



# Seventh Grade Roadmap for Parents Key Signs of Student Success

## English Language Arts READING



**I can read and understand**  
**seventh-grade literature (stories, dramas, poems, and myths)**  
**and informational text (science, social studies/history, and**  
**technical texts), and:** *“Read like a Detective”*

- Cite several pieces of evidence to support what the text says explicitly, and to justify inferences about the text.
- Determine the theme or central idea of a story, drama, or poem, analyze its development within the text, and justify with evidence and sound reasoning.
- Determine two or more central ideas in informational text, analyze their development within the text, and justify with evidence and sound reasoning.
- Provide an objective summary of literary and informational texts.
- Determine the meaning of words or phrases as they are used in the text, including:
  - o Figurative meanings, e.g., *similes* (“as busy as a bee”), *metaphors* (“you are what you eat”), *idioms* (“a penny for your thoughts”), and *personification* (“the stars danced playfully”).
  - o Connotative meanings, e.g., “childish” implies immature, “childlike” implies innocent, and
  - o Technical meanings, e.g., “a pedometer” is a device that counts a person’s steps.
- Analyze how a drama or poem’s form or structure contributes to its meaning.
- Analyze the structure an author uses to organize informational text, and how the sections contribute to the development of ideas.
- Analyze how an author develops and contrasts the points of view of different characters.
- Analyze an author’s point of view or purpose in informational text, and how the author shows the difference between his/her position and that of others.
- Compare and contrast:
  - o A written story, drama, poem, or informational text to a live presentation or an audio, video, or multimedia version of the same text,
  - o Fictional and historical accounts of a time, place, or character, and
  - o Two or more authors’ presentations of the same topic, analyzing the differences in evidence or interpretations of the facts.
- Evaluate the argument and specific claims in a text, looking for claims supported by sound reasoning and relevant evidence.

**I can practice these reading and thinking skills in school and at home:**

- Read as much non-fiction as fiction.
- Learn about the world and get smarter in Science and Social Studies through reading.
- Read closely (re-read, read aloud, ask and answer questions, annotate), and persevere (“stick with it”) to read complex text.
- Discuss and write about reading, using evidence to support opinions/arguments.
- Increase my academic vocabulary, through reading, discussing, and writing.



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## English Language Arts WRITING

I can use **writing** to build knowledge, accomplish a specific purpose, and communicate with an audience, by:

- Writing clear and coherent (logical and consistent), multi-page compositions, appropriate to the task, purpose, and audience, including:
  - Arguments to support claims with a logical organization of reasons and evidence, using accurate and credible sources,
  - Informative/explanatory texts to examine and present ideas, concepts, and information, and
  - Narratives about real or imagined experiences with relevant descriptive details and well-structured event sequences.
- Producing functional writing appropriate to the task, purpose, and audience, e.g., *responses to prompts on reading, mathematics, writing, and science assessments, and formal letters, experiments, procedures, maps, and diagrams.*
- Using the writing process (plan, revise, edit, re-write), with some support, to strengthen writing, as needed.
- Annotating evidence from texts to support analysis, reflection, and research.
- Using technology (including the Internet and keyboarding skills) to produce and publish writing, to link to and cite sources, and to communicate and collaborate with others.
- Conducting short research projects to answer a question, drawing on several sources, and generating questions for further research.
- Gathering relevant information from multiple print and digital sources, assessing the credibility of each source.
- Quoting or paraphrasing data and information without plagiarism and using a standard format for citations.



## SPEAKING LISTENING

I can use **academic speaking and listening** skills to collaborate, communicate, and present knowledge and ideas about seventh-grade topics and texts, by:

- Engaging effectively in collaborative discussions, by being prepared, contributing questions, responses, and comments, and by understanding multiple perspectives.
- Analyzing the main idea of information presented in different media and formats, e.g., *visual, quantitative, and oral.*
- Outlining a speaker's argument and specific claims, and evaluating the soundness of the reasons and the relevance and sufficiency of the evidence.
- Orally presenting claims and findings in a focused and coherent manner, with relevant facts, details, and examples, using multi-media or visual elements to clarify the information, and using clear pronunciation and appropriate eye contact and volume.



## LANGUAGE

I can correctly use seventh-grade **academic vocabulary and language conventions** (capitalization, punctuation, and spelling), including:

- Acquiring and using seventh-grade academic vocabulary specific to a domain (area of study), e.g., *literature, science, social studies/history, and technical subjects.*



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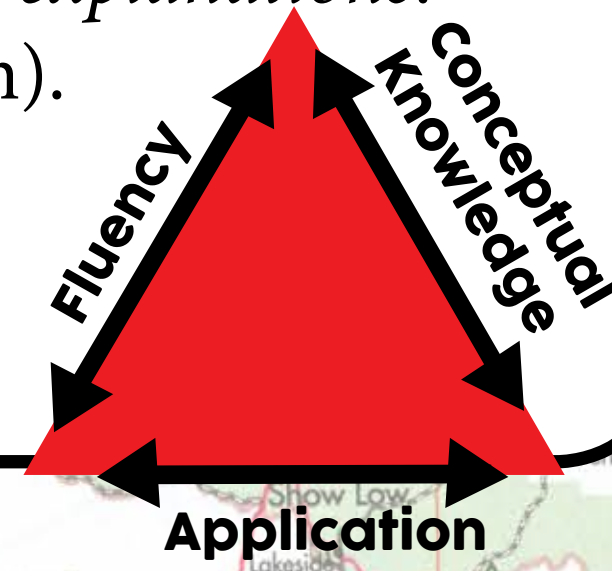
## MATHEMATICS

Be a  
Flexible  
Problem Solver



**I can practice these mathematical and thinking skills in school and at home:**

- Make sense of problems and work to solve them without giving up.
- Think and talk about numbers and number relationships, fluently and flexibly (in multiple ways).
- Use evidence to explain my thinking and to clarify the thinking of others.
- Show and explain my work in multiple ways, e.g., *numbers, pictures, and written explanations*.
- Choose math tools strategically (using the best tool to efficiently solve a problem).
- Use precision (exact vocabulary, labels, examples).
- Look for and use patterns to solve problems.
- Look for and explain rules and repeated reasoning.



**I can apply my understanding of ratio to make sense of proportional relationships and use them to solve real-world and mathematical problems, including:**

- Analyzing number relationship patterns and modeling proportional relationships using a table of equivalent ratios or a graph on a coordinate plane.
- Looking for and making use of proportional relationships to solve multistep percent problems involving interest, discounts, tips, taxes, and percent increase or decrease.
- Solving problems with complex fractions, e.g.,  $\frac{1}{2}$  divided by  $\frac{1}{4}$ .

**I can apply my understanding of the number system to add, subtract, multiply, and divide rational numbers, including:**

- Solving real-world problems with rational numbers using a number line or coordinate plane.
- Solving multi-step problems with rational numbers in any form, including whole numbers (positive and negative numbers), fractions, and decimals.

**I can use statistical thinking to draw conclusions about a population or sample, including:**

- Using random sampling to draw inferences about a population.
- Using measures of center and measures of variability for numerical data sets.
- Describing the probability of a chance event as a number between 0 and 1.

**I can solve problems with expressions and equations, including::**

- Reading, writing, and evaluating equivalent expressions, e.g.,  $6x + 15 = 3(2x + 5)$ .
- Adding, subtracting, factoring, and expanding linear expressions with rational coefficients, e.g.,  $\frac{1}{2}(4y + 2) = 2y + 1$ .
- Graphing the solutions to equations and inequalities that include variables.

**I can draw, construct, and describe geometrical figures and their relationships, including:**

- Producing scale drawings of geometric figures.
- Using the formulas for finding the area and circumference of a circle.
- Determining supplementary, complementary, vertical, and adjacent angles.