

# New Jersey Student Learning Standards for English Language Arts and Student Learning Objectives

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## *Grade 11-12 – Unit 2: Informational / Explanatory Writing*

### **Rationale**

This unit was designed to serve as a standards-based framework for teaching students to produce short, research-based texts that can be modified to suit the varying purposes and student populations of districts statewide. For example, this unit might produce the following products: iMovie, book trailer, FlipGrid book reviews, multimedia slideshows, posters/Smores, infographic, interactive articles, websites or traditional essays. To inform the product, students will read/analyze models in the genre in which they are writing, read informational texts, and discuss their questions/findings to inform their writing.

### *Grade 11-12 – Unit 2, Module A*

<b>Standard</b>	<b>Student Learning Objectives</b> <b>We are learning to... / We are learning that...</b>
<b>RL.11-12.1.</b> Cite strong and thorough textual evidence and make relevant connections to support analysis of what the text says explicitly as well as inferences drawn from the text, including determining where the text leaves matters uncertain.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>▪ there can be uncertainty in texts</li><li>▪ determine where the text leaves matters uncertain</li></ul>
<b>RI.11-12.1.</b> Accurately cite strong and thorough textual evidence, (e.g., via discussion, written response, etc.), to support analysis of what the text says explicitly as well as inferentially, including determining where the text leaves matter uncertain.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>▪ accurately interpret and cite strong and thorough textual evidence in support of what the text says (means) explicitly and inferentially</li><li>▪ identify and cite areas where the text leaves matters uncertain</li><li>▪ support analysis of what the text says explicitly as well as inferentially</li><li>▪ analyze a text, particularly in areas where matters are left uncertain</li></ul>
<b>RI.11-12.4.</b> Determine the meaning of words and phrases as they are used in a text, including figurative, connotative, and technical meanings; analyze how an author uses and refines the meaning of a key term or terms over the course of a text (e.g., how Madison defines faction in Federalist No. 10).	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>▪ an author uses and refines the meaning of key term(s) over the course of text</li><li>▪ determine figurative, connotative, and technical meaning of words in a text</li></ul>

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Standard	Student Learning Objectives We are learning to... / We are learning that...
<p><b>W.11-12.2.</b> Write informative/explanatory texts to examine and convey complex ideas, concepts, and information clearly and accurately through the effective selection, organization, and analysis of content.</p> <p>A. Introduce a topic; organize complex ideas, concepts, and information so that each new element builds on that which precedes it to create a unified whole; include formatting (e.g., headings), graphics (e.g., figures, tables), and multimedia when useful to aiding comprehension.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ informative and explanatory texts examine and convey complex ideas, concepts, and information through the effective selection, organization and analysis of content</li> <li>▪ introduce a topic; organize ideas, concepts, and information to build to create a unified whole</li> <li>▪ effectively include formatting, graphics and multimedia to aid comprehension</li> <li>▪ develop topic with the most significant and relevant facts</li> </ul>
<p><b>W.11-12.2.</b> Write informative/explanatory texts to examine and convey complex ideas, concepts, and information clearly and accurately through the effective selection, organization, and analysis of content.</p> <p>B. Develop the topic thoroughly by selecting the most significant and relevant facts, extended definitions, concrete details, quotations, or other information and examples appropriate to the audience's knowledge of the topic.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ extended definitions, concrete details, quotations, or other information</li> <li>▪ develop the topic with examples that are appropriate to the audience's knowledge of the topic</li> </ul>
<p><b>W.11-12.2.</b> Write informative/explanatory texts to examine and convey complex ideas, concepts, and information clearly and accurately through the effective selection, organization, and analysis of content.</p> <p>C. Use appropriate and varied transitions and syntax to link the major sections of the text, create cohesion, and clarify the relationships among complex ideas and concepts.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ use appropriate and varied transitions and syntax to link major sections of the text, create cohesion, and clarify the relationships among complex ideas and concepts</li> </ul>

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<p><b>W.11-12.2.</b> Write informative/explanatory texts to examine and convey complex ideas, concepts, and information clearly and accurately through the effective selection, organization, and analysis of content.</p> <p>D. Use precise language, domain-specific vocabulary, and techniques such as metaphor, simile, and analogy to manage the complexity of the topic.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ use precise language and domain-specific vocabulary to manage the complexity of the topic</li> <li>▪ use techniques such as metaphor, simile, and analogy to manage the complexity of the topic</li> </ul>
<p><b>W.11-12.2.</b> Write informative/explanatory texts to examine and convey complex ideas, concepts, and information clearly and accurately through the effective selection, organization, and analysis of content.</p> <p>E. Establish and maintain a style and tone appropriate to the audience and purpose (e.g. formal and objective for academic writing) while attending to the norms and conventions of the discipline in which they are writing.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ establish and maintain a style and tone appropriate to the audience and purpose</li> <li>▪ attend to the norms and conventions of the discipline in which they are writing</li> </ul>
<p><b>W.11-12.9.</b> Draw evidence from literary or informational texts to support analysis, reflection, and research.</p> <p>A. Apply grades 11–12 Reading standards to literature (e.g., “Demonstrate knowledge of eighteenth-, nineteenth- and early-twentieth-century foundational works, including how two or more texts from the same period treat similar themes or topics”).</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ draw evidence from literary texts to support analysis and reflection</li> </ul>

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<p><b>W.11-12.9.</b> Draw evidence from literary or informational texts to support analysis, reflection, and research.</p> <p>B. Apply grades 11–12 Reading standards to literary nonfiction (e.g., “Delineate and evaluate the reasoning in seminal texts, including the application of constitutional principles and use of legal reasoning [e.g., in U.S. Supreme Court Case majority opinions and dissents] and the premises, purposes, and arguments in works of public advocacy [e.g., The Federalist, presidential addresses]”).</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>draw evidence from informational texts to support analysis and research</li> </ul>
<p><b>SL.11-12.4.</b> Present information, findings and supporting evidence clearly, concisely, and logically. The content, organization, development, and style are appropriate to task, purpose, and audience.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>content, organization, development, and style are appropriate to task, purpose, and audience</li> <li>present information, findings, and supporting evidence clearly, concisely, and logically</li> </ul>

### *Grade 11-12 – Unit 2, Module B*

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<p><b>W.11-12.2.</b> Write informative/explanatory texts to examine and convey complex ideas, concepts, and information clearly and accurately through the effective selection, organization, and analysis of content.</p> <p>A. Introduce a topic; organize complex ideas, concepts, and information so that each new element builds on that which precedes it to create a unified whole; include formatting (e.g., headings), graphics (e.g., figures, tables), and multimedia when useful to aiding comprehension.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>informative and explanatory texts examine and convey complex ideas, concepts, and information through the effective selection, organization and analysis of content</li> <li>introduce a topic; organize ideas, concepts, and information to build to create a unified whole</li> <li>effectively include formatting, graphics and multimedia to aid comprehension</li> <li>develop topic with the most significant and relevant facts</li> </ul>

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<p><b>W.11-12.2.</b> Write informative/explanatory texts to examine and convey complex ideas, concepts, and information clearly and accurately through the effective selection, organization, and analysis of content.</p> <p>B. Develop the topic thoroughly by selecting the most significant and relevant facts, extended definitions, concrete details, quotations, or other information and examples appropriate to the audience's knowledge of the topic.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ extended definitions, concrete details, quotations, or other information</li> <li>▪ develop the topic with examples that are appropriate to the audience's knowledge of the topic</li> </ul>
<p><b>W.11-12.2.</b> Write informative/explanatory texts to examine and convey complex ideas, concepts, and information clearly and accurately through the effective selection, organization, and analysis of content.</p> <p>C. Use appropriate and varied transitions and syntax to link the major sections of the text, create cohesion, and clarify the relationships among complex ideas and concepts.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ use appropriate and varied transitions and syntax to link major sections of the text, create cohesion, and clarify the relationships among complex ideas and concepts</li> </ul>
<p><b>W.11-12.2.</b> Write informative/explanatory texts to examine and convey complex ideas, concepts, and information clearly and accurately through the effective selection, organization, and analysis of content.</p> <p>D. Use precise language, domain-specific vocabulary, and techniques such as metaphor, simile, and analogy to manage the complexity of the topic.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ use precise language and domain-specific vocabulary to manage the complexity of the topic</li> <li>▪ use techniques such as metaphor, simile, and analogy to manage the complexity of the topic</li> </ul>

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<p><b>W.11-12.2.</b> Write informative/explanatory texts to examine and convey complex ideas, concepts, and information clearly and accurately through the effective selection, organization, and analysis of content.</p> <p>E. Establish and maintain a style and tone appropriate to the audience and purpose (e.g. formal and objective for academic writing) while attending to the norms and conventions of the discipline in which they are writing.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ establish and maintain a style and tone appropriate to the audience and purpose</li> <li>▪ attend to the norms and conventions of the discipline in which they are writing</li> </ul>
<p><b>W.11-12.2.</b> Write informative/explanatory texts to examine and convey complex ideas, concepts, and information clearly and accurately through the effective selection, organization, and analysis of content.</p> <p>F. Provide a concluding paragraph or section that supports the argument presented (e.g., articulating implications or the significance of the topic).</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ provide a conclusion that supports the information or explanation presented</li> <li>▪ articulate implications or the significance of the topic</li> </ul>
<p><b>W.11-12.6.</b> Use technology, including the Internet, to produce, share, and update individual or shared writing products in response to ongoing feedback, including new arguments or information.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ technology can be used to produce, share, and update individual or shared writing projects</li> <li>▪ information can be shared, linked and displayed flexibly and dynamically using technology</li> <li>▪ use technology, including the Internet, to display information flexibly and dynamically</li> </ul>
<p><b>W.11-12.7.</b> Conduct short as well as more sustained research projects to answer a question (including a self-generated question) or solve a problem; narrow or broaden the inquiry when appropriate; synthesize multiple sources on the subject, demonstrating understanding of the subject under investigation.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ conduct short and sustained research projects to answer a question or solve a problem</li> <li>▪ the research process is used to answer a question or solve a problem</li> <li>▪ research process applies to our own questions and/or problems</li> <li>▪ short and sustained research projects to answer a question or solve a problem</li> </ul>