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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 Nebraska standards while benefiting from the rich texts and knowledge-building of *Arts & Letters*. A detailed alignment analysis between Nebraska standards and *Arts & Letters* follows.

## Reading Prose and Poetry

**Central Ideas and Details** | Citing relevant and thorough textual evidence to support ideas, evaluate the development of themes or central ideas in grade-level literary texts.

Nebraska Standards	Aligned Components of <i>Arts &amp; Letters</i>
<p><b>8.RP.1</b></p> <p>Determine two or more implied or explicit themes of a text and how they develop over the course of a literary text, including their relationship to supporting ideas.</p>	<p>Level 8, Module 1, Lessons 5, 13, 26, 31, 36</p> <p>Level 8, Module 2, Lessons 14, 36</p> <p>Level 8, Module 4, Lessons 11, 26, 39</p>
<p><b>8.RP.2</b></p> <p>Analyze how particular events, lines of dialogue, or descriptive details develop the plot, reveal aspects of characters, or create meaning.</p>	<p>Level 8, Module 1, Lessons 4, 9, 10, 11, 17, 18, 19, 20, 21, 24, 25, 29, 30, 32</p> <p>Level 8, Module 2, Lesson 12</p> <p>Level 8, Module 4, Lessons 3, 5, 6, 16, 19, 21, 24, 25, 26</p>

## Reading Prose and Poetry

**Author's Craft** | Citing relevant and thorough evidence to support ideas, evaluate the development and interaction of individuals, ideas, and events in grade-level literary and informational text.

Nebraska Standards	Aligned Components of <i>Arts &amp; Letters</i>
<p><b>8.RP.3</b></p> <p>Analyze how an author establishes, conveys, and contrasts the points of view of the audience and the characters to create effects such as suspense, humor, or dramatic irony in a literary text.</p>	<p>Level 8, Module 1, Lesson 19</p> <p>Level 8, Module 3, Lessons 24, 25</p> <p>Level 8, Module 4, Lessons 4, 10, 20, 23</p>
<p><b>8.RP.4</b></p> <p>Compare and contrast the structure of two or more literary texts and how their structures contribute to style and meaning.</p>	<p>Level 8, Module 1, Lessons 12, 14, 21, 22, 32</p> <p>Level 8, Module 2, Lesson 13</p>

## Reading Prose and Poetry

Knowledge and Ideas | Citing relevant and thorough textual evidence to support ideas, evaluate how an author’s perspective or use of point of view shapes the style and meaning of grade-level literary text.

Nebraska Standards	Aligned Components of <i>Arts &amp; Letters</i>
<p><b>8.RP.5</b></p> <p>Analyze how a modern work of fiction draws on themes, patterns of events, or character types from myths, traditional stories, or religious works.</p>	<p>Level 8, Module 4, Lessons 7, 13, 17</p>
<p><b>8.RP.6</b></p> <p>Synthesize the implied or stated theme(s) in a literary text to draw conclusions and deepen understanding of self and others.</p>	<p>Level 8, Module 1, Lessons 4, 5, 12, 13, 19, 22, 25, 26, 30, 31, 36</p> <p>Level 8, Module 2, Lessons 13, 14, 36</p> <p>Level 8, Module 4, Lessons 4, 6, 10, 11, 17, 21, 25, 26</p>
<p><b>8.RP.7</b></p> <p>Analyze regional, national, international, and/or multicultural perspectives to make connections among and distinctions between characters or ideas within and across a range of literary texts.</p>	<p>Level 8, Module 1, Lessons 19, 21, 32</p> <p>Level 8, Module 2, Lesson 12</p> <p>Level 8, Module 4, Lessons 6, 16, 23, 25, 31</p>

## Reading Prose and Poetry

Range of Reading and Level of Text Complexity | Read and comprehend complex, grade-level literary text independently and proficiently.

Nebraska Standards	Aligned Components of <i>Arts &amp; Letters</i>
<p><b>8.RP.8</b></p> <p>Read and comprehend a wide range of literary texts of appropriate complexity at the high end of the 6-8 grade band independently and proficiently.</p>	<p>Level 8, Module 1, Lessons 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 8, 9, 10, 11, 12, 13, 14, 16, 17, 18, 19, 20, 21, 22, 23, 24, 25, 26, 27, 28, 29, 30, 31, 32, 33, 35, 36</p> <p>Level 8, Module 2, Lessons 11, 12, 13, 14, 15, 16, 32, 36</p> <p>Level 8, Module 4, Lessons 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, 8, 9, 10, 11, 12, 13, 15, 16, 17, 19, 20, 21, 22, 23, 24, 25, 26, 27, 28, 32, 33, 35, 39</p>

### Reading Informational Text

Central Ideas and Details | Citing relevant and thorough textual evidence to support ideas, evaluate the development of themes or central ideas in grade-level informational text.

Nebraska Standards	Aligned Components of <i>Arts &amp; Letters</i>
<p><b>8.RI.1</b></p> <p>Determine two or more implied or explicit central ideas and how they develop over the course of an informational text, including their relationship to supporting ideas.</p>	<p>Level 8, Module 2, Lessons 8, 24, 36</p> <p>Level 8, Module 3, Lessons 11, 16, 25, 36</p> <p>Level 8, Module 4, Lesson 31</p>
<p><b>8.RI.2</b></p> <p>Analyze how particular events, interactions between individuals, or key facts and details contribute to meaning.</p>	<p>Level 8, Module 1, Lesson 32</p> <p>Level 8, Module 2, Lessons 4, 6, 10, 19, 24, 26, 32</p> <p>Level 8, Module 3, Lessons 3, 6, 7, 8, 9, 11, 14, 20, 21, 23, 27, 30, 31</p>

### Reading Informational Text

Author's Craft | Citing relevant and thorough evidence to support ideas, evaluate the development and interaction of individuals, ideas, and events in grade-level informational text.

Nebraska Standards	Aligned Components of <i>Arts &amp; Letters</i>
<p><b>8.RI.3</b></p> <p>Analyze how an author establishes, conveys, and contrasts perspective or purpose in a text and how the author acknowledges and responds to conflicting evidence or viewpoints.</p>	<p>Level 8, Module 2, Lessons 7, 21, 22, 23, 24, 25, 30</p> <p>Level 8, Module 3, Lessons 13, 31</p> <p>Level 8, Module 4, Lesson 29</p>
<p><b>8.RI.4</b></p> <p>Compare and contrast the structure of a specific paragraph in an informational text, including the role of particular sentences in developing and refining a key concept.</p>	<p>Level 8, Module 2, Lessons 3, 29, 30, 33</p> <p>Level 8, Module 3, Lessons 5, 15, 31</p>

## Reading Informational Text

Knowledge and Ideas | Citing relevant and thorough textual evidence to support ideas, evaluate how an author’s perspective or use of point of view shapes the style and meaning of grade-level informational text.

Nebraska Standards	Aligned Components of <i>Arts &amp; Letters</i>
<p><b>8.RI.5</b></p> <p>Analyze how two or more texts provide conflicting information on the same topic, including where the texts disagree on matters of evidence or interpretation.</p>	<p>Level 8, Module 2, Lessons 5, 25, 27, 32</p> <p>Level 8, Module 3, Lesson 33</p>
<p><b>8.RI.6</b></p> <p>Analyze the development of an argument and evaluate the effectiveness of the type(s) of reasoning used to support the argument.</p>	<p>Level 8, Module 3, Lessons 14, 15, 28</p>
<p><b>8.RI.7</b></p> <p>Analyze regional, national, international, and/or multicultural perspectives to make connections among and distinctions between individuals or ideas within and across a range of informational texts.</p>	<p>Level 8, Module 2, Lessons 6, 7, 10, 25</p> <p>Level 8, Module 3, Lessons 14, 21, 23, 30</p>

## Reading Informational Text

Range of Reading and Level of Text Complexity | Read and comprehend complex, grade-level informational text independently and proficiently.

Nebraska Standards	Aligned Components of <i>Arts &amp; Letters</i>
<p><b>8.RI.8</b></p> <p>Read and comprehend a wide range of informational texts of appropriate complexity at the high end of the 6-8 grade band independently and proficiently.</p>	<p>Level 8, Module 1, Lessons 3, 7, 23, 32</p> <p>Level 8, Module 2, Lessons 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, 8, 9, 10, 11, 12, 16, 18, 19, 20, 21, 22, 23, 24, 25, 26, 27, 28, 29, 30, 31, 32, 33, 35, 36, 37</p> <p>Level 8, Module 3, Lessons 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, 8, 9, 10, 11, 12, 13, 14, 15, 16, 17, 19, 20, 21, 22, 23, 24, 25, 26, 27, 28, 29, 30, 31, 32, 33, 35, 36</p> <p>Level 8, Module 4, Lessons 7, 9, 11, 12, 13, 28, 29, 30, 31, 32, 39</p>

**Vocabulary**

**Acquisition and Use | Build and use a range of conversational, academic, and discipline-specific grade-level vocabulary and apply to reading, writing, speaking, and listening.**

<b>Nebraska Standards</b>	<b>Aligned Components of Arts &amp; Letters</b>
<p><b>8.V.1</b></p> <p>Integrate grade-level academic vocabulary appropriately for a variety of tasks and purposes.</p>	<p>Level 8, Module 1, Lessons 3, 7, 9, 10, 14, 16, 25, 35</p> <p>Level 8, Module 2, Lessons 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, 18, 20, 22, 27, 28, 35</p> <p>Level 8, Module 3, Lessons 2, 3, 7, 9, 11, 12, 13, 17, 19, 23, 29, 35</p> <p>Level 8, Module 4, Lessons 2, 3, 4, 6, 13, 15, 35</p>
<p><b>8.V.1a</b></p> <p>Use context clues (e.g., the overall meaning of a sentence or paragraph; a word's position or function in a sentence) to determine the meanings of words and phrases.</p>	<p>Level 8, Module 1, Lessons 3, 7, 10, 25</p> <p>Level 8, Module 2, Lessons 3, 22, 27</p> <p>Level 8, Module 3, Lessons 2, 7, 11, 17, 29</p> <p>Level 8, Module 4, Lessons 2, 3</p>
<p><b>8.V.1b</b></p> <p>Use commonly occurring Greek and Latin affixes and roots to determine the meanings of words (e.g., recede, precede).</p>	<p>Level 8, Module 1, Lessons 3, 9, 16, 35</p> <p>Level 8, Module 2, Lessons 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, 18, 27, 28, 35</p> <p>Level 8, Module 3, Lessons 3, 7, 9, 12, 17, 19, 23, 29, 35</p> <p>Level 8, Module 4, Lessons 4, 6, 13, 15, 35</p>
<p><b>8.V.1c</b></p> <p>Consult general and specialized reference materials to determine or clarify the precise meanings, pronunciations, or parts of speech of words.</p>	<p>Level 8, Module 1, Lesson 14</p> <p>Level 8, Module 2, Lesson 20</p> <p>Level 8, Module 3, Lessons 13, 29</p> <p>Level 8, Module 4, Lesson 2</p>

**Vocabulary**

**Context and Connotation** | Determine or clarify the meaning of unknown and multiple-meaning words and phrases, choosing flexibly from a range of strategies.

Nebraska Standards	Aligned Components of <i>Arts &amp; Letters</i>
<p><b>8.V.2</b> Interpret an author's use of figurative, connotative, and technical language in grade-level literary and informational text.</p>	<p>Level 8, Module 1, Lessons 4, 25 Level 8, Module 2, Lessons 1, 3, 13, 22, 28 Level 8, Module 3, Lessons 6, 11, 20, 22, 23, 32 Level 8, Module 4, Lessons 6, 16, 25, 29</p>
<p><b>8.V.2a</b> Interpret figures of speech (e.g., verbal irony, puns) in context.</p>	<p>Level 8, Module 1, Lessons 4, 25 Level 8, Module 2, Lessons 13, 22 Level 8, Module 3, Lessons 6, 11 Level 8, Module 4, Lessons 16, 25</p>
<p><b>8.V.2b</b> Determine the relationship between particular words to better understand each of the words.</p>	<p>Level 8, Module 2, Lessons 1, 3, 22, 28 Level 8, Module 3, Lessons 20, 23</p>
<p><b>8.V.2c</b> Distinguish between the connotations of words with similar denotations (e.g., willful, resolute).</p>	<p>Level 8, Module 3, Lessons 20, 22, 32 Level 8, Module 4, Lessons 6, 29</p>

**Writing**

**Production of Writing** | Use a recursive writing process to produce clear and coherent writing appropriate to the discipline, audience, and/or context.

Nebraska Standards	Aligned Components of <i>Arts &amp; Letters</i>
<p><b>8.W.1</b></p> <p>Create grammatically correct multi-paragraph compositions with varied sentence structures.</p>	<p>Level 8, Module 1, Lessons 6, 12, 14, 19, 26, 27, 29, 30, 37, 38, 39</p> <p>Level 8, Module 2, Lessons 9, 11, 15, 16, 19, 22, 25, 28, 30, 31, 32, 33, 38, 39</p> <p>Level 8, Module 3, Lessons 12, 14, 16, 17, 20, 22, 23, 26, 28, 32, 33, 38, 39</p> <p>Level 8, Module 4, Lessons 7, 27, 32</p>
<p><b>8.W.1a</b></p> <p>Apply knowledge of rules for capitalization.</p>	<p>Level 8, Module 1, Lessons 19, 29, 30, 37, 38</p> <p>Level 8, Module 2, Lessons 16, 30, 31, 38</p> <p>Level 8, Module 3, Lessons 17, 20, 32, 38</p> <p>Level 8, Module 4, Lesson 32</p>
<p><b>8.W.1b</b></p> <p>Use punctuation (comma, ellipsis, dashes) to indicate a pause or break and an ellipsis to indicate an omission.</p>	<p>Level 8, Module 1, Lessons 12, 19, 26, 29, 30, 37, 38, 39</p> <p>Level 8, Module 2, Lessons 11, 16, 19, 22, 30, 31, 33, 38, 39</p> <p>Level 8, Module 3, Lessons 17, 20, 22, 23, 32, 33, 38, 39</p>
<p><b>8.W.1c</b></p> <p>Explain the function of and use different types of verbals in sentences (e.g., gerunds, participles, infinitives).</p>	<p>Level 8, Module 1, Lessons 6, 14, 27</p> <p>Level 8, Module 4, Lesson 27</p>
<p><b>8.W.1d</b></p> <p>Distinguish between and use active and passive voice, formal and informal tone, and types of grammatical mood (e.g., indicative, subjunctive, conditional, imperative).</p>	<p>Level 8, Module 2, Lessons 9, 15, 19, 25, 28, 30, 31, 32, 33, 38, 39</p> <p>Level 8, Module 3, Lessons 12, 14, 16, 17, 26, 28, 33</p> <p>Level 8, Module 4, Lessons 7, 32</p> <p><i>Arts &amp; Letters</i> addresses tone in grade level 6.</p> <p>Level 6, Module 1, Lesson 33</p> <p>Level 6, Module 2, Lessons 11, 19, 20, 37, 38, 39</p>

Nebraska Standards	Aligned Components of <i>Arts &amp; Letters</i>
<p><b>8.W.1e</b> Use appropriate parallel structure in words, phrases, and clauses.</p>	<p><i>Arts &amp; Letters</i> does not address this standard.</p>
<p><b>8.W.1f</b> Identify and revise fragment and run-on sentences and inappropriate shifts in verb tense, number, voice, and mood.</p>	<p><i>Arts &amp; Letters</i> partially addresses this standard; the program does not explicitly address inappropriate shifts in verb number.</p> <p>Level 8, Module 4, Lessons 7, 32</p> <p><i>Arts &amp; Letters</i> addresses run-ons and fragments in grade level 4.</p> <p>Level 4, Module 1, Lessons 6, 14, 15, 17, 18, 19, 21, 23, 25, 27, 28, 29, 33, 37, 38, 39</p> <p>Level 4, Module 2, Lessons 7, 20, 34</p> <p>Level 4, Module 3, Lessons 8, 16, 21, 28, 33</p> <p>Level 4, Module 4, Lessons 7, 10, 16, 21, 30</p> <p><i>Arts &amp; Letters</i> addresses shifts in verb tenses in grade level 5.</p> <p>Level 5, Module 3, Lesson 23</p>
<p><b>8.W.2</b> Use a recursive writing process to develop, strengthen, and produce writing appropriate to the audience, purpose, and discipline.</p>	<p>Level 8, Module 1, Lessons 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, 36, 37, 38, 39</p> <p>Level 8, Module 2, Lessons 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, 8, 9, 10, 11, 12, 13, 14, 15, 16, 19, 20, 21, 22, 23, 24, 25, 26, 27, 28, 29, 30, 31, 32, 33, 36, 37, 38, 39</p> <p>Level 8, Module 3, Lessons 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, 8, 9, 10, 11, 12, 13, 14, 15, 16, 17, 20, 21, 22, 23, 24, 25, 26, 27, 28, 29, 30, 31, 32, 33, 36, 37, 38, 39</p> <p>Level 8, Module 4, Lessons 2, 3, 4, 6, 7, 8, 9, 10, 11, 12, 13, 16, 17, 18, 20, 21, 22, 23, 24, 25, 26, 27, 28, 29, 30, 31, 32, 33, 37, 39</p>

<p><b>8.W.2a</b></p> <p>Identify and use resources and inquiry tools to plan, organize, and draft writing.</p>	<p>Level 8, Module 1, Lessons 18, 19, 27, 28, 29, 30, 33, 36, 37</p> <p>Level 8, Module 2, Lessons 10, 12, 14, 15, 16, 27, 28, 29, 30, 31, 37, 38</p> <p>Level 8, Module 3, Lessons 10, 11, 12, 13, 14, 15, 17, 20, 26, 27, 28, 30, 31, 32, 37, 38</p> <p>Level 8, Module 4, Lessons 20, 21, 22, 23, 24, 25, 26, 27, 28, 29, 31, 32</p>
<p><b>8.W.2b</b></p> <p>Adapt writing processes to sustain engagement in short and long-term writing tasks of increasing length and complexity.</p>	<p>Level 8, Module 1, Lessons 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, 36, 37, 38, 39</p> <p>Level 8, Module 2, Lessons 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, 8, 9, 10, 11, 12, 13, 14, 15, 16, 19, 20, 21, 22, 23, 24, 25, 26, 27, 28, 29, 30, 31, 32, 33, 36, 37, 38, 39</p> <p>Level 8, Module 3, Lessons 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, 8, 9, 10, 11, 12, 13, 14, 15, 16, 17, 20, 21, 22, 23, 24, 25, 26, 27, 28, 29, 30, 31, 32, 33, 36, 37, 38, 39</p> <p>Level 8, Module 4, Lessons 2, 3, 4, 6, 7, 8, 9, 10, 11, 12, 13, 16, 17, 18, 20, 21, 23, 24, 25, 26, 27, 29, 30, 31, 32, 33, 37, 39</p>
<p><b>8.W.2c</b></p> <p>Improve and clarify the content, structure, and organization of writing by revising, considering feedback from adults and peers.</p>	<p>Level 8, Module 1, Lessons 18, 20, 27, 28, 31, 32, 33, 36, 38, 39</p> <p>Level 8, Module 2, Lessons 8, 9, 10, 11, 12, 14, 15, 16, 19, 25, 26, 27, 28, 29, 32, 33, 36, 37, 38, 39</p> <p>Level 8, Module 3, Lessons 8, 9, 10, 11, 12, 13, 14, 15, 16, 21, 22, 23, 24, 25, 26, 27, 28, 30, 31, 32, 33, 36, 37, 38, 39</p> <p>Level 8, Module 4, Lessons 33, 37</p>
<p><b>8.W.2d</b></p> <p>Improve and clarify writing by editing and proofreading, considering feedback from adults and peers.</p>	<p>Level 8, Module 1, Lessons 18, 20, 27, 28, 31, 32, 33, 36, 38, 39</p> <p>Level 8, Module 2, Lessons 8, 9, 10, 11, 12, 14, 15, 16, 19, 25, 26, 27, 28, 29, 32, 33, 36, 37, 38, 39</p> <p>Level 8, Module 3, Lessons 8, 9, 10, 11, 12, 13, 14, 15, 16, 21, 22, 23, 24, 25, 26, 27, 28, 30, 31, 32, 33, 36, 37, 38, 39</p> <p>Level 8, Module 4, Lessons 33, 37</p>

<p><b>8.W.2e</b></p> <p>Use appropriate print and digital/multimedia tools to produce, enhance, and/or publish writing individually or in collaboration with peers.</p>	<p>Level 8, Module 1, Lessons 18, 19, 20, 27, 28, 29, 30, 31, 33, 36, 37, 38</p> <p>Level 8, Module 2, Lessons 10, 12, 14, 15, 16, 19, 25, 27, 28, 29, 30, 31, 32, 33, 37, 38, 39</p> <p>Level 8, Module 3, Lessons 10, 11, 12, 13, 14, 15, 17, 20, 21, 23, 26, 27, 28, 30, 31, 32, 33, 37, 38, 39</p> <p>Level 8, Module 4, Lessons 20, 21, 22, 23, 24, 25, 26, 27, 28, 29, 31, 32, 33</p>
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## Writing

**Modes of Writing | Write in a variety of modes for a variety of purposes and audiences across disciplines.**

Nebraska Standards	Aligned Components of <i>Arts &amp; Letters</i>
<p><b>8.W.3</b></p> <p>Write in a variety of literary forms to convey real or imagined experiences or events in which the development and structure are appropriate to the task, purpose, and audience.</p>	<p>Level 8, Module 1, Lessons 8, 9, 13, 14, 17, 18, 19, 20, 21, 22, 24, 25, 28, 29, 30, 31, 33, 36, 37, 38, 39</p>
<p><b>8.W.3a</b></p> <p>Engage and orient the reader by establishing a conflict, situation, or observation, introducing a narrator and/or character(s), and establishing and maintaining point(s) of view; organize an event sequence that unfolds naturally and logically.</p>	<p>Level 8, Module 1, Lessons 18, 19, 28, 29, 30, 33, 36, 37, 38, 39</p>
<p><b>8.W.3b</b></p> <p>Use literary techniques (e.g., dialogue, pacing, description, multiple plot lines) to develop experiences, events, characters, and settings.</p>	<p>Level 8, Module 1, Lessons 8, 9, 14, 19, 21, 22, 25, 28, 29, 30, 37, 38, 39</p>
<p><b>8.W.3c</b></p> <p>Use a variety of techniques to sequence events so that they build on one another to create a coherent whole.</p>	<p>Level 8, Module 1, Lessons 13, 19, 29, 30, 31, 37, 38, 39</p>

Nebraska Standards	Aligned Components of <i>Arts &amp; Letters</i>
<p><b>8.W.3d</b></p> <p>Use precise words and phrases, descriptive/sensory details, and figurative language to establish mood and tone and convey a vivid picture.</p>	<p>Level 8, Module 1, Lessons 17, 18, 19, 20, 24, 29, 30, 37, 38, 39</p>
<p><b>8.W.3e</b></p> <p>Provide a conclusion that is clearly related to and reflects upon what is experienced, observed, or left unresolved over the course of the piece.</p>	<p>Level 8, Module 1, Lessons 30, 37, 38, 39</p>
<p><b>8.W.4</b></p> <p>Write arguments that develop a perspective with supporting reasons and evidence, organized as appropriate to the task, purpose, and audience.</p>	<p>Level 8, Module 3, Lessons 8, 9, 10, 11, 12, 13, 14, 15, 16, 17, 20, 21, 22, 23, 24, 25, 26, 27, 28, 30, 31, 32, 33, 36, 37, 38, 39</p>
<p><b>8.W.4a</b></p> <p>Develop a structure to sequence ideas appropriately; introduce a clear claim where appropriate.</p>	<p>Level 8, Module 3, Lessons 10, 14, 17, 20, 21, 23, 26, 30, 31, 32, 33, 37, 38, 39</p>
<p><b>8.W.4b</b></p> <p>Introduce claim(s), acknowledge and distinguish the claim(s) from alternate or supporting claims, and develop a structure in which ideas are grouped logically.</p>	<p>Level 8, Module 3, Lessons 10, 14, 17, 20, 21, 23, 26, 30, 31, 32, 33, 37, 38, 39</p>
<p><b>8.W.4c</b></p> <p>Explain and cite relevant evidence from multiple credible sources.</p>	<p>Level 8, Module 3, Lessons 8, 9, 11, 12, 13, 16, 17, 20, 23, 24, 25, 27, 31, 32, 33, 36, 38, 39</p>
<p><b>8.W.4d</b></p> <p>Use words, phrases, and key vocabulary to create cohesion and clarify the relationship between the claim(s) and supporting evidence.</p>	<p>Level 8, Module 3, Lessons 10, 11, 13, 17, 20, 23, 27, 28, 31, 32, 33, 38, 39</p>

<p><b>8.W.4e</b> Adapt style and tone appropriate to the norms and conventions of the task and discipline.</p>	<p>Level 8, Module 3, Lessons 8, 9, 10, 11, 12, 13, 14, 15, 16, 17, 20, 21, 22, 23, 24, 25, 26, 27, 28, 30, 31, 32, 33, 36, 37, 38, 39</p> <p><i>Arts &amp; Letters</i> addresses tone in grade level 6.</p> <p>Level 6, Module 1, Lesson 33</p> <p>Level 6, Module 2, Lessons 11, 19, 20, 37, 38, 39</p>
<p><b>8.W.4f</b> Provide a conclusion that follows from and supports the argument(s) presented.</p>	<p>Level 8, Module 3, Lessons 15, 17, 20, 23, 30, 31, 32, 33, 38, 39</p>
<p><b>8.W.5</b> Write informative/explanatory pieces to clearly convey ideas and information in which the development and structure are appropriate to the task, purpose, and audience.</p>	<p>Level 8, Module 2, Lessons 8, 9, 10, 11, 12, 14, 15, 16, 19, 21, 24, 25, 26, 27, 28, 29, 30, 31, 33, 36, 37, 38, 39</p>
<p><b>8.W.5a</b> Introduce a topic clearly and provide a specific focus; organize ideas, concepts, and information into broader categories or sections including text features, illustrations, and/or multimedia elements.</p>	<p>Level 8, Module 2, Lessons 9, 10, 16, 19, 27, 30, 31, 33, 37, 38, 39</p>
<p><b>8.W.5b</b> Develop the topic with relevant facts, definitions, concrete details, quotations, and/or other information and examples.</p>	<p>Level 8, Module 2, Lessons 8, 11, 12, 14, 16, 19, 21, 24, 25, 26, 27, 28, 30, 31, 33, 36, 37, 38, 39</p>
<p><b>8.W.5c</b> Use appropriate transitions and domain-specific vocabulary to clarify relationships among ideas and concepts.</p>	<p>Level 8, Module 2, Lessons 15, 16, 19, 38, 39</p>
<p><b>8.W.5d</b> Provide a concluding statement or section that follows from the information or explanation(s).</p>	<p>Level 8, Module 2, Lessons 29, 30, 31, 33, 38, 39</p>

<p><b>8.W.6</b></p> <p>Gather and use credible evidence from multiple trustworthy sources and assess its relevance in answering the research question(s).</p>	<p>Level 8, 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, 32, 33, 36</p> <p>Level 8, Module 2, Lessons 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, 8, 9, 10, 11, 12, 13, 14, 15, 16, 19, 21, 22, 23, 24, 26, 27, 28, 29, 30, 31, 32, 33, 36, 37, 38, 39</p> <p>Level 8, Module 3, Lessons 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, 8, 9, 10, 11, 12, 13, 14, 15, 16, 17, 20, 21, 22, 23, 24, 25, 26, 27, 28, 29, 30, 31, 32, 33, 36, 37, 38, 39</p> <p>Level 8, Module 4, Lessons 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, 8, 9, 10, 11, 12, 13, 16, 17, 18, 19, 20, 21, 22, 23, 24, 25, 26, 27, 28, 29, 30, 31, 32, 33, 36, 37, 38, 39</p>
<p><b>8.W.6a</b></p> <p>Integrate evidence into writing by quoting or paraphrasing data and conclusions while avoiding plagiarism.</p>	<p>Level 8, 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, 32, 33, 36</p> <p>Level 8, Module 2, Lessons 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, 8, 9, 10, 11, 12, 13, 14, 15, 16, 19, 21, 22, 23, 24, 26, 27, 28, 29, 30, 31, 32, 33, 36, 37, 38, 39</p> <p>Level 8, Module 3, Lessons 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, 8, 9, 10, 11, 12, 13, 14, 15, 16, 17, 20, 21, 22, 23, 24, 25, 26, 27, 28, 29, 30, 31, 32, 33, 36, 37, 38, 39</p> <p>Level 8, Module 4, Lessons 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, 8, 9, 10, 11, 12, 13, 16, 17, 18, 19, 20, 21, 22, 23, 24, 25, 26, 27, 28, 29, 30, 31, 32, 33, 36, 37, 38, 39</p>
<p><b>8.W.6b</b></p> <p>Locate and evaluate the credibility of evidence (e.g., the expertise or motivation of the creator of an information product, potential bias and/or deception) from print and digital sources to generate and answer questions and create new understandings.</p>	<p>Level 8, 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, 32, 33, 36</p> <p>Level 8, Module 2, Lessons 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, 8, 9, 10, 11, 12, 13, 14, 15, 16, 19, 21, 22, 23, 24, 26, 27, 28, 29, 30, 31, 32, 33, 36, 37, 38, 39</p> <p>Level 8, Module 3, Lessons 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, 8, 9, 10, 11, 12, 13, 14, 15, 16, 17, 20, 21, 22, 23, 24, 25, 26, 27, 28, 29, 30, 31, 32, 33, 36, 37, 38, 39</p> <p>Level 8, Module 4, Lessons 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, 8, 9, 10, 11, 12, 13, 16, 17, 19, 21, 22, 23, 24, 25, 26, 27, 28, 29, 30, 31, 32</p>

<p><b>8.W.6c</b></p> <p>Select and use appropriate note-taking formats to collect and organize information.</p>	<p>Level 8, 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, 32, 33, 36</p> <p>Level 8, Module 2, Lessons 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, 8, 9, 10, 11, 12, 13, 14, 15, 16, 19, 21, 22, 23, 24, 26, 27, 28, 29, 30, 31, 32, 33, 36, 37, 38, 39</p> <p>Level 8, Module 3, Lessons 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, 8, 9, 10, 11, 12, 13, 14, 15, 16, 17, 20, 21, 22, 23, 24, 25, 26, 27, 28, 29, 30, 31, 32, 33, 36, 37, 38, 39</p> <p>Level 8, Module 4, Lessons 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, 8, 9, 10, 11, 12, 13, 16, 17, 19, 21, 22, 23, 24, 25, 26, 27, 28, 29, 30, 31, 32</p>
<p><b>8.W.6d</b></p> <p>Demonstrate academic integrity by avoiding overreliance on any one source and citing sources within text (e.g., parenthetical and numerical); provide a list of sources using a standard format.</p>	<p>Level 8, 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, 32, 33, 36</p> <p>Level 8, Module 2, Lessons 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, 8, 9, 10, 11, 12, 13, 14, 15, 16, 19, 21, 22, 23, 24, 26, 27, 28, 29, 30, 31, 32, 33, 36, 37, 38, 39</p> <p>Level 8, Module 3, Lessons 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, 8, 9, 10, 11, 12, 13, 14, 15, 16, 17, 20, 21, 22, 23, 24, 25, 26, 27, 28, 29, 30, 31, 32, 33, 36, 37, 38, 39</p> <p>Level 8, Module 4, Lessons 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, 8, 9, 10, 11, 12, 13, 16, 17, 19, 21, 22, 23, 24, 25, 26, 27, 28, 29, 30, 31, 32, 33</p>
<p><b>8.W.6e</b></p> <p>Practice safe and ethical behaviors when communicating and interacting with others digitally (e.g., safe information to share, utilize appropriate sites and materials, appropriate language use, respect diverse perspectives).</p>	<p>Level 8, Module 4, Lessons 30, 32, 33</p>

**Speaking and Listening**

Comprehension and Collaboration | Communicate effectively and appropriately in collaborative activities for a variety of tasks, purposes, and audiences to express ideas, share knowledge, and generate new understandings.

Nebraska Standards	Aligned Components of <i>Arts &amp; Letters</i>
<p><b>8.SL.1</b></p> <p>Initiate and participate in structured discussions and collaborations about 8th grade topics and texts.</p>	<p>Level 8, 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, 36, 39</p> <p>Level 8, Module 2, Lessons 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, 8, 9, 10, 11, 12, 13, 14, 15, 16, 19, 20, 21, 22, 23, 24, 25, 26, 27, 28, 29, 30, 31, 32, 33, 36</p> <p>Level 8, Module 3, Lessons 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, 8, 9, 10, 11, 12, 13, 14, 15, 16, 17, 20, 21, 22, 23, 24, 25, 26, 27, 28, 29, 30, 31, 32, 33, 36, 37</p> <p>Level 8, Module 4, Lessons 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, 8, 9, 10, 11, 12, 13, 16, 17, 18, 19, 20, 21, 22, 23, 24, 25, 26, 27, 28, 29, 30, 31, 32, 33, 39</p>
<p><b>8.SL.1a</b></p> <p>Ask relevant questions to build on ideas, clarify own ideas, or acquire or confirm information.</p>	<p>Level 8, Module 1, Lessons 5, 13, 26, 31, 36</p> <p>Level 8, Module 2, Lessons 8, 14, 24, 31, 36</p> <p>Level 8, Module 3, Lessons 11, 16, 25, 32, 36</p> <p>Level 8, Module 4, Lessons 11, 26, 31, 39</p>
<p><b>8.SL.1b</b></p> <p>Demonstrate interpretation of verbal and non-verbal messages in a conversation.</p>	<p><i>Arts &amp; Letters</i> partially addresses this standard; the program does not explicitly address interpreting nonverbal messages</p> <p>Level 8, Module 1, Lessons 26, 36</p> <p>Level 8, Module 2, Lessons 8, 24, 31, 36</p> <p>Level 8, Module 3, Lessons 16, 17, 31, 32, 36</p> <p>Level 8, Module 4, Lessons 31, 39</p>
<p><b>8.SL.1c</b></p> <p>Converse with peers and adults in an all-inclusive manner to foster positive relationships while respecting diverse perspectives.</p>	<p>Level 8, Module 1, Lessons 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, 8, 9, 11, 12, 13, 14, 17, 19, 20, 21, 22, 23, 24, 25, 26, 27, 28, 29, 30, 31, 32, 33, 36, 39</p> <p>Level 8, Module 2, Lessons 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, 8, 10, 11, 12, 13, 14, 15, 20, 21, 22, 23, 24, 25, 26, 27, 28, 29, 30, 31, 32, 33, 36</p> <p>Level 8, Module 3, Lessons 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, 8, 9, 11, 12, 13, 14, 15, 16, 17, 20, 21, 22, 23, 24, 25, 26, 27, 28, 30, 31, 32, 33, 36, 37</p>

Nebraska Standards	Aligned Components of <i>Arts &amp; Letters</i>
	Level 8, Module 4, Lessons 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, 8, 9, 10, 11, 12, 13, 16, 17, 18, 19, 20, 21, 23, 24, 25, 26, 29, 30, 31, 32, 33, 39
<p><b>8.SL.1d</b></p> <p>Demonstrate active and attentive listening skills (e.g., eye contact, nonverbal cues, taking notes, summarizing, questioning).</p>	<p>Level 8, Module 1, Lessons 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, 8, 9, 11, 12, 13, 14, 17, 19, 20, 21, 22, 23, 24, 25, 26, 27, 28, 29, 30, 31, 32, 33, 36, 39</p> <p>Level 8, Module 2, Lessons 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, 8, 10, 11, 12, 13, 14, 15, 20, 21, 22, 23, 24, 25, 26, 27, 28, 29, 30, 31, 32, 33, 36</p> <p>Level 8, Module 3, Lessons 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, 8, 9, 11, 12, 13, 14, 15, 16, 17, 20, 21, 22, 23, 24, 25, 26, 27, 28, 30, 31, 32, 33, 36, 37</p> <p>Level 8, Module 4, Lessons 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, 8, 9, 10, 11, 12, 13, 16, 17, 18, 19, 20, 21, 23, 24, 25, 26, 29, 30, 31, 32, 33, 39</p>
<p><b>8.SL.1e</b></p> <p>Complete a task following complex, multi-step directions.</p>	<p>Level 8, 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 8, Module 2, Lessons 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, 8, 9, 10, 11, 12, 13, 14, 15, 16, 19, 20, 21, 22, 23, 24, 25, 26, 27, 28, 29, 30, 31, 32, 33</p> <p>Level 8, Module 3, Lessons 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, 8, 9, 10, 11, 12, 13, 14, 15, 16, 17, 20, 21, 22, 23, 24, 25, 26, 27, 28, 29, 30, 31, 32, 33</p> <p>Level 8, Module 4, Lessons 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, 8, 9, 10, 11, 12, 13, 16, 17, 18, 19, 20, 21, 22, 23, 24, 25, 26, 27, 28, 29, 30, 31, 32, 33</p>

## Speaking and Listening

**Presentation of Knowledge and Ideas | Present information, findings, and supporting evidence in which the organization, development, and style are appropriate to the discipline, audience, and/or context.**

Nebraska Standards	Aligned Components of <i>Arts &amp; Letters</i>
<p><b>8.SL.2</b></p> <p>Present claims and findings, emphasizing key ideas in a focused, coherent manner with relevant descriptions, facts, details, and examples to clarify themes or central ideas.</p>	<p>Level 8, Module 1, Lessons 5, 13, 26, 31, 33, 36</p> <p>Level 8, Module 2, Lessons 8, 10, 14, 24, 31, 32, 36</p> <p>Level 8, Module 3, Lessons 5, 6, 10, 11, 16, 17, 21, 25, 27, 31, 32, 36</p>

Nebraska Standards	Aligned Components of <i>Arts &amp; Letters</i>
	Level 8, Module 4, Lessons 11, 26, 30, 31, 32, 33, 36, 37, 38, 39
<p><b>8.SL.2a</b></p> <p>Demonstrate and adjust speaking techniques (e.g., appropriate eye contact, pacing, adequate volume, clear pronunciation) for a variety of purposes and situations, including interpreting 8th grade texts.</p>	<p>Level 8, Module 1, Lessons 5, 13, 26, 31, 33, 36</p> <p>Level 8, Module 2, Lessons 8, 14, 24, 31, 36</p> <p>Level 8, Module 3, Lessons 11, 16, 25, 32, 36</p> <p>Level 8, Module 4, Lessons 11, 26, 31, 33, 37, 38, 39</p>
<p><b>8.SL.2b</b></p> <p>Convey a perspective with clear reasoning and valid evidence.</p>	<p>Level 8, Module 1, Lessons 5, 13, 26, 31, 36</p> <p>Level 8, Module 2, Lessons 8, 10, 14, 24, 31, 32, 36</p> <p>Level 8, Module 3, Lessons 6, 11, 16, 17, 21, 25, 27, 31, 32, 36</p> <p>Level 8, Module 4, Lessons 11, 26, 31, 39</p>
<p><b>8.SL.2c</b></p> <p>Analyze the purpose of information being presented and evaluate its motives (e.g., social, commercial, political).</p>	<p>Level 8, Module 3, Lessons 5, 10, 11</p>
<p><b>8.SL.2d</b></p> <p>Demonstrate awareness of and sensitivity to the appropriate use of words (e.g., stereotypes, multiple meanings of words).</p>	<p><i>Arts &amp; Letters</i> partially addresses this standard; the program does not explicitly address stereotypes.</p> <p>Level 8, Module 1, Lessons 5, 13, 26, 31, 33, 36</p> <p>Level 8, Module 2, Lessons 8, 14, 24, 31, 36</p> <p>Level 8, Module 3, Lessons 11, 16, 25, 32, 36</p> <p>Level 8, Module 4, Lessons 11, 26, 31, 33, 37, 38, 39</p>
<p><b>8.SL.2e</b></p> <p>Select and use appropriate visual and/or digital tools to enhance verbal communication and add interest.</p>	<p>Level 8, Module 4, Lessons 30, 32, 33, 36, 37, 38</p>