

1 | Deconstructing Standards

Standard RI.8.4: Determine the meaning of words and phrases as they are used in a text, including figurative, connotative, and technical meanings; analyze the impact of specific word choices on meaning and tone, including analogies or allusions to other texts.

Step 1: Identify the key concepts: (noun or noun phrases).

- Meaning of words and phrases
- Figurative
- Connotative
- Technical

- Word Choices
- Tone
- Analogies
- Allusions

Step 2: Determine the learning target(s): (verbs).

Place one learning target per line.

- Determine
- Analyze

Step 3: Identify the Learning Target categories

Knowledge

Reasoning

Demonstration/
Performance

Product

Determine

✓

Analyze

✓

Step 4: Securely Held Content

- Determine the meaning of words and phrases as they are used in a text
- Figurative and connotative meanings

Step 5: Clarify terms

Analyze – To examine carefully and in detail, break apart into essential features in order to construct meaning

2 | Deconstructing Standards

	Step 6 : Construct specific skill statements		Target Types	Level of Rigor	Step 7: Identify the types of learning targets (K, R, D, and/or P) and the Level of
Step 8: Write a learning progression	(Example: Identify the main idea in a specific piece of text)		R	Level 2*	
	2	Describe the difference between literal meaning and figurative meaning	K/D	Level 1	
	1	Create sentences or phrases which exemplify figurative meaning	R/D	Level 2	
	3	Construct an argument that would justify the use of specific words to illustrate how those words are used to provide meaning and context	R/D	Level 3	
	4	Describe how idioms meaning and figurative meaning are interrelated	R/D	Level 2	

3 | Deconstructing Standards

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Cognitive Demand: Language Arts

Level I	Level II	Level III	Level IV	Level V
Memorize, Recall	Perform Procedures, Explain	Generate, Create. Demonstrate	Analyze, Investigate	Evaluate, Integrate
Reproduce sounds or words	Follow instructions	Create / develop connections among text, self, world	Categorize / schematize information	Determine relevance, coherence, internal consistency, logic
Provide facts, terms, definitions, conventions	Give examples	Recognize relationships	Distinguish fact and opinion	Assess adequacy, appropriateness, credibility
Locate literal answers in text	Check consistency	Dramatize	Compare and contrast	Test conclusions, hypotheses
Identify relevant information	Summarize	Order, group, outline, organize ideas	Identify with another's point of view	Synthesize content and ideas from several sources
Describe	Identify purpose, main ideas, organizational patterns	Express new ideas (or express ideas newly)	Make inferences, draw conclusions	Integrate with other topics and subjects
	Gather information	Develop reasonable alternatives	Predict probable consequences	Critique
			Generalize	

* The number will vary depending on the taxonomy used.