Grade 8: Reading Benchmark
Paraphrase and Summarize

Welcome to Reading with the B.E.S.T.
Amplify ELA Modules for Florida

The Florida Reading Benchmark Modules are projectable instructional resources that provide an introduction to each grade level B.E.S.T. Reading benchmark. They provide students with a foundational understanding of each benchmark and how it supports text analysis through targeted interactive instruction and practice.

Modules are based on a gradual release model and can be used in a variety of ways, including:

- Whole class lessons to introduce and apply benchmark skills and concepts
- Whole class or small group review of benchmark definitions in any lesson where a refresher is needed
- Small group instruction to reinforce and practice skills for struggling students

Within each module, students apply the targeted benchmark to an analysis of passages from texts from the Florida booklists housed in the Amplify Library. Students are given directions on how to access the texts and use the Amplify eReader to highlight and annotate the passages for whole class discussion. The sections in the modules are designed to build upon each other–starting with an introduction to benchmark definitions and culminating with independent practice. This design works best if the modules are approached as a whole, rather than using the sections out of order or skipping parts.

The modules are divided into five sections:

Benchmark Introduction: 5 min.

- Key benchmark definitions, terms, and examples

Benchmark Skill Routine: 10 min.

- Teacher-led introduction to a skill routine for applying the benchmark to text analysis

Benchmark in Action: 10–15 min.

- Teacher-led walkthrough, using a passage from a relevant Florida text to demonstrate how to use the skill routine to analyze a text

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Independent Practice: 10–15 min.

- Directions for student practice, applying the benchmark and skill routine to a second passage from a relevant text

Check for Understanding: 5 min.

- 2-4 key questions students use during whole class discussion to explain their findings and to wrap up the work on each benchmark

In addition, teacher resources in this PDF include:

- **Benchmark Lessons in Amplify ELA:** List of selected lessons where students will encounter and practice the benchmark
- **Benchmark Stack:** List of benchmarks that students are likely to work with while using the spotlight benchmark to analyze a text
- **Possible Responses:** Sample answers for the Check for Understanding section of the module

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Benchmark Lessons in Amplify ELA

List of selected Amplify ELA lessons where students will encounter and practice the benchmark

ELA.8.R.3.2

Paraphrase and Summarize: Paraphrase content from grade-level texts.

Benchmark Lessons in Amplify ELA:

8B: Liberty & Equality, Sub-unit 5, Lessons 1 and 2

8C: Science & Science Fiction, Sub-unit 1, Lesson 5

8D: Shakespeare's Romeo & Juliet, Sub-unit 1, Lesson 8

Benchmark Stack

List of benchmarks that students are likely to work with while using the spotlight benchmark to analyze a text

ELA.8.R.3.2

Paraphrase and Summarize: Paraphrase content from grade-level texts.

- **ELA.8.R.3.1**
  Figurative Language: Analyze how figurative language contributes to meaning and explain examples of symbolism in text(s).
- **ELA.8.V.1.2**
  Morphology: Apply knowledge of Greek and Latin roots and affixes to determine meanings of words and phrases in grade-level content.
- **ELA.8.V.1.3**
  Context and Connotation: Apply knowledge of context clues, figurative language, word relationships, reference materials, and/or background knowledge to determine the connotative and denotative meaning of words and phrases, appropriate to grade level.

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Possible Responses

1. Identify the topic of the passage and highlight figurative language and unknown words.

    - Topic: People around town like Rip Van Winkle because he is pleasant and just goes along with things. Some believe that this tendency is because of the way that his wife nags him all the time. The narrator points out that maybe she's a blessing because he has learned to be patient.
    - Figurative language: "the fiery furnace of domestic tribulation"; "curtain-lecture" (par. 3)
    - unknown words: "rendered pliant and malleable"; "domestic tribulation"; "virtues" (par. 3)

2. Paraphrase the passage by rewriting it in your own words to express the full meaning.

    - A home life that is difficult and painful probably makes men's attitudes more willing to bend and change; the scolding a wife gives a man in his home does more than any church sermon to teach patience and suffering as morally important.

3. Students use this prompt to review their work.

4. Consider the purpose of paraphrasing.

    - What did you learn?
      I learned that the way that Rip Van Winkle's wife treats him likely led to his generally non-confrontational attitude.
    - What was the writer trying to say?
      The writer was trying to make clear that the nagging of Rip Van Winkle's wife may have seemed like a curse but was really a blessing to him.
    - Why did the writer choose the original words and phrases?
      The writer might have chosen "the fiery furnace of domestic tribulation" to provide readers with an image of danger, the furnace that is hot and full of fire, to make clear how difficult and painful the Van Winkles' home life was.

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