i>
<p>MT.4.RFL.1 Read grade-appropriate texts with sufficient accuracy, rate, and expression to support comprehension.</p>	<p>Level 4, Module 1, Lessons 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 31 Level 4, Module 2, Lessons 2, 3, 4, 5, 25, 28, 38 Level 4, Module 3, Lessons 10, 11, 12, 13, 16 Level 4, Module 4, Lessons 3, 4, 5, 6, 7</p>

Reading - Foundational

Montana Standards	Aligned Components of <i>Arts & Letters</i>
<p>MT.4.RFO.1 Decode multisyllabic words using combined knowledge of letter-sound correspondences, syllabication patterns, and morpheme structures.</p>	<p>Level 4, Module 1, Lessons 2, 3, 4, 7, 8, 9, 10, 11, 12, 13, 16, 18, 19, 23, 24, 31, 32, 35</p> <p>Level 4, Module 2, Lessons 2, 3, 5, 6, 7, 10, 12, 17, 18, 19, 20, 22, 24, 26, 28, 29, 36</p> <p>Level 4, Module 3, Lessons 2, 4, 6, 7, 9, 10, 12, 14, 15, 17, 18, 19, 23, 25, 29, 30, 35</p> <p>Level 4, Module 4, Lessons 3, 4, 5, 7, 8, 12, 15, 18, 19, 23, 27, 28</p>
<p>MT.4.RFO.2 Encode multisyllabic words using combined knowledge of taught letter-sound correspondences, syllabication patterns, and morpheme structures.</p>	<p>Level 4, Module 1, Lessons 16, 35</p> <p>Level 4, Module 2, Lessons 22, 36</p> <p>Level 4, Module 3, Lessons 23, 35</p> <p>Level 4, Module 4, Lessons 25, 39</p>

Research and Inquiry

Montana Standards	Aligned Components of <i>Arts & Letters</i>
<p>MT.4.RI.1 Conduct short research projects that build knowledge of different aspects of a topic, referencing multiple relevant sources.</p>	<p>Level 4, Module 1, Lessons 12, 13, 14, 17, 18, 25, 26, 27, 32, 33, 34, 36, 37, 38, 39</p> <p>Level 4, Module 3, Lessons 6, 10, 11, 12, 13, 15, 16, 17, 18, 19, 20, 30, 31, 32, 36, 37, 38, 39</p> <p>Level 4, Module 4, Lessons 8, 9, 10, 11, 12, 13, 14, 15, 16, 17, 26, 27, 28, 29, 30, 31, 32, 33, 34, 35, 36</p>

<p>MT.4.RI.2</p> <p>Gather and take notes on relevant information from multiple sources; organize information into logical categories.</p>	<p>Level 4, Module 1, Lessons 2, 3, 4, 7, 8, 9, 10, 12, 13, 17, 22, 23, 24, 25, 26, 27, 28, 29, 32, 33, 34, 36, 37, 38, 39</p> <p>Level 4, Module 2, Lessons 2, 3, 4, 9, 10, 11, 12, 13, 14, 16, 18, 19, 23, 25, 26, 27, 28, 29, 30, 31, 32, 33</p> <p>Level 4, Module 3, Lessons 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, 9, 10, 11, 12, 13, 14, 15, 16, 17, 18, 19, 20, 24, 25, 26, 27, 29, 30, 31, 32, 36, 37</p> <p>Level 4, Module 4, Lessons 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 8, 9, 10, 11, 12, 13, 14, 15, 16, 17, 18, 19, 20, 23, 26, 27, 28, 29, 30, 32, 34</p>
<p>MT.4.RI.3</p> <p>Conduct short research projects, using grade-appropriate fiction and nonfiction sources from diverse cultural perspectives, acknowledging the role of story and oral tradition in the histories, values, and beliefs of Montana Indigenous Peoples.</p>	<p><i>Arts & Letters</i> partially addresses this standard; the program does not explicitly address acknowledging the role of story and oral tradition in the histories, values, and beliefs of Montana Indigenous Peoples.</p> <p>Level 4, Module 1, Lessons 12, 13, 14, 17, 18, 25, 26, 27, 32, 33, 34, 36, 37, 38, 39</p> <p>Level 4, Module 3, Lessons 6, 10, 11, 12, 13, 15, 16, 17, 18, 19, 20, 30, 31, 32, 36, 37, 38, 39</p> <p>Level 4, Module 4, Lessons 8, 9, 10, 11, 12, 13, 14, 15, 16, 17, 26, 27, 28, 29, 30, 31, 32, 33, 34, 35, 36</p>

Reading - Vocabulary

<p style="text-align: center;">Montana Standards</p>	<p style="text-align: center;">Aligned Components of <i>Arts & Letters</i></p>
<p>MT.4.RV.1</p> <p>Develop and apply expanding word knowledge and morphological awareness through shared reading, independent reading, and classroom conversation.</p>	<p>Level 4, Module 1, Lessons 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, 9, 10, 12, 13, 14, 15, 16, 17, 18, 19, 20, 21, 22, 23, 24, 25, 26, 27, 28, 29, 31, 32, 33, 34, 35, 36, 37, 38, 39</p> <p>Level 4, Module 2, Lessons 2, 5, 6, 7, 9, 10, 11, 12, 13, 14, 15, 18, 19, 20, 22, 23, 24, 25, 26, 28, 29, 30, 31, 32, 33, 34, 35, 36, 37, 38</p> <p>Level 4, Module 3, Lessons 2, 3, 6, 7, 8, 9, 10, 11, 12, 13, 14, 15, 16, 17, 18, 19, 20, 21, 23, 26, 27, 28, 30, 31, 32, 33, 35, 36, 37, 38, 39</p> <p>Level 4, Module 4, Lessons 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, 8, 9, 10, 12, 16, 18, 20, 21, 23, 25, 28, 29, 30, 32, 33, 37, 39</p>

Montana Standards	Aligned Components of <i>Arts & Letters</i>
<p>MT.4.RV.2</p> <p>Determine the meaning of general academic and domain-specific words and phrases in a text, including those with cultural significance to Montana Indigenous Peoples.</p>	<p><i>Arts & Letters</i> partially addresses this standard; the program does not explicitly address determining the meaning of general academic and domain-specific words and phrases in a text with cultural significance to Montana Indigenous Peoples.</p> <p>Level 4, Module 1, Lessons 7, 9, 13, 24</p> <p>Level 4, Module 2, Lessons 2, 6</p> <p>Level 4, Module 3, Lessons 2, 5, 9, 17, 30</p> <p>Level 4, Module 4, Lessons 3, 4, 5, 6, 8, 9, 12, 37</p>

Speaking and Listening

Montana Standards	Aligned Components of <i>Arts & Letters</i>
<p>MT.4.SL.1</p> <p>Engage in collaborative discussions with a variety of partners on topics and texts, clearly expressing ideas and building on the ideas of others.</p>	<p>Level 4, Module 1, Lessons 2, 3, 5, 8, 9, 10, 11, 12, 13, 17, 19, 20, 21, 22, 23, 24, 31, 32, 33, 36</p> <p>Level 4, Module 2, Lessons 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 8, 10, 12, 13, 14, 16, 17, 18, 19, 20, 23, 24, 25, 26, 27, 28, 29, 30, 31, 32, 33, 34, 37</p> <p>Level 4, Module 3, Lessons 4, 5, 6, 7, 9, 10, 11, 12, 14, 15, 16, 17, 18, 19, 21, 24, 25, 27, 28, 29, 30, 31, 32, 33, 36, 38</p> <p>Level 4, Module 4, Lessons 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, 9, 11, 12, 14, 15, 16, 19, 20, 21, 22, 23, 26, 27, 28, 29, 30, 31, 32, 33, 37</p>
<p>MT.4.SL.2</p> <p>Paraphrase portions of a text read aloud or information presented through a variety of media formats.</p>	<p>Level 4, Module 1, Lesson 9</p> <p>Level 4, Module 2, Lessons 12, 14, 20, 23</p> <p>Level 4, Module 3, Lessons 2, 4, 9, 15, 18, 30</p> <p>Level 4, Module 4, Lessons 6, 13, 17, 21, 22, 27, 30</p>

<p>MT.4.SL.3</p> <p>Report on a topic or text, tell a story, or recount an experience in an organized manner using descriptive details to support main ideas or themes.</p>	<p>Level 4, Module 1, Lessons 5, 13, 14, 17, 18, 20, 21, 22, 23, 25, 27, 28, 30, 32, 33, 36, 37, 38</p> <p>Level 4, Module 2, Lessons 4, 10, 12, 16, 18, 19, 20, 24, 33, 34, 37</p> <p>Level 4, Module 3, Lessons 4, 6, 8, 11, 13, 14, 16, 18, 19, 20, 21, 27, 28, 32, 36, 37, 39</p> <p>Level 4, Module 4, Lessons 7, 10, 20, 21, 29, 32, 35, 36, 37</p>
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Writing

<p style="text-align: center;">Montana Standards</p>	<p style="text-align: center;">Aligned Components of <i>Arts & Letters</i></p>
<p>MT.4.W.1</p> <p>Write opinion pieces with a clear organizational structure, including an introduction, reasons supported by facts and details, linking words and phrases, and a conclusion.</p>	<p>Level 4, Module 3, Lessons 6, 7, 10, 11, 12, 13, 14, 15, 16, 17, 18, 19, 20, 21, 30, 31, 32, 36, 37, 38, 39</p>
<p>MT.4.W.2</p> <p>Write informative pieces with a clear organizational structure, including an introduction and conclusion, linking facts, definitions, and details using transition words.</p>	<p>Level 4, Module 1, Lessons 11, 12, 13, 14, 15, 17, 18, 19, 20, 21, 25, 26, 27, 28, 29, 32, 33, 34, 36, 37, 38, 39</p>
<p>MT.4.W.3</p> <p>Write narratives about real or imagined experiences or events using dialogue, descriptive details, and clear sequences.</p>	<p>Level 4, Module 2, Lessons 9, 10, 11, 12, 13, 14, 15, 18, 19, 20, 23, 24, 25, 26, 30, 31, 32, 33, 35, 37, 38</p>
<p>MT.4.W.4</p> <p>Develop and strengthen writing by using a writing process including planning, drafting, revising, implementing feedback, and editing.</p>	<p>Level 4, Module 1, Lessons 11, 12, 13, 14, 15, 17, 18, 19, 25, 26, 27, 28, 29, 32, 33, 34, 36, 37, 38, 39</p> <p>Level 4, Module 2, Lessons 10, 11, 12, 13, 14, 15, 18, 19, 20, 23, 24, 25, 26, 29, 30, 31, 32, 33, 35, 37, 38</p> <p>Level 4, Module 3, Lessons 6, 7, 10, 11, 12, 13, 14, 15, 16, 17, 18, 19, 20, 21, 30, 31, 32, 36, 37, 38, 39</p> <p>Level 4, Module 4, Lessons 26, 27, 28, 29, 30, 31, 32, 33, 34</p>

Montana Standards	Aligned Components of <i>Arts & Letters</i>
<p>MT.4.W.5 Write a paragraph using simple, compound, and complex sentences.</p>	<p>Level 4, Module 1, Lessons 14, 15, 17, 18, 19, 27, 28, 29, 37, 38, 39 Level 4, Module 2, Lessons 13, 14, 15, 18, 19, 23, 24, 26, 33, 35, 37, 38 Level 4, Module 3, Lessons 12, 13, 14, 19, 20, 21, 37, 38, 39 Level 4, Module 4, Lessons 32, 33 <i>Arts & Letters</i> addresses writing a paragraph that uses complex sentences in grade level 3. Level 3, Module 1, Lessons 6, 7, 11, 13, 16, 17, 28, 29, 33, 37, 38 Level 3, Module 2, Lessons 4, 6, 7, 11, 14, 20, 21, 22, 26, 27, 28, 29, 32, 33, 37 Level 3, Module 3, Lessons 6, 10, 12, 15, 20, 22, 24, 26, 27, 33, 37, 38 Level 3, Module 4, Lessons 6, 8, 11, 14, 18, 25, 29, 33</p>
<p>MT.4.W.6 Demonstrate grade-level appropriate command of the conventions of standard English grammar, capitalization, punctuation, and spelling when writing.</p>	<p>Level 4, Module 1, Lessons 6, 14, 15, 17, 18, 19, 21, 22, 23, 25, 27, 28, 29, 33, 37, 38, 39 Level 4, Module 2, Lessons 7, 13, 14, 15, 18, 20, 24, 25, 26, 33, 34, 35, 37, 38 Level 4, Module 3, Lessons 8, 10, 12, 13, 14, 16, 19, 20, 21, 28, 33, 37, 38, 39 Level 4, Module 4, Lessons 6, 7, 10, 16, 21, 23, 27, 28, 29, 30, 33</p>

Literary Practice

Montana Standards	Aligned Components of <i>Arts & Letters</i>
<p>MT.LP.1</p> <p>Literacy practice standard 1 is to practice broad literacy engagement. Literate students routinely read a broad range of literary and informational texts for a variety of purposes.</p>	<p>Level 4, Module 1, Lessons 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, 8, 9, 10, 11, 12, 13, 14, 17, 18, 19, 20, 21, 22, 23, 24, 25, 26, 27, 28, 29, 30, 31, 32, 33</p> <p>Level 4, Module 2, Lessons 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, 8, 9, 10, 11, 12, 13, 14, 15, 16, 17, 18, 19, 20, 23, 24, 25, 26, 27, 28, 29, 30, 31, 32, 33, 34</p> <p>Level 4, Module 3, Lessons 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, 8, 9, 10, 11, 12, 13, 14, 15, 16, 17, 18, 19, 20, 21, 24, 25, 26, 27, 28, 29, 30, 31, 32, 33</p> <p>Level 4, Module 4, Lessons 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, 8, 9, 10, 11, 12, 13, 14, 15, 16, 17, 18, 19, 20, 21, 22, 23, 26, 27, 28, 29, 30</p>
<p>MT.LP.2</p> <p>Literacy practice standard 2 is to practice collaboration. Literate students collaborate with others using active communication skills.</p>	<p>Level 4, Module 1, Lessons 2, 3, 5, 8, 9, 10, 11, 12, 13, 17, 19, 20, 21, 22, 23, 24, 31, 32, 33, 36</p> <p>Level 4, Module 2, Lessons 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 8, 10, 12, 13, 14, 16, 17, 18, 19, 20, 23, 24, 25, 26, 27, 28, 29, 30, 31, 32, 33, 34, 37</p> <p>Level 4, Module 3, Lessons 4, 5, 6, 7, 9, 10, 11, 12, 14, 15, 16, 17, 18, 19, 21, 24, 25, 27, 28, 29, 30, 31, 32, 33, 36, 38</p> <p>Level 4, Module 4, Lessons 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, 9, 11, 12, 14, 15, 16, 19, 20, 21, 22, 23, 26, 27, 28, 29, 30, 31, 32, 33, 37</p>
<p>MT.LP.3</p> <p>Literacy practice standard 3 is to practice creativity. Literate students engage creatively to express their thoughts, deepen their understanding, and make connections.</p>	<p>Level 4, Module 1, Lesson 18</p> <p>Level 4, Module 2, Lessons 9, 10, 11, 12, 13, 14, 15, 18, 19, 20, 23, 24, 25, 26, 30, 31, 32, 33, 35, 37, 38</p> <p>Level 4, Module 3, Lesson 3</p> <p>Level 4, Module 4, Lessons 4, 6, 31, 34, 35, 36</p>
<p>MT.LP.4</p> <p>Literacy practice standard 4 is to practice critical thinking. Literate students analyze, reason, problem-solve, and make decisions.</p>	<p>Level 4, Module 1, Lessons 4, 5, 9, 11, 12, 13, 19, 20, 21, 24, 29, 31, 32, 36</p> <p>Level 4, Module 2, Lessons 5, 6, 10, 11, 15, 18, 19, 25, 28, 32, 33, 37</p> <p>Level 4, Module 3, Lessons 5, 6, 7, 12, 13, 14, 16, 19, 20, 25, 26, 27, 31, 32, 36</p> <p>Level 4, Module 4, Lessons 5, 6, 9, 14, 17, 19, 20, 28, 29, 31, 37</p>

Montana Standards	Aligned Components of <i>Arts & Letters</i>
<p>MT.LP.5</p> <p>Literacy practice standard 5 is to practice cultural considerations. Literate students acknowledge and respect diverse cultural perspectives, including those of Montana Indigenous Peoples.</p>	<p><i>Arts & Letters</i> addresses this standard using texts by and about Montana Indigenous Peoples in grade level 5, Module 1.</p> <p>Level 4, Module 1, Lessons 2, 3, 5, 8, 9, 10, 11, 12, 13, 17, 19, 20, 21, 22, 23, 24, 31, 32, 33, 36</p> <p>Level 4, Module 2, Lessons 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 8, 10, 12, 13, 14, 16, 17, 18, 19, 20, 23, 24, 25, 26, 27, 28, 29, 30, 31, 32, 33, 34, 37</p> <p>Level 4, Module 3, Lessons 4, 5, 6, 7, 9, 10, 11, 12, 14, 15, 16, 17, 18, 19, 21, 24, 25, 27, 28, 29, 30, 31, 32, 33, 36, 38</p> <p>Level 4, Module 4, Lessons 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, 9, 11, 12, 14, 15, 16, 19, 20, 21, 22, 23, 26, 27, 28, 29, 30, 31, 32, 33, 37</p>
<p>MT.LP.6</p> <p>Literacy practice standard 6 is to practice effective communication. Literate students routinely express their ideas through speaking and writing coherently in a broad range of literary and informational genres.</p>	<p>Level 4, Module 1, Lessons 5, 13, 20, 32</p> <p>Level 4, Module 2, Lessons 19, 33</p> <p>Level 4, Module 3, Lessons 6, 7, 10, 11, 12, 13, 14, 15, 16, 17, 18, 19, 20, 21, 27, 30, 31, 32, 36, 37, 38, 39</p> <p>Level 4, Module 4, Lessons 20, 29, 36</p>
<p>MT.LP.7</p> <p>Literacy practice standard 7 is to practice strategic technology use. Literate students effectively and responsibly use technology to access and evaluate information to express ideas.</p>	<p>Level 4, Module 4, Lessons 15, 29</p>
<p>MT.LP.8</p> <p>Literacy practice standard 8 is to practice student agency. Literate students take an active role in their learning, using guidance and feedback to connect their skills and knowledge to practical applications, college readiness, and career development.</p>	<p>Level 4, Module 1, Lessons 5, 13, 14, 17, 18, 19, 20, 23, 25, 27, 28, 30, 32, 33, 36, 37, 38</p> <p>Level 4, Module 2, Lessons 4, 7, 10, 12, 16, 19, 20, 23, 26, 32, 33, 34, 38</p> <p>Level 4, Module 3, Lessons 4, 6, 8, 11, 13, 14, 16, 18, 19, 20, 21, 27, 28, 30, 32, 37, 38</p> <p>Level 4, Module 4, Lessons 7, 10, 20, 21, 29, 33, 35, 36</p>