Grade 8 Curriculum
Instructional Plan for Classical Language Arts: Grammar, Spelling, Handwriting, and Writing Process
Submitted by Robert J. Buss
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	Content Type	Objectives	Standards	Assessment	Materials
AUGUST & SEPTEMBER	• 24	Vocabulary building Review of cursive writing formation Spelling, Vocabulary, and Poetry Language Writing Process	 Acquire and use accurately grade-appropriate general academic and domain-specific words and phrases; gather vocabulary knowledge when considering a word or phrase important to comprehension or expression. W.8.4 Independently and collaboratively produce clear and coherent writing in which the development, organization, and style are culturally-sustaining and rhetorically authentic to task, purpose, and audience. W.8.3 Create writing that utilizes: a. Organization: provide an introduction that creates suspense and anticipation for the reader. Structure of the text supports and clarifies the purpose and topic throughout the entire text. Conclusion statement provides closure and ties up all loose ends. b. Transitions: varied transitions to create cohesion and clarity among ideas and concepts. c. Word Choice (including domain specific): use genre-specific vocabulary. Use vocabulary that enhances the meaning and engages the reader. W.8.9 Draw evidence from literary or informational texts to support analysis, reflection, and inquiry 	Daily language assignments Weekly Spelling lists Informational report	Abeka Language & Composition II (8th) Abeka Spelling 8

0	First word of every line of poetry		
The sent			
• Red	cognizing eight parts of speech		
	finition of sentence		
	ds of sentences classified by		
	pose: declarative, imperative, errogative, exclamatory		
	cognizing subjects and verbs:		
- Rec	nplete subject, simple subject,		
con	nplete predicate, simple		
	dicate, and verb phrase		
Į pio	aloato, and vois pinaco		
Overcon	ning problems locating subjects		
and verb	os:		
● Fin	ding:		
	 Subject in an inverted 		
	sentence: interrogative		
	sentence, sentence		
	beginning with there or		
	here o Subject of an imperative		
	o Subject of an imperative sentence		
	o Verb phrase that is		
	interrupted by other words		
	o Diagramming subjects and		
	verbs		
• Red	cognizing and diagramming		
con	npound subjects and verbs		
• Red	cognizing complements		
	rrecting fragments and run-on		
sen	ntences		
0-	141		
Compos	sition:		
	Manuscript form: abbreviations,		
•	numbers, titles, hyphenation		
	The Writing Process: plan,		
	write, rewrite, edit		
•	Paragraphs:		
	Topic sentence		
0	Summarizing sentence		
0	Paragraph development		
	Development by examples,		
	incidents, and reasons		

		Borograph unity				
		 Paragraph unity Paragraph coherence: chronological order, order of importance, transitional expressions, space order, pronoun reference, and repetition 				
O C T O B E R	• 20	Vocabulary building Review of cursive writing formation Spelling, Vocabulary, and Poetry Language Writing Process	 Evaluate the advantages and disadvantages of using different mediums (e.g., print or digital text, video, multimedia) to present a particular topic or idea. Delineate and evaluate the argument and specific claims in a text, assessing whether the reasoning is sound and the evidence is relevant and sufficient; recognize when irrelevant evidence is introduced. Analyze a case in which two or more texts provide conflicting information on the same topic and identify where the texts disagree on matters of fact or interpretation. W.8.5 With some guidance and support from peers and adults, develop and strengthen writing as needed by planning, revising, editing, rewriting, or trying a new approach, focusing on how well purpose and audience have been addressed. W.8.1 Compose reflective, formal, and creative writing, which may happen simultaneously or independently, for a variety of high-stakes and low-stakes purposes. W.8.8 Recall relevant information from experiences or gather relevant information from print and digital sources; summarize or paraphrase information in notes and finished work, and provide a list of sources. 	•	assignments Weekly Spelling lists Video Review Summative:	Abeka Language & Composition II (8th) Abeka Spelling 8

o Before a coordinating		
conjunction joining two		
independent clauses		
To indicate:		
o Omissions or avoid possible		
misreading		
o Nonessential elements in a		
sentence:		
o Appositive and appositive phrase		
o Participial phrase		
o Adjective and adverb clauses		
o Direct address		
o Well, yes, no, or why		
o Parenthetical expressions		
o To set off introductory phrases or		
clauses		
o In dates and addresses		
o After salutations and closings of		
letters		
Parts of speech:		
Verbs:		
Recognizing action, linking, and		
helping verbs:		
o Action: transitive and		
intransitive verbs		
Distinguishing verbs from verbals		
Using Principal parts of verbs		
 Regular verb endings, irregular verbs 		
Correct principal parts		
Verb tenses:		
o Conjugation		
o Using progressive and		
emphatic forms		
Using consistent verb tense		
Using active and passive voice		
Mood: indicative, imperative,		
subjunctive		
Avoid incorrect verb forms		
Use troublesome verbs correctly and		
avoid verb usage errors		
avoid verb daage errors		
Composition		
Composition:		
Summaries: short and long works		
Essay answer (expanded)		

	Outline		
	 Topical and sentence outlines 		
	 Format of outline 		
	 Parallelism in an outline 		
	 Steps to preparing an outline 		

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N O V E M B E R	19	 Practice penmanship through creative writing and word exercises Spelling, Vocabulary, and Poetry Language Writing Process: Creative writing Grammar punctuation, capitalization facts, abbreviations, possessive words Word usage (deciphering plurals, possessives and contractions) Forming plurals and common contractions Recognizing and using 4 parts of speech:noun,verb, pronoun, adjective Semicolons: Between independent clauses: If not using coordinating conjunction Joined by: Transitional words Coordinating conjunction if clauses already contain commas Between items in a series if the items contain commas Grammar: Recognizing nouns: compound, collective, common, and proper Keeping agreement of subject and verb: 	Write narratives to develop real or imagined experiences or events using effective technique, relevant descriptive details, and well-structured event sequences. a. Engage and orient the reader by establishing a context and point of view and introducing a narrator and/or characters; organize an event sequence that unfolds naturally and logically. b. Use narrative techniques, such as dialogue, pacing, description, and reflection, to develop experiences, events, and/or characters. c. Use a variety of transition words, phrases, and clauses to convey sequence, signal shifts from one time frame or setting to another, and show the relationships among experiences and events. d. Use precise words and phrases, relevant descriptive details, and sensory language to capture the action and convey experiences and events. e. Provide a conclusion that follows from and reflects on the narrated experiences or events With some guidance and support from peers and adults, develop and strengthen writing as needed by planning, revising, editing, rewriting, or trying a new approach, focusing on how well purpose and audience have been addressed. W.8.6 Use technology, (including paper and pencil, internet, audio, visual, multilingual, multimodal, mobile, and/or other interactive formats), to produce and publish writing and present the relationships between information and ideas efficiently as well as to interact and collaborate with others. W.5.7 Conduct short student-driven inquiry projects that use several sources to build knowledge through investigation of different aspects of a topic	 Daily language assignments Weekly Spelling lists Narrative Task: Write A Nonfiction Narrative Performance-Based Assessment Task 	Abeka Language & Composition II (8th) Abeka Spelling 8

DECEMBER	as predic objects, i prepositiva appositiva Gerunds Gerunds Gerund Ger	phrases ming gerund phrases phrases ming infinitive phrases ming infinitive phrases ming noun clauses ports ports ming Written book reports ming introduction, body, mission mook reports: written ration and oral presentation penmanship through creative mutual management mutual presentation penmanship through creative mutual presentation penmanship through creative mutual presentation	Produce clear and coherent writing in which the development, organization, and style are appropriate to task, purpose, and audience. • Demonstrate command of the conventions of standard English grammar and usage when writing or speaking. • a. Explain the function of verbals (gerunds, participles, infinitives) in general and their function in particular sentences. • b. Form and use verbs in the active and passive voice. • c. Form and use verbs in the indicative, imperative, interrogative, conditional, and subjunctive mood. • d. Recognize and correct inappropriate shifts in verb voice and mood.* • W.8.7 Conduct short inquiry projects to answer a question (including self-generated questions), drawing on several sources and generating additional related,	•	Daily language assignments Weekly Spelling lists	Abeka Language & Composition II (8th) Abeka Spelling 8

- infographic Sound devicesAnalyze Craft and Structure
- Development of Themes Memoir and Reflective Writing Poetic Structures
- Concept Vocabulary and Word Study Latin Prefix:-sub
- Multiple-Meaning Words
- Conventions Direct and Indirect Objects Pronoun Case
- Participial and Infinitive Phrases
- Analyze how particular lines of dialogue or incidents in a story or drama propel the action, reveal aspects of a character, or provoke a decision

Colons:

- Before a list of items
- To introduce a formally announced statement or quotation
- Between:
 - Chapter and verse of Bible reference
 - Hour and minute of time reference
 - After salutation of a business letter

Italics:

- For titles of books, magazines, newspapers, plays, works of art, ships, trains, aircraft, and spacecraft
- For words, letters, numbers referred to as such
- For foreign words or phrases

Pronouns:

- Antecedents
- Recognizing personal, interrogative, demonstrative, indefinite, compound (intensive and reflexive), relative
- Keeping agreement of verbs and indefinite pronoun subjects

focused questions that allow for multiple avenues of exploration.

- W.8.2 Write text in a variety of modes:
 - b. Write informative/explanatory text, examine a topic and convey ideas, concepts, and information through the selection, organization, and analysis of relevant content by introducing and developing a topic with relevant, well-chosen facts, definitions, concrete details, quotations, or other information and examples, organizing ideas, concepts, and information into broader categories; include formatting (e.g., headings), graphics (e.g., charts, tables), and multimedia when useful to aiding comprehension.
 - c. Write narratives that develop real or imagined experiences or events using relevant descriptive details, and well-structured event sequences that organize an event sequence logically. Engage and orient the reader by establishing a context and point of view and introduces a narrator or characters; using techniques, such as dialogue, pacing, description, and reflection, to develop experiences, events, and characters.

Making pronouns agree with their antecedents in number and in gender Nominative case:		
tone, dialogue,		

	Content Type	Objectives	Standards	Assessment	Materials
J A N U A R Y		 Two poems committed to memory Grammar: Recognizing and using 6 parts of speech: noun,verb, pronoun, adjective, adverb, conjunction Dictionary skills, glossary skills Argumentative essay Research Report First-Person Account Group discussion Summative: Performance-Based Assessment Task Write an Argument Performance-Based Assessment Task Speaking Across Texts Determining an author's POV Explanatory Essay Hyphens: To divide a word at the end of line In compound numbers In fractions In prefixes before a proper noun or adjective In prefixes all-, ex-, self- and suffix -elect In compound adjectives before a noun Quotation Marks: In a direct quotation To enclose: Titles of short poems, songs, chapters, articles, and other parts of books or magazines A quoted passage of more than one paragraph: at the beginning of each paragraph and at the end of the last paragraph Adjectives: Recognizing and diagramming adjectives Infinitives as adjectives Distinguishing adjectives from nouns and pronouns 	Demonstrate command of the conventions of standard English capitalization, punctuation, and spelling when writing. a. Use punctuation (comma, ellipsis, dash) to indicate a pause or break. b. Use an ellipsis to indicate an omission. c. Spell correctly. Demonstrate understanding of figurative language, word relationships, and nuances in word meanings. a. Interpret figures of speech (e.g. verbal irony, puns) in context. b. Use the relationship between particular words to better understand each of the words. c. Distinguish among the connotations (definitions) (e.g., bullheaded, willful, firm, persistent, resolute). W.8.2 Write text in a variety of modes: a. Write arguments to introduce and support claim(s) using logical reasoning, relevant evidence and literary theory. Use accurate, credible sources and demonstrate an understanding of the topic or text, acknowledge and distinguish the claim(s) from alternate or opposing claims, and organize the reasons and evidence logically.	Daily language assignments Weekly Spelling lists	Abeka Language & Composition II (8th) Abeka Spelling 8

		Recognizing and diagramming			
		predicate adjectives:			
		 Diagramming compound verbs with one 			
		predicate adjective and separate			
		predicate adjectives			
		Using and diagramming:			
		o Prepositional and participial			
		phrases as adjectives			
		o Infinitive phrases as			
		adjectives			
		o Adjective clauses			
		o Placing and punctuating			
		adjective modifiers			
		Using adjectives in comparisonAvoiding double comparison and			
		double negatives:			
		Supplying necessary words in			
		comparison			
		Differentiating between this/that and			
		these/those			
		0			
		Composition:			
		Persuasive essay: analyze audience,			
		crafting argument, expanded thesis,			
		providing supports			
		Writing descriptions: type sketch, place			
		Steps: point of view, careful selection of			
		details, arrangement of details, use of			
		exact nouns and verbs			
F	• 18	Grammar Recognizing and using 7	•	Daily language	Abeka Language &
E		parts of speech: noun, verb, pronoun,	Cite the textual evidence that most strongly supports an	assignments	Composition II (8th)
В		adj, adv, conj, exclamation	analysis of what the text says explicitly as well as inferences	Weekly Spelling lists	
R		Cite the textual evidence that most	drawn from the text.		
U		strongly supports an analysis of what	Determine a central idea of a text and analyze its development	Formative: Connect:	Abeka Spelling 8
Α		the text says explicitly as well as	over the course of the text, including its relationship to	Ideas within selection	
R		inferences drawn from the text.	supporting ideas; provide an objective summary of the text.	to what you already	
Υ			W.8.8 Gather relevant information from multiple print and	know and have read	
		Composition:	digital sources, using search terms effectively; assess the	Daily language	
		 Look at argumentative or expository 	credibility and accuracy of each source; quote or paraphrase	assignments	
		texts with a viewpoint and determine	the data and conclusions of others while avoiding plagiarism.	Weekly Spelling lists	
		bias.	W.8.2 Write text in a variety of modes:	Daily Reading	
		o Compose an argumentative	o a. Write arguments to introduce and support claim(s)	Assignments graded	
		essay	using logical reasoning, relevant evidence and	through oral,	
		o Compose an op-ed piece of	literary theory. Use accurate, credible sources and	expository, and	
		writing	demonstrate an understanding of the topic or text,		

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 Compare the purpose and audience for both.

Apostrophes:

- To form:
- Possessive case of nouns
 - o Individual possession within a group
 - o Possessive case of compound words and words that show joint possession
- Possessive case of indefinite pronouns
- To show omissions from words
- With s to form plurals of lowercase letters, numbers, signs, and words used as words

Dashes:

- After a series of words or phrases giving details about a statement that follows
- To indicate an abrupt change or break in a sentence
- To set off parenthetical elements or confidential comments

Parentheses:

to enclose parenthetical elements

Ellipses:

to indicate an omission, unfinished thought, or pause

Adverbs:

- Recognizing and diagramming adverbs
- Infinitives as adverbs
- Distinguishing adverbs from adjectives

Using and diagramming:

- Prepositional phrases as adverbs
- Infinitive phrases as adverbs
- Adverb clauses:
 - Elliptical clauses
- Correct placement of adverb modifiers

- acknowledge and distinguish the claim(s) from alternate or opposing claims, and organize the reasons and evidence logically.
- b. Write informative/explanatory text, examine a topic and convey ideas, concepts, and information through the selection, organization, and analysis of relevant content by introducing and developing a topic with relevant, well-chosen facts, definitions, concrete details, quotations, or other information and examples, organizing ideas, concepts, and information into broader categories; include formatting (e.g., headings), graphics (e.g., charts, tables), and multimedia when useful to aiding comprehension.
- c. Write narratives that develop real or imagined experiences or events using relevant descriptive details, and well-structured event sequences that organize an event sequence logically. Engage and orient the reader by establishing a context and point of view and introduces a narrator or characters; using techniques, such as dialogue, pacing, description, and reflection, to develop experiences, events, and characters.

norm-referenced formative assessment

- Respond: four character perspective journal
- Complete
 Comprehension
 check and write a
 brief summary of the
 selection

Distinguishing dangerdant	
o Distinguishing dependent	
clauses	
Using adverbs in comparison	
Composition:	
Research paper:	
Planning the paper:	
o selecting subject,	
o finding sources,	
o writing bibliographies,	
o making a preliminary outline,	
o taking notes,	
o writing notes,	
o avoiding plagiarism	
Writing the paper:	
o introduction,	
o body	
Using parenthetical citations	
o Rewriting the paper:	
o check organization,	
o introduction,	
o conclusion,	
o unity, coherence,	
o citations	
O GLALIOTIS	
Editing the paper:	
Editing the paper: A specific paper and the pape	
o check each paragraph,	
sentence, word;	
o capitalization and	
punctuation	
The Description of the Language Control of the Languag	
Preparing works cited page	
Typing the paper	
Documentation for research paper	

	Content Type	Objectives	Standards	Assessment	Materials
M A R C H	• 17	Writing Process:	 Determine the meaning of words and phrases as they are used in a text, including figurative and connotative meanings; analyze the impact of specific word choices on meaning and tone, including analogies or allusions to other texts. Compare and contrast the structure of two or more texts and analyze how the differing structure of each text contributes to its meaning and style. Use knowledge of language and its conventions when writing, speaking, reading, or listening. a. Use verbs in the active and passive voice and in the conditional and subjunctive mood to achieve particular effects (e.g., emphasizing the actor or the action; expressing uncertainty or describing a state contrary to fact). W.8.9 Draw evidence from literary or informational texts to support analysis, reflection, and inquiry. (Apply grade 8 Reading standards) 	 Daily language assignments Weekly Spelling lists 	Abeka Language & Composition II (8th) Abeka Spelling 8

A P 20 P R I L	 Analyze how visual and multimedia elements contribute to the meaning, tone, or beauty of a text (e.g., non-fiction, graphic novel, multimedia presentation of fiction, folktale, myth, poem). Produce a multimedia presentation for the research project. Grammar: Recognizing and using all eight parts of speech (add prepositions) Compare and contrast the structure of two or more texts and analyze how the differing structure of each text contributes to its meaning and style. Analyze how differences in the points of view of the characters and the audience or reader (e.g., created through the use of dramatic irony) create such effects as suspense or humor. Sentence structure: Defining dependent and independent clauses Recognizing and diagramming simple, compound, complex, and compound-complex sentences Improving writing style Correct a choppy or monotonous style: Begin sentence with an adverb, adverb phrase, adverb clause, or participial phrase Begin sentence with an adjective, participle, prepositional phrase, or infinitive phrase Exact and vivid words 	Analyze how differences in the points of view of the characters and the audience or reader (e.g., created through the use of dramatic irony) create such effects as suspense or humor Cite the textual evidence that most strongly supports an analysis of what the text says explicitly as well as inferences drawn from the text.		Daily language assignments Weekly Spelling lists	Abeka Language & Composition II (8th) Abeka Spelling 8
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	Content Type	Objectives	Standards	Assessment	Materials
M A Y	• 24	Grammar O Diagramming Sentence structure, progressively as able Write a nonfiction narrative—develop experiences or events using effective techniques (rubric scored/menu based writing) Poetry Writing Unit Composition: Writing poetry:	•	Daily language assignments Weekly Spelling lists Formative: Connect: Ideas within selection to what you already know and have read Respond in the final essay comparing any two novels from the year.	Abeka Language & Composition II (8th) Abeka Spelling 8
		o limerick, o didactic cinquain o Rhyme scheme, rhythm • String-a-long Stories • Personal narrative essay			