

LANGUAGE ARTS  
CONTENT STANDARDS  
FOR CHRISTIAN  
UNIFIED SCHOOLS OF  
SAN DIEGO

**Sixth Grade**  
**Parent Handbook**



# Standards for Language Arts

## Reading

### **1.0 Word Analysis, Fluency, and Systematic Vocabulary Development**

By the end of sixth grade, your child will:

- 1.1 Read aloud with grade appropriate fluency and accuracy.
- 1.2 Identify/interpret figurative language and words with multiple meanings.
- 1.3 Recognize the origins and meanings of frequently used foreign words in English and use these words accurately.
- 1.4 Monitor text for unknown words or words with novel meanings by using word, sentence, and paragraph clues to determine meaning.
- 1.5 Understand and explain “shades of meaning” in related words (e.g., softly and quietly).
- 1.6 Understand, define, and use introduced words.

### **2.0 Reading Comprehension**

By the end of sixth grade, your child will:

- 2.1 Identify the structural features of popular media (e.g., newspapers, magazines and on-line information).
- 2.2 Analyze texts that use the compare and contrast organizational pattern.
- 2.3 Connect and clarify main ideas by identifying their relationships to other sources and related topics.
- 2.4 Clarify and understand text by creating outlines, logical notes, summaries, or reports.
- 2.5 Determine the adequacy and appropriateness of the evidence for an author’s conclusion.
- 2.6 Make reasonable assertions about a text through accurate, supporting citations.
- 2.7 Note instances of unsupported inferences, fallacious reasoning, persuasion, and propaganda in text.
- 2.8 Increase speed with comprehension in reading.

### **3.0 Literary Response and Analysis**

- 3.1 Identify the forms of fiction and describe the major characteristics of each form.
- 3.2 Analyze the effect of the character’s qualities on the plot/resolution of conflict.
- 3.3 Analyze the influence of setting on the problem and its resolution.
- 3.4 Define how tone or meaning is conveyed in poetry.
- 3.5 Identify the speaker and recognize the difference between first and third person narration.
- 3.6 Identify and analyze features of themes conveyed through characters, actions, and images.

- 3.7 Explain the effects of common literary devices in a variety of fiction and nonfiction texts.
- 3.8 Critique the credibility of characterizations and the degree to which a plot is contrived or realistic.
- 3.9 Identify Biblical principles that can be gleaned from text.
- 3.10 Assess text and discern alignment with and support of Biblical principles.
- 3.11 Continue to develop ability to give reasons why a text does or does not support Biblical principles.

## **Writing**

### **1.0 Writing Strategies**

By the end of sixth grade, your child will:

- 1.1 Choose the form of writing (e.g., personal letter, letter to the editor, review, poem, report, narrative) that best suits the intended purpose.
- 1.2 Create multiple paragraph compositions.
- 1.3 Use a variety of organizational patterns (e.g., comparison/contrast, order of importance) in writing.
- 1.4 Compose documents with appropriate formatting by using word processing skills and principles of design.
- 1.5 Revise writing to improve the organization and consistency of ideas within and between paragraphs.

### **2.0 Writing Applications**

By the end of sixth grade, your child will:

- 2.1 Write narratives.
- 2.2 Write expository compositions.
- 2.3 Write research reports.
- 2.4 Write responses to literature
- 2.5 Write persuasive compositions.

## **Written and Oral English Language Conventions**

### **1.0 Written and oral English Language Conventions**

By the end of sixth grade, your child will:

- 1.1 Use simple, compound, and compound-complex sentences, using effective coordination and subordination of ideas to express thoughts.
- 1.2 Use indefinite pronouns, verb tenses, ensuring that verbs agree with compound subjects.
- 1.3 Use colons, semi-colons, hyphens, and commas in compound sentences.
- 1.4 Use correct capitalization.
- 1.5 Spell frequently misspelled words (e.g., their, they're, there).
- 1.6 Use and diagram all eight parts of speech.

- 1.7 Practice cursive penmanship through creative writing and word exercises.
- 1.8 Use dictionary, thesaurus, and appropriate research materials.

## **Listening and Speaking**

### **1.0 Listening and Speaking Strategies**

By the end of sixth grade, your child will:

- 1.1 Relate the speaker's verbal communications (e.g., word choice, pitch, feeling, tone) to nonverbal messages (e.g., posture, gesture).
- 1.2 Identify the tone, mood, and emotion conveyed in the communication.
- 1.3 Restate and execute multiple-step oral instructions and directions.
- 1.4 Select a focus, organizational structure, and point of view matching the purpose, message, occasion, and vocal modulation to the audience.
- 1.5 Emphasize salient points to assist the listener in following the main ideas and concepts.
- 1.6 Use effective rate, volume, pitch, and tone and aligning nonverbal elements to sustain audience interest and attention.
- 1.7 Identify persuasive and propaganda techniques used in television.

### **2.0 Speaking Applications**

By the end of sixth grade, your child will:

- 2.1 Deliver narrative presentations.
- 2.2 Deliver informal presentations.
- 2.3 Deliver oral responses to literature.
- 2.4 Deliver research presentations.
- 2.5 Deliver persuasive presentations.
- 2.6 Memorize and recite poetry and scripture.

