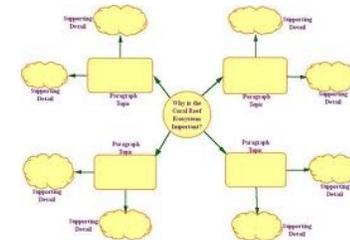


THE ANCHOR STANDARD CHALLENGE # 15



What are the Anchor Standards?

The College and Career Ready K-12 Anchor Standards, the “backbone” of the Standards, describe the literacy skills which *all students need when they graduate*. There are **10** anchor standards for **reading** and **writing** and **6** for **speaking & listening**.

What purpose do they serve?

Keeping the college and career focus at the forefront of Kindergarten through grade 11/12 implementation is critical as the anchor standards are essential to understanding the structure and cohesive nature of the **Arizona College and Career Ready Standards for ELA: Social Studies, History, and Science & Technical Subjects**. It is this unique design that supports the preparation of all students to be successful in school, from the beginning of school, and proficient in the Essential Skills of Reading, Writing, and Speaking and Listening required for an Arizona Diploma.

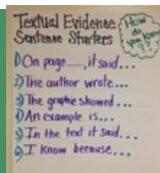
Where do I find them?

The ACCR Anchor Standards are placed one page **before** the grade-specific standards in the ACCRS. Don't forget to look at the Anchor Standards for reading, writing, and speaking & listening.

What is the challenge?

Create the *Most Creative and Used* School Anchor Charts by teachers, administrators and students...

1. Every week/biweekly add a new Anchor Standard to the work/lunchroom. As teachers implement the Anchor Standard at their grade levels have them record it on the chart! Bonus... At staff meetings have discourse around the Anchor Standard.
2. Create Anchor Standard Charts for students. See the great anchor chart that has been used in many classrooms.
3. Share your success with us by sending us pictures, anecdotes, and videos of your use of Anchor Charts. Send information to kdonatell@coconino.az.gov. A special prize will be awarded to the school that has the most success using the charts!



Writing Anchor Standard # 5:

Develop and strengthen writing as needed by planning, revising, editing, rewriting, or trying a new approach.

W.CCR.5 Explained

An easy way to sum up W.CCR.5 is this: effective writing is so much more than sitting down, putting fingers to keyboard, and pounding out a piece in one sitting. To put it another way, if the dude on the cover of the bodybuilding magazine with the twelve pack abdomen is like a published piece of writing; W.CCR.5 is the hours of daily workouts, the careful dieting, and the photo shopping that take place before that picture goes to print. In short, the writing process is crucial. Let's briefly explore each part of the writing process.

Planning: The planning phase consists of brainstorming, researching, and outlining ideas. Graphic organizers can be very helpful for this stage.

Writing: More on this when we get to Writing Anchor Standard #10.

Revising: Revision is “the act of seeing again”; it's about getting students to make thorough, big-picture changes to their writing (<http://jerz.setonhill.edu/writing/academic1/revision-vs-editing/>). This might mean reorganizing the paper's structure or changing the voice from passive to active.

Editing: Editing is akin to going through a piece of writing with a fine-toothed comb. It is a surface-level correction such as fixing spelling errors.

Rewriting/trying a new approach: There are often three main areas where rewriting or trying a new approach is necessary: the intro, the conclusion, or a clunky part. Intros and conclusions are tricky; they need to somewhat echo each other, but this is most effectively done with a light touch. Since the intro is usually written way before the conclusion, often the two do not match. To add to that, there's also the “writing as discovery” thing: it's often in the midst of writing a piece that one actually discovers what they're really writing about. Because of this, often the intros and conclusions need more than a few strokes of revision; more times than not, they need to be rewritten completely.

So basically, W.CCR.5 is one of those standards that you work at and improve throughout your whole teaching career; it's a challenging and large standard, it's an important skill for college and career readiness, and it's something that teachers of writing have been working on for a long time.