

## Speaking and Listening Standards

### Grade 6 students:

1. Engage effectively in a range of collaborative discussions (one-on-one, in groups, and teacher-led) with diverse partners on *grade 6 topics, texts, and issues*, building on others' ideas and expressing their own clearly.
  - a. Come to discussions prepared, having read or studied required material; explicitly draw on that preparation by referring to evidence on the topic, text, or issue to probe and reflect on ideas under discussion.
  - b. Follow rules for collegial discussions, set specific goals and deadlines, and define individual roles as needed.
  - c. Pose and respond to specific questions with elaboration and detail by making comments that contribute to the topic, text, or issue under discussion.
  - d. Review the key ideas expressed and demonstrate understanding of multiple perspectives through reflection and paraphrasing.
2. Interpret information presented in diverse media and formats (e.g., visually, quantitatively, orally) and explain how it contributes to a topic, text, or issue under study.
3. Delineate a speaker's argument and specific claims, distinguishing claims that are supported by reasons and evidence from claims that are not.
4. Present claims and findings, sequencing ideas logically and using pertinent descriptions, facts, and details to accentuate main ideas or themes; use appropriate eye contact, adequate volume, and clear pronunciation.
5. Include multimedia components (e.g., graphics, images, music, sound) and visual displays in presentations to clarify information.
6. Adapt speech to a variety of contexts and tasks, demonstrating command of formal English when indicated or appropriate. (See grade 6 Language standards 1 and 3 on page 52 for specific expectations.)

## Language Standards

### Grade 6 students:

1. Demonstrate command of the conventions of standard English grammar and usage when writing or speaking.
  - a. Ensure that pronouns are in the proper case (subjective, objective, possessive).
  - b. Use intensive pronouns (e.g., *myself, ourselves*).
  - c. Recognize and correct inappropriate shifts in pronoun number and person.\*
  - d. Recognize and correct vague pronouns (i.e., ones with unclear or ambiguous antecedents)\*.
  - e. Recognize variations from standard English in their own and others' writing and speaking, and identify and use strategies to improve expression in conventional language.\*
2. Demonstrate command of the conventions of standard English capitalization, punctuation, and spelling when writing.
  - a. Use punctuation (commas, parentheses, dashes) to set off nonrestrictive/parenthetical elements.\*
  - b. Spell correctly.
3. Use knowledge of language and its conventions when writing, speaking, reading, or listening.
  - a. Vary sentence patterns for meaning, reader/listener interest, and style.\*
  - b. Maintain consistency in style and tone.\*
4. Determine or clarify the meaning of unknown and multiple-meaning words and phrases based on *grade 6 reading and content*, choosing flexibly from a range of strategies.
  - a. Use context (e.g., the overall meaning of a sentence or paragraph; a word's position or function in a sentence) as a clue to the meaning of a word or phrase.
  - b. Use common, grade-appropriate Greek or Latin affixes and roots as clues to the meaning of a word (e.g., *audience, auditory, audible*).
  - c. Consult reference materials (e.g., dictionaries, glossaries, thesauruses), both print and digital, to find the pronunciation of a word or determine or clarify its precise meaning or its part of speech.
  - d. Verify the preliminary determination of the meaning of a word or phrase (e.g., by checking the inferred meaning in context or in a dictionary).
5. Demonstrate understanding of figurative language, word relationships, and nuances in word meanings.
  - a. Interpret figures of speech (e.g., personification) in context.
  - b. Use the relationship between particular words (e.g., cause/effect, part/whole, item/category) to better understand each of the words.
  - c. Distinguish among the connotations (associations) of words with similar denotations (definitions) (e.g., *stingy, scrimping, economical, unwasteful, thrifty*).
6. Acquire and use accurately grade-appropriate general academic and domain-specific words and phrases; gather vocabulary knowledge when considering a word or phrase important to comprehension or expression.