

Grade 8 Foreign Language Standards and Expectations

- 1.** Uses the target language to engage in conversations, express feelings and emotions, and exchange opinions and information
 1. Uses appropriate verbal strategies and cues (e.g., rephrasing, circumlocution, repetition, tone, stress, intonation) to communicate spoken messages and maintain listening comprehension
 2. Uses verbal and written exchanges to express opinions in the target language (e.g., concerning current events, about topics of personal or community interest)

- 2.** Understands and interprets written and spoken language from diverse media
 1. Understands nonverbal and verbal cues when listening to or observing a user of the target language
 2. Understands the main ideas, themes, principal characters, and significant details of ability-appropriate authentic literature (e.g., narratives, shorts stories, poems, plays)

- 3.** Presents information, concepts, and ideas to an audience of listeners or readers on a variety of topics
 1. Summarizes the plot and provides brief descriptions of characters in selected poems, short stories, folk tales, and anecdotes
 2. Uses language conventions and style (e.g., complex grammatical structures, slang, humor, idioms, small talk, polite forms and status indicators, vernacular dialects, content area vocabulary) appropriate to different audiences and settings

- 4.** Understands traditional ideas and perspectives, institutions, professions, literary and artistic expressions, and other components of target culture
 1. Knows a variety of age-appropriate expressive forms of the culture (e.g., popular music and dance; appropriate authentic texts, such as children's magazines, comic books, children's literature, folk tales; the use of color, etc.
 2. Understands the general relationship between cultural perspectives and expressive products (e.g., music, visual arts, literature) in the target and native cultures
 3. Knows historical and cultural figures from the target culture and their contributions

- 5.** Understands that different languages use different patterns to communicate and applies this knowledge to the target and native languages
 1. Draws conclusions about the relationship among languages (e.g., based on cognates and idioms)
 2. Understands that languages have critical sound distinctions that convey meaning