

## PA Core Instructional Shifts in ELA/Literacy

1. Balancing informational and literary text
2. Knowledge in the disciplines
3. Staircase of complexity
4. Text based answers
5. Writing from sources
6. Academic vocabulary

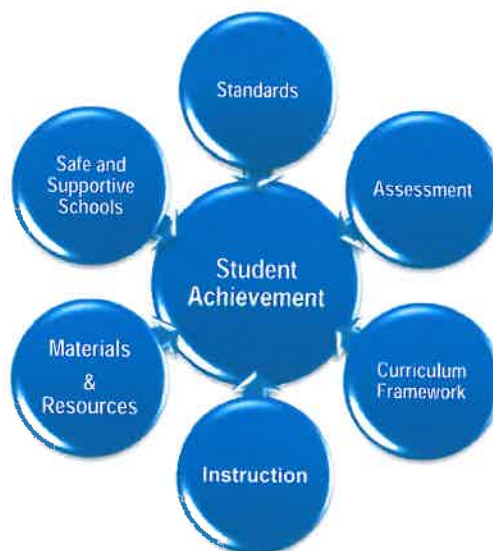
## Diagnostic Category Skills List

### Key Ideas and Details—Literature Text

- Cite evidence to support inferences or generalizations.
- Analyze theme.
- Provide a summary.
- Analyze how elements of a story interact.

### Key Ideas and Details—Informational Text

- Cite evidence to support inferences or generalizations.
- Analyze two or more central ideas.
- Provide a summary.
- Analyze how ideas interact.



Additional Materials and Resources can be found at:

<http://www.pdesas.org/>

or

<https://pa.drctdirect.com/>

## CLASSROOM DIAGNOSTIC TOOLS

### ELA: Reading Grade 7 Grade Level Summary and Diagnostic Category Skills List

The English Language Arts summary for grade 7 describes the performance in English Language Arts that students in grade 7 are expected to demonstrate. The PA Core Instructional Shifts in ELA/Literacy represent the most significant shifts for student learning and thinking about assessment found in the PA Core Standards. The Diagnostic Category Skills List provides descriptions of skills that students can be expected to demonstrate within each Diagnostic Category while taking the Classroom Diagnostic Tools for Reading. While this list does not include every possible skill that students may encounter within the CDT, it does provide a representative sample for each diagnostic category.



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**SAS** Standards  
Aligned  
System

## **ELA Grade 7 Summary**

In seventh grade, students demonstrate their ability to read challenging complex texts closely and cite multiple examples of specific evidence to support their claims. They are able to recognize the interplay between setting, plot, and characters and provide an objective summary of a text apart from their own reaction to it. They are adept at stepping back to comparing and contrasting different interpretations of a topic, identifying how authors shape their presentation of key information and choose to highlight certain facts over others. Seventh grade students trace how an argument develops within a text and assess the validity of the evidence. They make their reasoning clear to their listeners and readers and constructively evaluate others' use of evidence while offering several sources to back up their own claims. The use of vocabulary has developed to the point where they distinguish between denotative and connotative meaning and analyze the effect of specific word choice on tone. As growing writers, students cite several sources of specific, relevant evidence when supporting their own point of view about texts and topics. Their writing is more structured, with clear introductions and conclusions as well as useful transitions to create cohesion and clarify relationships among ideas. In their writing, they acknowledge the other side of a debate or an alternative perspective while avoiding any trace of plagiarism.

## **Craft and Structure, and Integration of Knowledge and Ideas—Literature Text**

- Analyze how an author develops and contrasts the points of view of characters.
- Analyze author's use of form or structure of text.
- Determine author's use of word meanings.
- Determine author's use of figurative language.
- Compare a fictional portrayal with a historical account.

## **Craft and Structure, and Integration of Knowledge and Ideas—Informational Text**

- Analyze author's point of view or purpose.
- Analyze author's use of text structure.
- Determine author's use of word meanings.
- Determine author's use of figurative language.
- Evaluate arguments or claims.
- Analyze how two or more authors shape their presentation of information.

## **Vocabulary Acquisition and Use**

- Determine meaning of words or phrases.
- Interpret figurative language.