Grade 7: Reading Benchmark
Figurative Language

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.3.1

Figurative Language: Analyze how figurative language contributes to tone and meaning and explain examples of allusions in text(s).

Benchmark Lessons in Amplify ELA:

7B: Character & Conflict, Sub-unit 2, Lesson 13

7B: Character & Conflict, Sub-unit 3, Lesson 1

7E: The Frida & Diego Collection, Sub-unit 6, Lesson 1

Poetry in America: Grade 7, Sub-unit 1, 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.3.1

Figurative Language: Analyze how figurative language contributes to tone and meaning and explain examples of allusions in text(s).

- **ELA.K12.EE.3.1**
  ELA Expectation: Make inferences to support comprehension.
- **ELA.7.R.1.2**
  Theme: Compare two or more themes and their development throughout a literary text.
- **ELA.7.R.3.2**
  Paraphrase and Summarize: Paraphrase content from grade-level texts.
- **ELA.7.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. What language does the author include that isn't literal or that is an example of an allusion?

   - "like the guardian demon of the treasure" (par. 5) (simile)
   - "he seemed like one of the ancient Titans, who uprooted the mountains to hurl against the father of the gods" (simile, allusion to Greek mythology) (par. 6)

2. What feelings or ideas are suggested by the figurative language and allusions?

   In this passage, the narrator uses figurative language and allusions to describe Dantès' persistence in the face of challenging conditions:

   - "[L]ike the guardian demon of the treasure" suggests that the treasure was hidden and protected, not just by a snake, but by a terrible beast.
   - "[H]e seemed like one of the ancient Titans, who uprooted the mountains to hurl against the father of the gods" alludes to the Titans, gods who rose up against Uranus, god of the sky in Greek mythology. This emphasizes the strength Dantès had to use to move the rock.

3. Explain how the figurative language and allusions in this text communicate tone and meaning.

   - The narrator's figurative language and allusions convey an admiring tone toward Dantès. The narrator describes the treasure as guarded by powerful forces and hidden behind an enormous rock. The meaning conveyed by this description is that Dantès is so determined to get the treasure despite the obstacles. He shows bravery, strength, and stubbornness to pursue his goal.

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