

## Nevada Instructional Materials Review Process

### Category 1 Rubric – Alignment to Standards

Nevada Instructional Materials are evaluated by Content Area Review Panels and rated according to two categories: (1) alignment to standards and (2) access and equity. Together, the Category 1 and Category 2 rubrics comprise the Nevada Instructional Materials Universal Review Rubric.

The Category 1 Rubric includes three criteria used to determine whether materials align with the Nevada Academic Content Standards: (A) breadth of knowledge, (B) depth of knowledge, and (C) application of knowledge.

Descriptions and guiding questions for each criterion follow:

#### **Criterion A. Breadth of Knowledge**

Description: Materials comprehensively and efficiently address all of the content area standards.

Guiding Questions: How well are teachers able to address all of the standards over the academic year? Is a reasonable level of effort needed to use the materials?

#### **Criterion B. Depth of Knowledge**

Description: Materials include appropriate level of rigor.

Guiding Question: Do activities and tasks convey the depth of knowledge needed for students to become college and career ready regardless of current proficiency in the subject?

#### **Criterion C. Application of Knowledge**

Description: Materials foster concept application and skill mastery.

Guiding Question: Do activities and tasks offer students a range of opportunities to demonstrate proficiency in the concepts and skills outlined in the standards?

#### **Scoring**

Each criterion has three associated metrics that must be evident in the instructional materials. Examine the materials in relation to the criteria and record supporting evidence. Assign each metric a point value of either zero (i.e., inadequate), one (i.e., needs improvement), or two (i.e., meets expectations). Materials must earn an overall score of 18 for Category 1 to continue in the review process. Only materials that meet all metrics for both Categories 1 and 2 will be included on the list submitted for approval by the Nevada State Board of Education.

Category 1 Rubric – Alignment to Standards					Amplify Response
Criteria	Metrics	Meets Expectations	Needs Improvement	Inadequate	
<b>A. Breadth</b>	A1. Materials target the most critical and impactful content.	2	1	0	<p>Amplify ELA is designed to engage all students in rigorous learning and inspire them to think deeply, creatively, and for themselves. All lessons require students to work closely with rich, complex texts across a range of types and disciplines to explore key ideas and details, analyze the author's craft and structure, and integrate knowledge and ideas.</p> <p>Amplify ELA lessons target the most compelling aspects of selected text passages, and instruction focuses on one or two of the Nevada Academic Content Standards that best support that work. These standards are identified as a lesson's focus standard(s), and they are assessed in Exit Tickets at the end of each lesson. To ensure that students are working toward the level of rigor demanded by the standard, Amplify uses qualitative and quantitative measures, reader and task analysis, and Depth of Knowledge assessments. At the same time, working with complex text demands that readers work across standards. Amplify ELA lessons support this inclusive type of text exploration, rather than offering isolated standards practice. Those standards less central to the lesson are identified as coverage standards.</p> <p>Amplify puts great, complex, grade-level text at the center of every lesson and activity to develop the</p>

				<p>critical capacities and build the vocabulary, knowledge, and skills students need to succeed in middle school, high school, and beyond. Lesson activities immerse students in interactive close reading and cognitively challenging work, and keep them engaged through a variety of collaborative, digital, and project-oriented learning opportunities. These texts are made accessible to all students through the use of compelling multimedia, a focus on a variety of learning modalities, embedded scaffolds with six levels of differentiation to support all learners, and universal supports such as Amplify’s Vocab App, point of use audio, accessible background information articles for all units, and embedded definitions for critical text-based vocabulary.</p> <p>Furthermore, the texts and lessons in Amplify ELA reflect the range of cultures and experiences of today’s adolescents while targeting relevant themes. For example, Grade 6 students begin the year with Roald Dahl’s memoir <i>Boy</i>, which points to many experiences of middle grade students (friendship, new school, a young person’s relationship to authority). In later units, students encounter texts and media that present a variety of adolescent experiences, such as children in Africa involved in the production of cocoa; five Latina sisters searching for their family roots; a teenage girl coping with the yellow fever epidemic in Philadelphia in 1793; and young Greek demi-gods challenging the wishes and authority of their gods.</p> <p>Grade 7 students begin the year with Ji-li Jiang’s</p>
--	--	--	--	---

				<p><i>Red Scarf Girl</i>, a memoir about an adolescent girl growing up in Mao Zedong's China. They then consider the issues of race and inequality in America by tracing the experiences of the dynamic Younger family in Lorraine Hansberry's play, <i>A Raisin in the Sun</i>. Later in the year, they examine the science behind their own developing brains in the Brain Science unit, and then explore the lives of legendary Mexican artists Frida Kahlo and Diego Rivera, including the disabilities that challenged Kahlo throughout her career.</p> <p>When reading Amy Tan's narrative "Fish Cheeks," Grade 8 students discover a young immigrant protagonist wrestling with an outsider perspective. Then, after a deep dive into the power of narrative to shape the fight for abolition through a reading of <i>Narrative of the Life of Frederick Douglass</i>, students compare his experience to that of Harriet Ann Jacobs's in her memoir <i>Incidents in the Life of a Slave Girl</i>. As they work their way through the Holocaust: Memory &amp; Meaning unit, students closely read a series of texts that explore identity, intolerance, and the Jewish experience of the Holocaust and its aftermath, including firsthand accounts from young people who witnessed, participated in, were victimized during, and survived it.</p> <p>Where to look:</p> <p>Grade 6:  <a href="#">Amplify ELA Grade Overviews: Grade 6 Curriculum Map</a></p>
--	--	--	--	---

					<p><a href="#">6E: Summer of the Mariposas, Sub-unit 1, Lesson 7, Lesson Objectives</a></p> <p>Grade 7:  <a href="#">7B: Character &amp; Conflict, Sub-unit 2, Lesson 1, Overview</a></p> <p><a href="#">7D: Poetry &amp; Poe, Unit Guide: Planning for the Unit</a></p> <p>Grade 8:  <a href="#">Amplify ELA Grade 8 Grade Overview</a></p> <p><a href="#">8A: Perspectives &amp; Narrative, Sub-unit 3, Lesson 2, Overview and Skills &amp; Standards</a></p>
	A2. Materials are accurate, well written, and appropriate for the grade level or span.	2	1	0	<p>Educating middle schoolers is a critical endeavor with unique challenges and opportunities. Amplify ELA is based on extensive research into learning, cognition, and middle school literacy development. Each lesson is designed to help teachers establish a classroom where students thrive academically, socially, and emotionally, while developing the essential skills of reading, writing, speaking, and listening in order to form a literate community.</p> <p>Amplify ELA lessons are centered on complex texts, and these texts have a big job to do. They must provide the level of complexity required to support a rigorous close reading curriculum, introduce students to rich academic language and a range of syntax, focus on a topic and theme relevant to middle school students, and sustain</p>

				<p>engagement. As students take part in analytic reading practices, evidence-based writing, and academic discussion, they are able to harness and develop the power of their ideas. Activities make use of multiple learning modes, using media tools, digital apps, and a variety of visual and physical experiences to strategically support and enhance student learning.</p> <p>All material included in Amplify ELA goes through a strict review process to ensure it is accurate, free of mistakes, and consistently of a high quality. The content of Amplify ELA reflects current research and standards of practice.</p> <p>All of the texts in the Amplify ELA curriculum were previously published and were selected intentionally for rewarding close reading and rereading. Core texts represent a balance of literary and informational texts and include a rich representation of genres. In addition to reading rich literary texts, students also focus on a range of high-quality nonfiction types, including essays, memoirs, journals, visual information (paintings, photographs, and other primary-source documents) and scientific and historic informational texts. Students work with these texts to gain solid footing from which to progress to the type of “reading to learn” they will be asked to do during high school and beyond.</p> <p>100% of core texts within the Amplify ELA program have been analyzed for Lexile levels, as well as for meaning/purpose, text structure,</p>
--	--	--	--	--

				<p>language clarity, and knowledge demands. The text complexity matrix consists of three essential parts: qualitative, quantitative, and task or student performance.</p> <p>Quantitative measures analyze specific aspects of text (e.g., word frequency and difficulty, sentence length, and text cohesion).</p> <p>Qualitative measures analyze the complexity of the text's structure, language conventions and clarity, knowledge demands placed on readers, and levels of meaning or purpose.</p> <p>Reader and task or student-centered measures analyze reader attributes such as motivation, knowledge, and skill with the level of difficulty of each task.</p> <p>In all cases, core texts meet the complexity criteria for each grade and provide ample opportunity for instruction and practice aligned to the Nevada Academic Content Standards. In addition, Amplify has identified and curated key Tier 2 and 3 vocabulary within each text, supporting students' understanding of these words with the embedded Reveal tool and pulling a subset of these words in the Amplify Vocab App, where students have repeated and varied practice with this rich academic language. Finally, the core texts have been sequenced to create a "staircase" of steadily increasing complexity as measured by quantitative measures, qualitative measures, and task considerations in addition to building knowledge.</p>
--	--	--	--	--

					<p>Where to look:</p> <p><a href="#"><u>Amplify ELA Program Guide, Text Selection, p. 20</u></a></p> <p>Grade 6: <a href="#"><u>Amplify ELA Grade Overviews: Grade 6 Curriculum Map</u></a></p> <p><a href="#"><u>6B: Mysteries &amp; Investigations, Unit Guide: Unit Overview</u></a></p> <p>Grade 7: <a href="#"><u>Amplify ELA Grade Overviews: Grade 7 Curriculum Map</u></a></p> <p><a href="#"><u>7D: Poetry &amp; Poe, Unit Guide: Unit Overview</u></a></p> <p>Grade 8: <a href="#"><u>Amplify ELA Grade Overviews: Grade 8 Curriculum Map</u></a></p> <p><a href="#"><u>8B: Liberty &amp; Equality, Unit Guide: Unit Overview</u></a></p>
--	--	--	--	--	---



	<p>A3. Materials include a clear, actionable, scope and sequence, and instructional pathways.</p>	<p>2</p>	<p>1</p>	<p>0</p>	<p>Amplify ELA provides teachers with a clear, actionable scope and sequence that creates straightforward and accessible instructional pathways. Explicit information about instructional focus, sequence, activities, and learning outcomes can be found at the unit and lesson level in Amplify ELA. Unit-level planning materials provide Unit Overviews as well as information about reading and writing assignments, formative and summative assessments, the inclusion of apps or Quests, notes on differentiation, and suggested opportunities for additional reading. Lesson-level planning materials include descriptions of learning outcomes in Lesson Overviews as well as lesson objectives, vocabulary words to emphasize in instruction, and notes on differentiation. Lesson objectives are visible in both teacher and student materials. Teachers’ Instructional Guides show the focus standard at the point of use in each lesson, as well as expected responses to student questions and recommended discussion points.</p> <p>The full Pacing Guide included with the curriculum is based on 180 days of instruction and ensures full standards instruction and practice in addition to formative and summative assessments. Amplify ELA also includes a 100 Lesson Pathway that provides clear guidance for teachers about how to cover all grade-level standards in that time frame. Lessons are designed to work with 50-minute classes and can be combined to accommodate longer block schedules. All core instruction contains supports, such as the principles of UDL, Amplify’s six levels of embedded, differentiated</p>
--	---	----------	----------	----------	--

				<p>scaffolds, and strategic challenge activities.</p> <p>All of these supports ensure that every student can work successfully with the grade level content in the core pathway using the same pacing guide. The program sequence and implementation can be adjusted for schools and classrooms who need to...</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>● adjust instruction in response to data from formative assessments. Note that the program provides a full suite of formative and summative student performance data with the Reporting app.</li><li>● choose one activity or another based on teacher or student interests.</li><li>● group students according to an area of identified need and provide group-based additional practice using the variety of group activities within Amplify Flex Days.</li></ul> <p>For teachers who want to supplement the core instruction, Amplify ELA contains a variety of resources available to all teachers and students, including Amplify’s interactive Quests, poetry lessons developed in partnership with Poetry in America, Novel Guides to support additional novel studies, a variety of Collection archives to pursue additional research topics, and more than 700 full books in the digital Amplify Library to be used for lit circles, book clubs, and book reports.</p> <p>Where to look:</p> <p>Grade 6:</p>
--	--	--	--	--

					<p><a href="#">6B: Mysteries &amp; Investigations, Unit Guide: Planning for the Unit</a></p> <p><a href="#">Amplify ELA Grade 6 Pacing Guide</a></p> <p>Grade 7:  <a href="#">7A: Red Scarf Girl &amp; Narrative, Sub-unit 2, Lesson 2, Lesson Brief: Overview</a></p> <p><a href="#">Grade 7 Year Overview, Materials: Pacing: 100 Lesson Pathway</a></p> <p>Grade 8:  <a href="#">8B: Liberty &amp; Equality, Sub-unit 2, Lesson 4, Activity 4</a>          (Refer to the Possible Responses tab.)</p> <p><a href="#">8B: Liberty &amp; Equality, Sub-unit 2, Lesson 5</a></p>
<b>B. Depth</b>	B1. Materials provide educators with tools to foster deep academic discussions.	2	1	0	<p>Amplify lessons provide regular opportunities for students to practice and benefit from sharing their thoughts in academic conversation, more formal discussions and debates, and prepared performances and presentations. These opportunities are fully integrated into the process of close reading and rigorous writing to complement and support students’ literacy work.</p> <p>Daily academic discussion: The teacher’s instructional materials note key moments for discussion in pairs, small groups, or the whole class as part of the lesson’s close reading session. These discussions have clear direction and purpose—</p>

				<p>sometimes they serve to surface the range of observations students have gathered from their first read; other times, they have students use those observations to collaborate and refine their understanding of the text.</p> <p>Formal debates and discussion: Working with complex texts or multiple texts surfaces a range of questions and perspectives. Formal debate structures challenge students to use evidence-driven argument and counterargument, and to understand and evaluate the logic and strength of an opposing perspective. Amplify’s Socratic seminars and fishbowl discussions support students as they develop norms and processes to allow for an effective exchange of ideas in their classrooms.</p> <p>Performance and presentation: Across grades, students have opportunities to work with the text, their ideas, and their peers through various types of performances and presentations. As students plan and perform a scene from a text, engage in conversation as they role-play as passengers on the <i>Titanic</i>, or deliver their own version of an abolitionist speech, they are learning to adapt language from the text to a particular purpose.</p> <p>Where to look:</p> <p>Grade 6:  <a href="#">6D: The Greeks, Sub-unit 1, Lesson 2, Activities 2 and 3</a>  <a href="#">6E: Summer of the Mariposas, Sub-unit 1, Lesson</a></p>
--	--	--	--	--

					<p><a href="#">7, Activity 5</a></p> <p>Grade 7:  <a href="#">7C: Brain Science, Sub-unit 1, Lesson 5, Activity 5</a></p> <p><a href="#">7E: The Frida &amp; Diego Collection, Sub-unit 4, Lesson 2, Activity 2</a></p> <p>Grade 8:  <a href="#">8C: Science &amp; Science Fiction, Sub-unit 1, Lesson 9, Activity 5</a></p> <p><a href="#">8E: Holocaust: Memory &amp; Meaning, Sub-unit 3, Lesson 3, Activities 3–5</a></p>
	B2. Materials help students think more critically about a topic.	2	1	0	<p>Amplify ELA fosters a classroom community that thrives on a wide range of student observations and encourages critical and collaborative engagement. The lessons immerse students in interactive close reading activities and cognitively challenging work, and keep them engaged through a variety of collaborative, digital, and project-oriented learning opportunities. For example, in certain close reading activities, students work with the Mazur technique, where they share their response with a partner, then collaborate together to return to the text and discuss/debate the effectiveness of both responses as a means of refining their understanding. These activities engage students in the work of critical thinking: reading closely, considering multiple interpretations, and making appropriate judgments. Amplify has also developed custom apps to support the type of engaged participation and collaboration</p>

				<p>around the text that builds understanding and fosters critical thinking. For example, the Tell-Tale Art app provides a storyboard for students to chart their understanding of the reader’s and narrator’s distinct perspectives on events described at the end of Edgar Allan Poe’s short story, “The Tell-Tale Heart.” As students share their unique storyboards, the instruction guides them to note and discuss differences.</p> <p>Amplify strategically uses technology and multimodal approaches to learning and demonstrating understanding. Activities harness multiple learning modes, using media tools, digital apps, and a variety of visual and physical experiences—including debates, performances, Socratic seminars, and visualization—to strategically support and enhance student learning and allow students to think more critically about a topic. For example, in 8D: Shakespeare’s Romeo &amp; Juliet, students who are working to unpack one of Shakespeare’s metaphors can play the physical “Tag the Metaphor” game to keep track of the figurative comparisons. In 6F: The Titanic Collection, students take on the identities of specific, actual passengers from the <i>Titanic</i>, role-playing their distinct experiences (based on students’ research) before composing a letter home in the persona of their passenger—and sharing those letters—to solidify their understanding of the impact of socioeconomic status.</p> <p>Finally, Amplify Quests provide interactive, immersive experiences where students acquire or</p>
--	--	--	--	---

				<p>apply unit content knowledge to solving a Poe-themed murder mystery (<i>Who Killed Edgar Allan Poe?</i>), or diagnosing the location of a brain injury based on key symptoms (<i>Perception Academy</i>), for example.</p> <p>Where to look:</p> <p>Grade 6:  <a href="#">6B: Mysteries &amp; Investigations, Sub-unit 2, Lesson 3, Activities 4 and 5</a></p> <p><a href="#">6F: The Titanic Collection, Sub-unit 3, Lesson 2, Activities 4 and 5</a></p> <p>Grade 7:  <a href="#">7C: Brain Science, Sub-unit 1, Lesson 3, Activity 4</a></p> <p><a href="#">7D: Poetry &amp; Poe, Sub-unit 2, Lesson 4, Activities 2–5</a></p> <p>Grade 8:  <a href="#">8B: Liberty &amp; Equality, Sub-unit 5, Lesson 2, Activities 2–9</a></p> <p><a href="#">8D: Shakespeare’s Romeo &amp; Juliet, Sub-unit 1, Lesson 5, Activity 4</a></p>
--	--	--	--	--

	<p>B3. Materials spark student dialogue and support further exploration.</p>	<p>2</p>	<p>1</p>	<p>0</p>	<p>Amplify ELA is designed to spark students’ intellectual curiosity and motivate them to engage in rich, thought-provoking activities. To support learners’ engagement in a high volume of reading, writing, and academic discussion, the program is designed to boost interest, supply easy access to needed supports, and provide accountability structures. Clear, positive expectations for success are outlined in student-facing lesson objectives. Lessons provide multiple ways for students to work with high-interest, high-quality texts, including embedded dramatic readings, performances, debates, and projects. Built-in reading supports help all students complete a solid volume of reading at the appropriate level of text complexity. Texts and tasks are selected to relate to students’ interests and cultural backgrounds while also broadening their knowledge and appreciation of a diverse array of human experiences.</p> <p>Many Amplify ELA lessons are designed to allow students to direct the conversations. Students’ ideas, concerns, and questions drive dynamic group discussions and activities such as Quests, fishbowl discussions, Socratic seminars, and debates. All of these collaborative activities are situated within Amplify ELA’s intellectual and supportive classroom culture.</p> <p>This pedagogy of placing students in the center of the learning is particularly noteworthy within the Amplify Collection units in each grade. Amplify ELA’s Collection units include supported opportunities for students to conduct short research</p>
--	--	----------	----------	----------	---



				<p>projects using the curated materials in each Collection. These research projects are identified by the students and are focused on their area of interest within the broader topic of the particular Collection unit. Students are prepared for this level of independence through lessons that help them find, evaluate, and compare sources; distinguish between primary and secondary resources; draw from several sources to understand a topic critically; or answer a question completely. All of these projects include appropriate supports for learners of different levels, so all students can experience the challenge of research successfully. In each Collection unit, the summative essay assignment again prefaces student (or teacher) choice, providing two possible essay prompts in addition to a media project that is based on the research students have done throughout the course of the unit.</p> <p>All units also include a Suggested Reading list that provides titles of novels, articles, informational texts, and websites for students interested in exploring certain aspects of the unit further as independent research. To support English Language Learners who may have minimal background knowledge in the key topics and ideas within a unit, Amplify provides simply written background documents (in both English and Spanish) that contain a brief introduction to the unit and a clear description of the key background information.</p>
--	--	--	--	--

					<p>Where to look:</p> <p>Grade 6:  <a href="#">6B: Mysteries &amp; Investigations, Sub-unit 3, Lesson 4, Activities 2–5</a></p> <p><a href="#">6E: Summer of the Mariposas, Sub-unit 1, Lesson 14, Activities 2–4</a></p> <p>Grade 7:  <a href="#">7A: Red Scarf Girl &amp; Narrative, Sub-unit 3, Lesson 7, Activity 4</a></p> <p><a href="#">7B: Character &amp; Conflict, Unit Guide: Teacher References, Additional Reading Opportunities</a></p> <p>Grade 8:  <a href="#">8F: The Space Race Collection, Sub-unit 5, Lesson 1, Activities 2–4</a></p> <p><a href="#">Poetry in America: Grade 8, Sub-unit 1, Lesson 1, Activities 1–3</a></p>
<b>C. Application</b>	C1. Materials offer students opportunities to engage in meaningful, authentic learning activities that reinforce course content.	2	1	0	<p>Amplify ELA includes a variety of formative and summative activities that cover a range of modalities, including authentic performance tasks and writing samples. Assessments are aligned to each unit’s themes and skills and clearly connected to the Nevada Academic Content Standards. This variety provides teachers with multiple ways to assess student progress, and course content is reinforced through student engagement in meaningful and authentic learning opportunities.</p>

				<p>The writing instruction in Amplify ELA is fully integrated into students' work with core texts and draws them into more complex analyses. In daily close reading activities, students work collaboratively to examine the text, gather evidence, and discuss their findings. Two or three times a week, this exploration culminates in a formative writing prompt, where students hone their understanding of the text as they develop one claim or idea in response to an analytic prompt, provide evidence in support of their claim, and use conventions to communicate clearly. These writing activities are followed by a structured sharing session, where peers comment on where their classmates' use of evidence was convincing or their explanation was effective. Teachers can then use the Classwork tool to view and provide feedback on student work and progress.</p> <p>These regular, integrated, formative writing assignments develop critical skills students will then apply to the summative essays at the end of each unit. In addition to supporting students to work with more complex development of their idea or claim, the essay lessons walk students through a writing process where they are given explicit instruction on revising to strengthen their use of text-based evidence.</p> <p>To show further evidence of their learning and communicate their ideas, students also participate in a variety of authentic performance tasks. Some</p>
--	--	--	--	---

				<p>examples include the following:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• In 6D: The Greeks, students craft original interpretations of ancient myths.</li><li>• In 6E: Summer of the Mariposas, students research and present key figures of Chicano folklore and Aztec mythology.</li><li>• In 7B: Character &amp; Conflict and 8D: Shakespeare’s Romeo &amp; Juliet, students perform scenes to demonstrate their understanding of key elements of drama.</li><li>• In 8B: Liberty &amp; Equality, students write and present an abolitionist speech.</li><li>• The 6F, 7E, 7F, and 8F Collection units contain structured Socratic seminars and multimedia presentations.</li><li>• All Poetry in America sub-units invite students to try on a poet’s use of language, craft, and structure by writing an original poem.</li></ul> <p>Where to look:</p> <p>Grade 6:</p> <p><a href="#">6B: Mysteries &amp; Investigations, Sub-unit 2, Lesson 6, Activities 6–7</a></p> <p><a href="#">6E: Summer of the Mariposas, Sub-unit 1, Lesson 14, Activities 2–4</a></p> <p>Grade 7:</p> <p><a href="#">7B: Character &amp; Conflict, Sub-unit 2, Lesson 4, Activities 2 and 3</a></p>
--	--	--	--	--

					<p><a href="#">Poetry in America: Grade 7, Sub-unit 1, Lesson 3, Activities 1–3</a></p> <p>Grade 8:  <a href="#">8B: Liberty &amp; Equality, Sub-unit 2, Lesson 12, Activities 2–5</a></p> <p><a href="#">8E: Holocaust: Memory &amp; Meaning, Sub-unit 5, Lesson 1, Activities 3 and 4</a></p>
	<p>C2. Materials foster creative, collaborative problem solving that builds college and career/workplace skills (e.g., cooperation, teamwork, negotiation, consensus-building).</p>	2	1	0	<p>Amplify ELA materials reflect a focus on cooperative learning, self-assessment and self-reflection, and competence and confidence building. Classroom routines and guidelines are woven into the program to support students in improving their self-management skills, fostering an ideal environment for creative and collaborative problem solving, and building a community of readers and writers.</p> <p>Collaborative problem solving is embedded throughout the Amplify ELA curriculum. For example, students engage in the Mazur technique to refine understanding through paired discussion, work in small groups to plan and present role-play and performance activities, and participate in regular writing and peer-feedback routines. In addition, across units, students conduct Socratic seminars. They work together to establish rules and processes for Socratic seminars and develop questions aimed at creating thoughtful and thought-provoking dialogue.</p>

					<p>Where to look:</p> <p>Grade 6:  <a href="#">6B: Mysteries &amp; Investigations, Sub-unit 2, Lesson 14, Activities 4–6</a></p> <p><a href="#">6F: The Titanic Collection, Sub-unit 4, Lesson 1, Activities 3–6</a></p> <p>Grade 7:  <a href="#">7C: Brain Science, Sub-unit 1, Lesson 5, Activity 5</a></p> <p><a href="#">7D: Poetry &amp; Poe, Sub-unit 4, Lesson 3, Activities 4–11</a></p> <p>Grade 8:  <a href="#">8B: Liberty &amp; Equality, Sub-unit 2, Lesson 10, Activity 12</a></p> <p><a href="#">8C: Science &amp; Science Fiction, Sub-unit 1, Lesson 9, Activities 4 and 5</a></p>
	C3. Materials are relevant to students’ lives.	2	1	0	<p>Throughout Amplify ELA, students have the opportunity to connect core texts to their own experiences and communities. For example, they follow up their reading of Robert Hayden’s “Those Winter Sundays” by composing their own poem to an everyday hero from their community; they debate the priority of the food served in their school cafeteria as they learn about the health benefits and risks of foods like chocolate; they interview a family or community member about that person’s immigration experience as they study Emma Lazarus’s “The New Colossus”; they</p>

				<p>consider how the term “justice” resonates today as they explore Frederick Douglass’s discussion of justice in his <i>Narrative</i>.</p> <p>Units within the program are also designed to be responsive to the current events or perspectives of the communities in which they are implemented. The research Collection units in each grade provide supported but flexible lesson opportunities for students to identify, research, discuss, and write about the events and perspectives related to each unit topic that are of greatest interest or concern to them.</p> <p>Texts in the Amplify ELA curriculum cover a wide range of topics, themes, and genres. Taken as a whole, the texts show students a diverse picture of the world, while promoting opportunities for students to connect to reading through their own prior knowledge and experiences. Certain texts and supplementary materials are provided in Spanish to assist non-native English Language Learners in building linguistic and cultural understanding.</p> <p>Every Amplify ELA lesson provides a differentiation section in the Lesson Overview. This section is meant to provide teachers with strategies and resources to assist in building students’ cultural and linguistic abilities. Many of these strategies encourage the use of activating prior knowledge in advance of specific lesson activities that might require additional support for students.</p>
--	--	--	--	--

				<p>Where to look:</p> <p>Grade 6:  <a href="#">6A: Dahl &amp; Narrative, Sub-unit 2, Lesson 6, Activities 3–6</a></p> <p><a href="#">Poetry in America: Grade 6, Sub-unit 1, Lesson 3, Activities 1 and 2</a></p> <p>Grade 7:  <a href="#">7C: Brain Science, Sub-unit 2, Lesson 2, Activity 5</a></p> <p><a href="#">7E: The Frida &amp; Diego Collection, Sub-unit 2, Lesson 3, Activities 2–7</a></p> <p>Grade 8:  <a href="#">8A: Perspectives &amp; Narrative, Sub-unit 3, Lesson 7, Activities 3–5 and 7</a></p> <p><a href="#">8E: Holocaust: Memory &amp; Meaning, Sub-unit 5, Lesson 1, Activity 6</a></p>
	<i>Column Totals</i>			
<b>OVERALL SCORE</b>				