

**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	myPerspectives English Language Arts Print Consumable Student Edition 6-year access + 6-year Digital Courseware + 6-year Revision Assistant, Grade 8	Publisher	Savvas Learning Company LLC
SE ISBN	9781418366506	TE ISBN	9781418371043
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**

95%

**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**

99%

Materials take into account cultural perspectives.

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

Each unit includes readings that explore a variety of cultural perspectives, including selections from authors like Audre Lorde, Chief Joseph, Isabel Allende, and Art Spiegelman. There are also extension activities that encourage students to explore these author's cultures at the time of their writings and in present day.

Materials include a culturally responsive lens.

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

The materials provide opportunities to connect to background knowledge and connect to students' identities. The materials also provide opportunities for students to learn about and gain respect for different cultures. Problem/solution extension activities related to texts and further research put students in a unique position to make connections between and within cultures.

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

Average Score

94%

Materials align with grade level ELA standards overall.

*Statements of appraisal and supporting evidence:*

The materials align with the reading, writing, language, and speaking and listening standards through multiple types of tasks.

Materials align to reading standards.

*Statements of appraisal and supporting evidence:*

Students read a variety of informational and literary texts from multiple genres. The materials provide myriad activities that align to the reading standards. They also provide opportunities for students to read, write, discuss, and engage in high-level questioning and reflection.

Materials align to writing standards.

*Statements of appraisal and supporting evidence:*

Students have the opportunity to write daily, both shorter and longer pieces. Writing projects go from reflection through argument, research and presentation.

Materials align to speaking and listening standards.

*Statements of appraisal and supporting evidence:*

Each unit has larger speaking and listening opportunities as well as discussions in a variety of contexts (e.g., pairs, small group, full class).

Materials align to language standards.

*Statements of appraisal and supporting evidence:*

Students learn the language standards in context, using a mentor text. Directly following, students use this new understanding in their own writing.

**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

99%

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 materials have a rich offering of perspectives represented. Texts are engaging and interesting and are written by award-winning authors. These engaging texts are found throughout each unit: in whole-class learning, small-group learning and independent learning. The wide variety of texts include memoir, poetry, magazine articles, speeches, blog posts, news articles, infographics, short stories, graphic novel excerpts, video, biography, novel excerpts.

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:*

Students engage in a first read and answer comprehension questions. After the second-read, students answer text-dependent analysis questions that prepare them to write or speak knowledgeably in their performance task.

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

*Statements of appraisal and supporting evidence:*

There are a plethora of graphic organizers and step-by-step instructions for students. The teacher's edition provides differentiation ideas at point of use for students who need additional support, students who need acceleration, and English learners. The activities and lessons around each text are set up in a scaffolded routine format.

**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

98%

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:*

Texts and materials engage students in deep analysis and critical thinking related to the standards in order to facilitate independent learning. The themes are vertically aligned 6-12, continuing the progression of ideas that challenge students to think critically about varying perspectives and prepare them for the future.

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

*Statements of appraisal and supporting evidence:*

Each unit contains a unit overview page with a pacing guide and overview of the readings and the standards associated with each reading. Each unit is designed with gradual release in mind, moving from whole-class instruction, to small group learning, to independent learning. There is room for flexibility based on student population and teacher autonomy.

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

*Statements of appraisal and supporting evidence:*

Author's Perspectives provide teachers with insight on teaching and learning as well as strategies to use in approaching working with students and the standards. These perspectives appear at point of use for teachers as they are teaching. The Lesson Resources and Decide and Plan sections align the standards to each lesson individually taught.

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

*Statements of appraisal and supporting evidence:*

There are opportunities for formative, summative, and performance-based assessment throughout each unit. Teachers have access to digital tools that they can use to customize assessments for their needs and collect data.

Materials support effective use of technology to enhance student learning.

*Statements of appraisal and supporting evidence:*

Technology is integrated into each lesson and several assessments, with videos and opportunities to engage in learning through research. The Independent Learning section of each unit is available online, and students can annotate and engage with text in a digital environment.

Materials can be easily customized for individual learners.

*Statements of appraisal and supporting evidence:*

myPerspectives+ online supplemental activities and videos, as well as the "Personalize for Learning" callout boxes in the text, provide teachers with support in customizing instruction for individual learners.

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

*Statements of appraisal and supporting evidence:*

Students can engage in QuickWrites, Challenge activities, Digital Perspectives activities, Research to Clarify activities, and Research to Explore activities that provide them with ample opportunity to explore key concepts beyond the reading of the text. These explorations support cooperative and independent learning.

Materials take into account cultural perspectives.

*Statements of appraisal and supporting evidence:*

Each unit includes readings that explore a variety of cultural perspectives, including selections from authors like Audre Lorde, Chief Joseph, Isabel Allende, and Art Spiegelman. There are also extension activities that encourage students to explore these author's cultures at the time of their writings and in present day.

Materials include a culturally responsive lens.

*Statements of appraisal and supporting evidence:*

The materials provide opportunities to connect to background knowledge and connect to students' identities. The materials also provide opportunities for students to learn about and gain respect for different cultures. Problem/solution extension activities related to texts and further research put students in a unique position to make connections between and within cultures.

**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 #: 52

*Background and experience:*

I am a Level III teacher with endorsements in Reading, Language Arts, and TESOL. For 12 years, I taught reading intervention in middle school as well as 8th and 9th grade English Language Arts. For the last three years, I have been the English Language Arts Content Specialist for my district, supporting teachers K-12 in literacy and language arts instruction. I hold two graduate degrees in Curriculum & Instruction with an emphasis in Language, Literacy, and Culture, and study discourse and culture in literature for young adults.

*Professional summary of material:*

Savvas Learning Company's myPerspectives engages students with a wide variety of contexts and perspectives in which to situate their learning. The consistent unit layout and integration of reading, writing, language, and speaking and listening scaffolds student learning in that more time is spent on content and less on understanding the structure of the learning. There are ample resources within the text to support teachers in differentiating for a variety of student sub-groups, from those who need language support to those who need acceleration. Additionally, the Author's Perspectives callout boxes provide additional insights, strategies, and supports for teachers at point of use in the text. Extension pieces, like Hook & Inspire, Turnitin, and EssayScorer, provide even more support for teachers. Hook & Inspire offers points of entry for many of the texts, and Turnitin and EssayScorer provide writing support.

Reviewer #: 53

*Background and experience:*

After working in different career fields, including nursing and cost accounting, I changed direction 13 years ago and was asked to teach college English at my alma mater. After several years, I became drawn to the idea of preparing students for college and working with them in their more crucially formative years of high school. I am currently a Level III teacher with a 7-12th grade Language Arts license and TESOL endorsement teaching 9th Grade Pre-AP English, and AVID. Next year, I will be combining my previous professional work experience as a nurse with my love of teaching English by designing and teaching an 11th/12th grade English course specifically for LPN Dual Enrollment students.

*Professional summary of material:*

The myPerspectives English Language Arts materials and online platform for 8th grade is a well-structured, consistently planned curriculum that is culturally diverse and rich in content and rigor. The materials address all standards in Reading, Writing, Language, and Speaking and Listening through a variety of genres, assessments, and discussions and are ready to captivate student interest and provide teachers unique opportunities to ensure all students, no matter their level, can master the standards. The activities and assessments are varied and creative. Some assessments include multiple components that extend how students process the information and demonstrate their knowledge. The shift in complexity and rigor within the 8th grade materials is recognizable and done in a manner that would be highly appealing to students preparing to enter high school.

Reviewer #: 54

*Background and experience:*

I am a Level 2 teacher in my 8th year of teaching in 5th and 6th grade. I am TESOL endorsed and currently completing my Master's in Education at the University of New Mexico in Language, Literacy, and Sociocultural Studies. I have worked with my district on curriculum mapping and development over the past few years.

*Professional summary of material:*

The myPerspectives 8th grade ELA curriculum provides a strong foundation for teaching and learning with five well-crafted Units that center student thinking and deeper learning. Reading, writing, language, and speaking and listening standards are integrated within every lesson with creative and rigorous prompts for learning and assessment. The texts and themes in each unit are highly engaging, and the units center around the following themes: Rites-of-Passage, the Holocaust, What Matters, Human Intelligence, and Inventions. In addition, the differentiation strategies listed within the Teacher's Edition for each lesson will support teachers in adapting the curriculum to meet the needs of all students. The online platform Realize will be a helpful tool for teachers who wish to enhance the lessons with technology or look for extra resources.