

2021 Instructional Material Summer Review Institute

Review Team Appraisal of Title

6-8 English Language Arts

This appraisal form is provided for use by educators responsible for the selection of instructional materials for implementation with districts and charter schools across New Mexico to meet the need of their student populations.

This appraisal form should be used in conjunction with the publisher provided Form D: Research Based Effectiveness Determination that supports this reviewed material which can be found on the Instructional Material Bureau website.

<https://webnew.ped.state.nm.us/bureaus/instructional-materials/the-adoption-cycle/>

Text Title	HMH New Mexico Into Literature Digital Learning Student Resource Package Plus 6-Year Grade 8	Publisher	Houghton Mifflin Harcourt Publishing Company
SE ISBN	9780358616825	TE ISBN	9780358616887
SW ISBN		Grade Level/Content	Grade 8 ELA

Core Instructional Material Designation *(Core Instructional Material is the comprehensive print or digital educational material, including basal material, which constitutes the necessary instructional components of a full academic course of study in those subjects for which the department has adopted content standards and benchmarks.)*

Recommended
(90% and above)



Recommended with Reservations (80-89%)



Not Recommended and Not Adopted
(below 80%)



Total Score - The final score for the materials is averaged between the team of reviewers.

Average Score

97%

Cultural and Linguistic Relevance Recognition - Materials are reviewed for relevant criteria pertaining to the support for teachers and students in the material regarding cultural relevance and the inclusion of a culturally responsive lens. Those materials receiving a score of 90% or above on the CLR portion of the review are recognized as culturally and linguistically relevant.

CLR Recognized



Average Score

100%

Materials take into account cultural perspectives.

Statements of appraisal and supporting evidence (autofilled from All Content Appraisal tab):

The materials provide tools for teachers to help students relate to diverse cultures and languages. The materials provide cultural perspectives from a diversity of cultures; there are several different texts and genres that represent a diverse cultural perspective.

Materials include a culturally responsive lens.

Statements of appraisal and supporting evidence (autofilled from All Content Appraisal tab):

The materials include a variety of culturally responsive readings. The TE provides opportunities for a culturally responsive lens throughout. Each unit has a planning guide that provides additional instruction for English Learners. Teachers are provided with additional instructions on how to build background and promote cultural sensitivity and awareness.

Standards Review - Materials are reviewed for alignment with the state adopted content standards, benchmarks and performance standards.

Average Score

96%

Materials align with grade level ELA standards overall.

Statements of appraisal and supporting evidence:

The materials are at the appropriate grade-level text complexity and are accompanied by quality tasks aligned to the Common Core State Standards for reading, writing, speaking, listening, and language literacy skills. Each unit begins with a list of learning objectives and the online component offers a standards correlation guide to assist teachers in unit/lesson planning. Guidance is provided for teachers to attend to standards-based instructional expectations while offering students a variety of grammar and vocabulary activities to help support students' mastery of all grade level content standards.

Materials align to reading standards.

Statements of appraisal and supporting evidence:

Materials comprise a wide variety of text types and genres required by the standards at each grade level. Texts include a mix of informational and literary texts integrated throughout every unit. Student interest is evident in the considered range of texts offered. For each of the six units, there are also suggested independent reading books that can be used to enhance or extend the provided reading selections. Students practice a variety of literacy skills show mastery of the reading standards.

Materials align to writing standards.

Statements of appraisal and supporting evidence:

Materials provide opportunities for rich and rigorous evidence-based discussions and writing about texts to build strong literacy skills. The materials include a mix of on-demand and process writing; short, focused projects; and incorporating digital resources where appropriate. The materials provide opportunities for students to write across different text types that reflect the distribution required by the standards and include frequent opportunities for evidence-based writing to support careful analyses, well-defended claims, and clear information appropriate for the grade level. Students practice critical skills such as summarize, critique, interpret, and connect to their reading. Teacher materials provide support for planning and implementation of text-dependent writing standards.

Materials align to speaking and listening standards.

Statements of appraisal and supporting evidence:

Materials align to both speaking and listening standards as outlined in Common Core State Standards. There are activities which promote listening skills, such as using audio versions of the materials to make connections, supporting peers with active listening and feedback, and using techniques such 'Turn and Talk' and 'Choral Reading'. There are also several activities to promote the speaking standards, such making speeches, presentations, podcasts, and screenplays. Specific skills such as using volume and pronunciation are also addressed in the materials as they relate to grade appropriate speaking standards. The materials provide frequent opportunities and protocols for evidence-based discussions that encourage the modeling and use of academic vocabulary and syntax, while also supporting students' listening and speaking about what they are reading and researching with relevant follow-up questions and supports.

Materials align to language standards.

Statements of appraisal and supporting evidence:

Materials meet English language standards. The material provides students with opportunities to practice and demonstrate the conventions of English grammar, usage in writing, speaking, reading and listening. The materials also provide instruction for grade-level grammar and convention standards as applied through increasingly sophisticated contexts, with opportunities for students to practice reading, writing, and listening strategies. Students are able to learn skills such as literary analysis, summarizing information from the text, interpretation, and connection of textual information to real-life experiences. The materials include explicit instruction of the grade-level grammar and conventions standards as applied in increasingly sophisticated contexts, with opportunities for application both in and out of context.

ELA Content Review - Materials are reviewed for relevant criteria pertaining to the support for teachers and students in the specific content area reviewed.

Average Score

94%

Materials provide a selection and range of high-quality texts worthy of students' time and attention, exhibiting exceptional craft and thought and/or providing useful information.

Statements of appraisal and supporting evidence:

The instructional materials are worthy of students' time and attention. They are of quality, rigorous, and meet the text complexity criteria for grade 8. Materials support students' progress toward independent reading. Anchor texts consist of a range of student interests and reflect various text types and genres required by the standards, specifically works from award-winning authors as well as traditional choices. They consider a range of student interests, including but not limited to reality vs. fantasy.

Questions in the materials are high-quality text-dependent and text-specific questions. The overwhelming majority of these questions are text-specific and draw student attention to the particulars in the text.

Statements of appraisal and supporting evidence:

Materials provide numerous opportunities within each lesson for students to engage with and answer high quality text-dependent and text-specific questions that focus on particulars in the text. Questions focus on higher order thinking skills aligned with Depth of Knowledge (DOK) levels, with suggestions and reteaching moments based on student answers to the texts in the side margins. There are questions that align with analyzing, comparing/contrasting, cause/effect, inferences, and synthesizing. There are also text-specific questions that align to vocabulary and meanings. Questions are used within the materials as formative and summative assessments. Most questions, tasks, and assignments are text dependent, requiring students to engage with the text directly, while sets of high-quality sequences of text-dependent questions and tasks build to a culminating task that integrates literacy skills.

Materials provide scaffolding and supports to enable students' learning of English language arts.

Statements of appraisal and supporting evidence:

Materials provide scaffolding opportunities for all students to have access to lessons that provide rigorous learning opportunities. Students are able to meet the standards for grade-level through repetitive practice. The textbook has embedded materials to meet each level of learning.

All Content Review - Materials are reviewed for relevant criteria pertaining to the support for teachers and students in the material regarding the progression of the standards, lesson structure, pacing, assessment, individual learners and cultural relevance.

Average Score

100%

Materials are coherent and consistent with the standards that all students should study in order to be college and career ready.

Statements of appraisal and supporting evidence:

Materials meet the expectations of alignment with the standards. Rigorous, engaging texts are high quality and are organized by the central focus of lessons while supporting students' knowledge building. The materials support student growth in reading, writing, speaking, and listening, and help develop language skills over the course of the school year, with attention to close reading and analysis of texts, topics, and themes. The materials also meet the expectations for instructional supports and usability, with guidance for differentiation and program design for implementation of grade level standards based learning.

Materials are well designed and take into account effective lesson structure and pacing.

Statements of appraisal and supporting evidence:

The curriculum is made up of six units and suggested pacing is provided for each unit. There is a planning guide at the beginning of each unit that is color-coded by skill and resource. Materials are well-designed and offer effective lesson structure and pacing. Within each unit, instruction is divided into Analyze & Apply, Collaborate & Compare, Reader's Choice, and Unit Tasks. The pacing allows for maximum student understanding. The suggested amount of time and expectations for teachers and students are viable for one school year.

Materials support teacher planning, learning, and understanding of the standards.

Statements of appraisal and supporting evidence:

The materials contain a Teacher's Edition with annotations and suggestions on how to present the content in the Student Edition and in the online materials. This set of materials includes teacher guidance for the use of embedded technology to support and enhance student learning. There are also explanations of the instructional approaches of the program and identification of the research based strategies.

Materials offer teachers resources and tools to collect ongoing data about student progress on the standards.

Statements of appraisal and supporting evidence:

These instructional materials provide teachers access to a wide variety of resources and tools to collect ongoing data about student progress. Within each lesson, there are Quick Checks in the Teacher Edition to formatively assess student progress toward meeting the standards. There are also assessment practices and assessments at the end of each reading. There are rubrics available in the online materials for all learning tasks.

Materials support effective use of technology to enhance student learning.

Statements of appraisal and supporting evidence:

Materials are comprehensive and can be used online and in print. The online version of the text has additional activities for the students to use, which enhance learning opportunities. For example, in the Grade 8 standards, students are required to use multimedia to express their ideas. These materials allow for meeting this standard as there are activities for creating podcasts, documentaries, emails, researching topics, and online questions and answers. There are also opportunities to use technology to view media such as videos and audio versions of the text.

Materials can be easily customized for individual learners.

Statements of appraisal and supporting evidence:

The materials provide differentiation strategies for various learners, including English Language Learners, high needs students, and students who require a challenge. These suggestions are found in each lesson and unit. There are also customizable activities in the online portion that allow for changes in language presented as well as differentiated learning tasks.

Materials give all students extensive opportunities and support to explore key concepts.

Statements of appraisal and supporting evidence:

Students are provided opportunities to explore key concepts in the text through repetition and practice of the skills associated with Reading, Writing, Analytical Thinking, Organizing, and Collaboration in pairs, small group and/or whole group discussions. Students are encouraged to analyze readings and make inferences about the meaning of words and phrases. These skills include researching the material to increase comprehension of the topic or central idea and analyzing and interpreting meaning through various forms of media. Students are encouraged to read independently, then are paired to deepen the understanding of the text.

Materials take into account cultural perspectives.

Statements of appraisal and supporting evidence:

The materials provide tools for teachers to help students relate to diverse cultures and languages. The materials provide cultural perspectives from a diversity of cultures; there are several different texts and genres that represent a diverse cultural perspective.

Materials include a culturally responsive lens.

Statements of appraisal and supporting evidence:

The materials include a variety of culturally responsive readings. The TE provides opportunities for a culturally responsive lens throughout. Each unit has a planning guide that provides additional instruction for English Learners. Teachers are provided with additional instructions on how to build background and promote cultural sensitivity and awareness.

Reviewers' Professional Summation - These materials are reviewed by Level II and Level III educators from across New Mexico. The reviewers have brought their knowledge, experience and expertise into the review of these materials. They offer here their individual summary of the material as a whole.

Reviewer #: 16

Background and experience:

Level II teacher in NM public schools for 8 years. MAT degree in PreK-12 Reading with 6-12 Secondary Endorsements in Language Arts and Business Education. Teaching experience includes ELA grades 9–12 honors, preAP, AP Language & Composition, and AP Literature & Composition.

Professional summary of material:

The instructional materials reviewed for Grade 8 meet the expectations for alignment. Rigorous, engaging texts are high quality and are organized to be the central focus of lessons while supporting Grade 8 students' knowledge building. The materials support student growth in reading, writing, speaking and listening, and developing language skills over the course of the school year, with attention to close reading and analysis of texts, topics, and themes. The materials also meet the expectations for instructional supports and usability, with guidance for differentiation and program design for implementation.

Reviewer #: 17

Background and experience:

Level III NM Teacher. Ed.D in Curriculum and Instruction, MS Special Education, Licensed in K-8 Elementary Education, PreK-12th Special Education and TESOL Endorsements. Teaching experience includes: Middle School ELA, ESL, Math, Health, and Special Education. Also includes Elementary ELD, Special Education, and 4th and 5th grade all content. Currently serves as MTSS Coordinator for last 2 years.

Professional summary of material:

The materials provide high-quality, content-rich, rigorous learning materials for students in Grade 8. Materials encompass a wide variety of genres, learning tasks, and writing opportunities for all students. Materials can be modified for different types of learners and there are built in opportunities for teachers to monitor student progress such as with rubrics, assessments, and projects. The hands-on learning tasks provide practice with technology and media and allow for students to gain skills that can transfer to other subjects and/or disciplines. There is an online version of materials that provide extension activities to challenge students or provide further practice in a skill.

Reviewer #: 18

Background and experience:

MA in Public Administration. BA in University Studies. Level III Administrator License; Level III 6-12 Secondary; Endorsements in Social Studies, Language Arts, Business Education, Health, Gifted, Physical Education, TESOL, Science, Psychology and Reading. Currently teaching high school Chemistry, Healthcare Occupations, Dual Credit First Year Experience. Previously taught English Language Arts, Social Studies, Drama, Health, Physical Education, Business Education. Teacher in NM Public Schools for 6 years.

Professional summary of material:

The materials meet Grade 8 level standards for learning. Materials have a variety of reading genres, learning opportunities, and written assignments to challenge every level of student. The lessons have assessment tools embedded to provide teachers with a variety of ways to check for student understanding, through Assessment Practice, Quick Checks, Analyze the Text, Selection Test, and Choices activities. The physical and digital text provide students with additional practice through differentiated instruction activities for students who struggle, English Learners and advanced students.