



Archdiocese of Washington Catholic Schools

Academic Standards

Second Language



Grade 8

Standard 1

COMMUNICATION: Write and speak in a language other than English

Students engage in written and spoken conversations on a variety of topics. (Interpersonal)

- 8.1.1 Accurately and appropriately state information about self, family, and friends.
- 8.1.2 Exchange more detailed information and opinions orally.
- 8.1.3 Exchange more detailed information and opinions in written form.
Examples: Letters, e-mails, etc.
- 8.1.4 Make requests and ask different types of questions in a variety of social situations.
- 8.1.5 Recognize and use situation-appropriate non-verbal communication.
- 8.1.6 Use speaking and listening strategies to facilitate communication.
Examples: Identifying key words, synonyms and antonyms

Standard 2

COMMUNICATION: Interpret information in a language other than English

Students interpret written and spoken language on a variety of topics. (Interpretive)

- 8.2.1 Respond accurately to classroom requests, commands, and directions.
- 8.2.2 Demonstrate comprehension of both authentic and non-authentic written and spoken language through developmentally appropriate tasks.
Example: Identify basic parts of speech
- 8.2.3 Make educated guesses about meaning in familiar written and spoken contexts, using cognates and familiar vocabulary.

Standard 3

COMMUNICATION: Present information in a language other than English

Students present to an audience of listeners or readers on a variety of topics. (Presentational)

- 8.3.1 Recite developmentally appropriate rhymes, proverbs, and poetry of the target cultures.
- 8.3.2 Present prepared material and student-created material on a variety of topics with greater ease.
Examples: Dialogues, skits, plays, etc.
- 8.3.3 Read passages aloud to practice appropriate intonation and pronunciation with increasing accuracy and ease.
- 8.3.4 Compose simple cohesive written information using appropriate formats and more varied vocabulary and structures with increasing accuracy.
- 8.3.5 Sing developmentally appropriate songs of the target language and cultures.



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Standard 4

CULTURES: Develop awareness of other cultures

Students examine, experience, and reflect on the relationships among the practices, products, and perspectives of the cultures studied.

- 8.4.1 Investigate and report on basic social practices of the target cultures.
Examples: Fashion, cultural trends, health, etc.
- 8.4.2 Discuss products, perspectives, and symbols of the target cultures through guided participation.
- 8.4.3 Examine factors that influence practices, products, and perspectives.
Examples: Geography, weather, history, economy, etc.
- 8.4.4 Describe contributions from other cultures.
Examples: Art, literature, famous people, etc.

Standard 5

CONNECTIONS: Make connections to other content areas

Students use the target language to expand their knowledge of and make connections among multiple content areas.

- 8.5.1 Investigate and report on objects and concepts from other content areas.
Examples: Probability (refers to Mathematics 5.6.4), inherited traits (refers to Science 8.4)
- 8.5.2 Integrate content area concepts and skills through relevant activities.
Examples: Report on survey results in the target language, discuss family traits in the target language

Standard 6

CONNECTIONS: Access and connect information through various media

Students strengthen language proficiency and cultural knowledge by using current digital media and authentic resources.

- 8.6.1 Use digital media and culturally authentic resources to build vocabulary, improve reading ability, and encourage cultural awareness.
Examples: Electronic dictionaries, language websites, TV programs, etc
- 8.6.2 Use digital media and culturally authentic resources to study target cultures.
Examples: Short video clips, advertisements, etc.



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Standard 7

COMPARISONS: Investigate the nature of language and culture

Students understand the nature of language and culture through comparisons of the languages and cultures studied and their own.

- 8.7.1 Use cognates and word families to guess meaning.
- 8.7.2 Recognize and use a variety of language structures.
Examples: Demonstratives and possessives
- 8.7.3 Compare and use idiomatic and colloquial expressions in the target language.
- 8.7.4 Compare and use authentic forms of address in familiar social situations.
- 8.7.5 Compare the social patterns of other cultures and the learner's own culture.
Examples: Compare school settings, role-play meeting new people, discuss dating, etc.

Standard 8

COMMUNITIES: Become an active global citizen by experiencing languages and cultures in multiple settings

Students use their knowledge of the target language and cultures both within and beyond the school setting for personal enrichment and civic engagement.

- 8.8.1 Share experiences from the world language classroom within the school and/or community.
Example: Make presentations to peers and school community
- 8.8.2 Investigate and share with others the influences of the target language and cultures on the community.
Examples: Architecture, special events, stores and shops, etc.
- 8.8.3 Show evidence of becoming a life-long learner by using the target language and cultural knowledge for personal enrichment.
Examples: Watch movies in the target language, listen to songs in the target language, join a club, establish e-pal or pen pal connections with native speakers, travel abroad