

#### Vertical Progression:

<b>4<sup>th</sup> Grade</b>	<b>RL 4.4</b> Determine the meaning of words and phrases as they are used in a text, including those that allude to significant characters found in mythology (e.g., Herculean).
<b>5<sup>th</sup> Grade</b>	<b>RL 5.4</b> Determine the meaning of words and phrases as they are used in a text, including figurative language such as metaphors and similes.
<b>6<sup>th</sup> Grade</b>	<b>RL 6.4</b> Determine the meaning of words and phrases as they are used in a text, including figurative and connotative meanings; analyze the impact of a specific word choice on meaning and tone.
<b>7<sup>th</sup> Grade</b>	<b>RL 7.4</b> Determine the meaning of words and phrases as they are used in a text, including figurative and connotative meanings; analyze the impact of rhymes and other repetitions of sounds (e.g., alliteration) on a specific verse or stanza of a poem or section of a story or drama.

#### Students will demonstrate command of the Standard by:

- Reading and re-reading other sentences, paragraphs, and non-linguistic images (e.g., illustrations) in the text to identify context clues
- Using context clues to help unlock the meaning of unknown words/phrases
- Determining the appropriate definition of words that have more than one meaning
- Differentiating between literal and non-literal meaning
- Identifying and interpreting figurative language and literary devices
- Explaining how figurative language and literary devices enhance and extend meaning
- Explaining the impact of specific language choices by the author
- Explaining how authors use language

#### Vocabulary:

- Analyze
- Association
- Connotation
- Connotative
- Definition
- Denotation
- Distinguish
- Figurative
- Figure of speech
- Impact
- Interpret
- Meaning
- Personification
- Similar
- Text
- Tone

#### Question Stems:

- What does the word/phrase \_\_\_\_\_ mean in this selection?
- Without changing the meaning of the sentence, which word can best be used to replace the underlined part?
- Which synonym is closest in meaning to the word \_\_\_\_\_?
- In this sentence, the word \_\_\_\_\_ means \_\_\_\_\_.
- Is a feeling or emotion associated with the word usage?
- How did the author use word choice to impact meaning and tone?
- What word(s) could you use to replace \_\_\_\_\_ in order to shift the tone?
- What is the meaning of \_\_\_\_\_ in paragraph \_\_\_?
- Which words help the reader understand the meaning of \_\_\_\_\_ in paragraph \_\_\_?
- What is meant by the phrase, \_\_\_\_\_ in paragraph \_\_\_?
- What is the effect of using the word \_\_\_\_\_ in paragraph \_\_\_?
- What is the tone of the story? What word choices from the story support your answer?
- How does the use of the word \_\_\_\_\_ rather than \_\_\_\_\_ impact the image the author is creating of the character?
- What does the author's word choice reveal about his/her attitude towards his topic? Use examples from the text to support your answer.

#### PARCC Evidence Statement:

- Demonstrates the ability to determine the meaning of words and phrases as they are used in a text (e.g., figurative, connotative) and/ or provides an analysis of the impact of specific word choice on meaning and/or tone.

#### Sample Instructional/Assessment Tasks:

##### 1. PARCC – [6th Grade Practice Test Items](#)

- ◆ **Question 1 - Part A** ([link](#))      **Passage** ([link](#))

Read the sentence from paragraph 31 in the passage from *Boy's Life*.

I ran out along the corridor, my arms unencumbered by books, my mind unencumbered by facts and figures, quotations and dates.

What does the word **unencumbered** mean as it is used in the sentence?

- A. not burdened
- B. not excited
- C. not hurried
- D. not aged

**Correct Answer: A**

- ◆ **Question 4 - Part A** ([link](#))      **Passage** ([link](#))

As used in paragraph 1, what does the word **confining** suggest about the walls?

- A. The walls are small.
- B. The walls are limiting.

- C. The walls are helpful.
- D. The walls are reassuring.

**Correct Answer: B**

◆ **Question 32 - Part A** ([link](#)) **Passage** ([link](#))

What is the meaning of the word **surmises** as it is used in paragraph 8?

- A. descriptions
- B. calculations
- C. orders
- D. conclusions

**Correct Answer: D**

◆ **Question 34 - Part A** ([link](#)) **Passage** ([link](#))

What is the meaning of **tempest** as it is used in line 17 of the song in the passage from *The Life of a Ship from the Launch to the Wreck*?

- A. noisy ship
- B. calm breeze
- C. fierce storm
- D. foreign sailor

**Correct Answer: C**

2. **Achieve the Core – [Grade 6 Literature Mini-Assessment](#)**

◆ **Question 1** ([link](#)) **Passage** ([link](#))

Based on paragraph 14 of Text 1: *Counting on Grace*, what is the meaning of the phrase “not enforced”?

- A. not well liked
- B. not strictly followed
- C. not useful for children
- D. not applied fairly

**Correct Answer: B**

◆ **Question 7 - Part A** ([link](#)) **Passage** ([link](#))

In paragraph 2 of Text 2, Iqbal, the narrator says that they, “finally managed to decipher the handout . . .” What phrase gives the best definition of the word decipher as it is used in Text 2?

- A. translate into another language
- B. make additional copies of
- C. make sense of
- D. reveal the existence of

**Correct Answer: D**