Grade 7: Reading Benchmark
Theme

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.7.R.1.2

Theme: Compare two or more themes and their development throughout a literary text.

Benchmark Lessons in Amplify ELA:

7B: Character & Conflict, Sub-unit 2, Lessons 8 and 14

7D: Poetry & Poe, Sub-unit 4, Lesson 3

7D: Poetry & Poe, Sub-unit 6, Lesson 1

Benchmark Stack

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

ELA.7.R.1.2

Theme: Compare two or more themes and their development throughout a literary text.

- **ELA.K12.EE.3.1**
  ELA Expectation: Make inferences to support comprehension.
- **ELA.7.R.1.1**
  Literary Elements: Analyze the impact of setting on character development and plot in a literary text.
- **ELA.7.R.3.2**
  Paraphrase and Summarize: Paraphrase content from grade-level texts.
- **ELA.7.R.3.3**
  Comparative Reading: Compare and contrast how authors with differing perspectives address the same or related topics or themes.

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Possible Responses

1. What are three or four key observations you made about figurative language in the poem?
    - The subject's beauty is like a summer's day, but lasts longer.
    - Summer ends, or dies, but the subject's beauty is eternal (cannot die).
    - The subject and the memory of the subject's ideal beauty will live on through the poem.

2. What universal messages or ideas do these observations suggest?
    - Love can be more powerful than nature.
    - A person or idea can be remembered forever through the written word.

3. Compare themes in "Sonnet 18." How do the themes develop? How are the themes similar or different? Are the themes universal?
    - **Similar:** Both themes suggest love is more powerful than nature.
    - **Different:** The idea of beauty as timeless, versus how beauty and love can live on.
    - The speaker's love for the subject is so powerful that it and the memory of the subject are eternal.
    - The sonnet focuses on universal themes, such as: Love conquers all; love is blind (seeing only the ideal, not what is real); and the fate of great beauty is to be loved.

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