

FIGURE 4.1:
**Guiding Questions for Grade-by-Grade
 Analysis of the Language Standards**

Language anchor standard five (L.CCR.5): Demonstrate understanding of figurative language, word relationships, and nuances in word meanings.

CCSS grade band: Grades 6–8

CCSS strand: Language

Anchor standard domain: Vocabulary Acquisition and Use

Grade-Level Standard	What Is Our Current Level of Knowledge About This Standard?	How Can We Increase Our Expertise?	How Will We Measure Our Growth?
<p>Grade 6</p> <p>L.6.5: Demonstrate understanding of figurative language, word relationships, and nuances in word meanings.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> a. Interpret figures of speech (like personification) in context. b. Use the relationship between particular words (like cause and effect, part and whole, or item and category) to better understand each of the words. c. Distinguish among the connotations (associations) of words with similar denotations (definitions) (like <i>stingy</i>, <i>scrimping</i>, <i>economical</i>, <i>unwasteful</i>, and <i>thrifty</i>). 			
<p>Grade 7</p> <p>L.7.5: Demonstrate understanding of figurative language, word relationships, and nuances in word meanings.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> a. Interpret figures of speech (in literary, biblical, and mythological allusions) in context. b. Use the relationship between particular words (like synonym and antonym or analogy and metaphor) to better understand each of the words. c. Distinguish among the connotations (associations) of words with similar denotations (definitions) (like <i>refined</i>, <i>respectful</i>, <i>polite</i>, <i>diplomatic</i>, and <i>condescending</i>). 			

Grade-Level Standard	What Is Our Current Level of Knowledge About This Standard?	How Can We Increase Our Expertise?	How Will We Measure Our Growth?
<p>Grade 8</p> <p>L.8.5: Demonstrate understanding of figurative language, word relationships, and nuances in word meanings.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> a. Interpret figures of speech (such as verbal irony and puns) in context. b. Use the relationship between particular words to better understand each of the words. c. Distinguish among the connotations (associations) of words with similar denotations (definitions) (like <i>bullheaded</i>, <i>willful</i>, <i>firm</i>, <i>persistent</i>, and <i>resolute</i>). 			

* These standards require continued attention in higher grades as they are applied to increasingly sophisticated writing and speaking.

Source: Adapted from NGA & CCSSO, 2010, p. 29.

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Speaking and Listening anchor standard:

CCSS grade band: Grades 6–8

CCSS strand:

Anchor standard domain:

Grade-Level Standard	What Is Our Current Level of Knowledge About This Standard?	How Can We Increase Our Expertise?	How Will We Measure Our Growth?
Grade 6			
Grade 7			
Grade 8			