Literacy learning progression and Civics and Citizenship



Purpose of the literacy and numeracy progressions

The purpose and intent of the progressions are to provide a tool to:

- locate the literacy and numeracy development of students
- plan for student progress in literacy and numeracy
- facilitate shared professional understanding of literacy and numeracy development
- support a whole school approach to literacy and numeracy development.

Literacy and numeracy in the learning areas

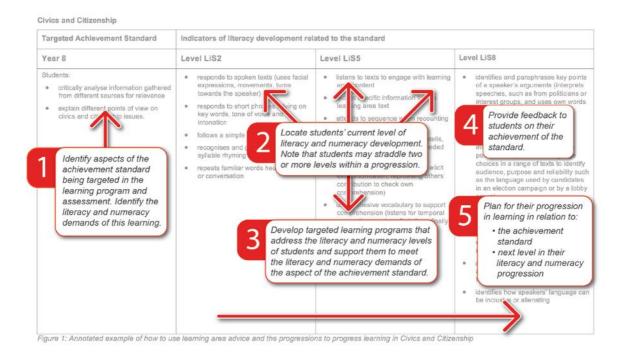
The learning areas provide rich opportunities for extending and enriching literacy and numeracy. To effectively plan for differentiated teaching of literacy and numeracy in the learning areas, teachers draw on their knowledge of the Australian Curriculum and their knowledge of their students. Recognising that students learn at different rates; the progressions provide a continuum for teachers to identify and build on students' literacy and numeracy skills. The intention is that students will develop their literacy and numeracy expertise purposefully, in meaningful contexts.

Using this advice and the progressions to plan for student progress in literacy and numeracy

This advice illustrates how the progressions can be used in Civics and Citizenship to support student progress in literacy and numeracy. This advice:

- identifies the sub-elements of the progressions that are most relevant to studying Civics and Citizenship
- identifies some aspects of an achievement standard that include literacy or numeracy demands
- lists some relevant indicators at one or more levels of the progressions to illustrate how the progressions might be unpacked to support student progress in literacy and numeracy in the study of Civics and Citizenship.

Figure 1 illustrates how the progressions are to be used by teachers to identify where students are at on the literacy and numeracy continuum and plan for their ongoing development within the learning areas. Therefore, this advice can support use of the progressions in developing explicit and targeted programs to ensure students are able to access discipline-specific knowledge, concepts, understanding and skills. While advice is provided on the most relevant sub-elements of each progression for the discipline of Civics and Citizenship, whole school planning may address other sub-elements to progress students' literacy and numeracy.



Literacy in Civics and Citizenship

In Civics and Citizenship, students develop literacy when they research, read and analyse sources of information and communicate ideas, concepts and plans to a variety of audiences.

Using the literacy progression to support students in Civics and Citizenship

The most relevant sub-elements of the literacy progression for Civics and Citizenship are Listening, Interacting, Speaking, Understanding texts, and Creating texts. These subelements are essential for students to develop discipline-specific knowledge, understanding and skills and to demonstrate the learning described in the Civics and Citizenship achievement standards. The following descriptions of the role of each sub-element in Civics and Citizenship are organised by productive and receptive modes:

- Receptive Listening and Understanding texts
- Productive Interacting, Speaking and Creating Texts

Receptive Modes

Listening and Understanding texts

These sub-elements involve students using skills and strategies to access and interpret spoken, audio, written, visual and multimodal texts. In the study of Civics and Citizenship, students are required to comprehend, interpret, analyse and evaluate sources to identify different points of view and draw conclusions. This includes employing listening and reading processes to access and understand the increasingly sophisticated language structures of texts. Listening skills are also required when students engage in classroom conversations, group discussions and debates.



Listening

Targeted Achievement Standard	Examples of how indicators relate to the AC standard. Individual student literacy may be at different levels of the progression as indicated in Figure 1.	
Year 8	Level LiS8	
Students: critically analyse information gathered from different sources for relevance	 identifies and paraphrases key points of a speaker's arguments (interprets speeches, such as from politicians or interest groups, and uses own words to identify points of view and arguments) 	
explain different points of view on civics and citizenship issues.	 identifies and explains emotive language used by speakers to influence audiences or express a point of view (examines language choices in a range of texts to identify audience, purpose and reliability such as the language used by candidates in an election campaign or by a lobby group) 	
	identifies any shifts in direction, line of argument or purpose made by the speaker (critically analyses spoken texts to identify audience and purpose or to decide how meaning is being manipulated)	
	adopts and re-uses complex abstractions heard in texts (freedom, fairness, democracy)	
	identifies how speakers' language can be inclusive or alienating (asks questions of the text such as who's voice is missing? how is language being used to include or alienate? or explores texts for stereotypes, misrepresentations, or different perspectives about Australia's national identity)	

Understanding texts

Targeted Achievement Standard	Examples of how indicators relate to the AC standard. Individual student literacy may be at different levels of the progression as indicated in Figure 1.	
Year 10	Level UnT11	
Students:	Comprehension	
 critically analyse information gathered from different sources for relevance, reliability and omission account for and evaluate different interpretations and points of view on civics and citizenship issues. 	 reads and views sophisticated texts (texts that employ sophisticated language and structural features, multimodal features, technical vocabulary and civics and citizenship-specific content) derives a generalisation from abstract ideas in texts 	
	(identifies the qualities of a citizen in a contemporary, successful democracy)	
	critically evaluates the use of visual elements in multimodal texts on the same topic or with similar purposes (evaluates the way human rights abuses are portrayed in visual texts)	

- analyses bias in texts (analyses texts to explain assumptions or missing information that may affect their reliability)
- explains assumptions, beliefs and implicit values in texts (identifies and explains the values, motivations, assumptions and contexts which underpin different interpretations about civics and citizenship issues)

Processes

- identifies contradictions and inconsistencies in texts
- identifies relevant and irrelevant information in texts

Vocabulary

 interprets complex, formal and impersonal language in academic texts (conventions, international law, cohesive society and global citizen, resilient democracy)

Productive modes

Interacting, Speaking and Creating texts

These sub-elements involve students composing different types of texts for a range of purposes (see Table 1). These texts include spoken, written, visual and multimodal texts. The Interacting and Speaking indicators involve students creating formal and informal texts as part of classroom learning experiences including class and group discussions, talk that explores and investigates civics and citizenship topics, and formal and informal presentations and debates.

Refer to the Grammar indicators for guidance on how grammar can support students to produce effective texts.

Table 1: Text types and purpose of the range of texts students may develop in Years 7-10 Civics and Citizenship¹

Broad text purpose	Text type family	Text type	Purpose
informative	Procedural	Protocol	to list conditions under which something is to be done, such as rules and laws
	Chronicling	Factual recount	to document a sequence of events to record what happened, and to evaluate their political, cultural or legal significance, such as the Dismissal, the Mabo case, or Federation
		Biographical recount	to recount the significant events and stages in a person's life before making a judgement
		Historical recount	to recount events from the past before making a judgement or drawing conclusions about Australia's political, cultural or religious heritage
	Reporting	Descriptive report	to describe and provide generalised information about aspects of Australia's political and legal systems and contemporary civics and citizenship issues, such as the features of Australian democracy
		Classifying report	to describe a class or group of things, such as types of laws and courts in Australia

¹ Adapted from Humphrey, S, Droga, L & Feez, S 2012, *Grammar and Meaning*, Primary English Teaching Association Australia, Newtown, NSW.



Broad text purpose	Text type family	Text type	Purpose
	Explaining	Sequential explanation	to explain in a sequence the phases of a process, such as the electoral system or how laws are made
		Causal explanation	to explain why a process occurs, including cause and effect, such as the process for constitutional change
		Factorial explanation	to explain the multiple causes of one outcome such as reasons for Australia's diversity
Persuasive	Persuading	Exposition (analytical)	to argue for a particular point of view substantiated with evidence (persuading that)
		Exposition (hortatory)	to argue that a particular action should be taken (persuading to)
		Discussion	to discuss two or more points of view before making a judgement
		Challenge	to argue against a point of view

Interacting

Targeted Achievement Standard	Examples of how indicators relate to the AC standard. Individual student literacy may be at different levels of the progression as indicated in Figure 1.	
Year 9	InT7	
 Students: consider different points of view on civics and citizenship issues when planning for action, students take into account multiple perspectives, use democratic processes, and negotiate solutions to an issue develop and present arguments on civics and citizenship issues using appropriate texts, terms and concepts. 	 gives an extended explanation and evaluation of a complex concept, issue or process during discussion (explains to others complex political processes, such as the process through which government policy is shaped) justifies a personal stance after analysis of arguments on a particular issue using evidence and elaboration in a group situation (acknowledges different points of view or perspectives on civics and citizenship issues, such as the role of social media in contemporary debates, and develops and justifies own stance using evidence) uses language strategically to subtly align others to own point of view (uses language to persuade others of own point of view, for example, when debating concepts and their implications, such as global identity or global citizenship) 	

Speaking

Targeted Achievement Standard	Examples of how indicators relate to the AC standard. Individual student literacy may be at different levels of the progression as indicated in Figure 1.	
Year 7	SpK7	
Students: • develop and present arguments on civics and citizenship issues using appropriate texts, terms and concepts.	speaks on topics which explore and interpret concepts drawn from research or learning area content (presents conclusions on civics and citizenship topics drawn from research, such as the values shared by Australians)	
	uses language structures and features appropriate to learning area content	
	uses technologies and multimodal resources to enhance meaning and effect in presentations (uses digital technologies and graphic displays for a specific audience, purpose and context, such as to argue a case for constitutional change)	
	Vocabulary	
	selects vocabulary to intensify and sharpen the focus (scarcely, absolutely, real, simply)	
	 uses a range of evaluative language to express opinions or convey emotion (X would seem to indicate that, arguably, it seems reasonable to conclude that) 	

Targeted Achievement Standard	Examples of how indicators relate to the AC standard. Individual student literacy may be at different levels of the progression as indicated in Figure 1.	
Year 7	SpK7	
	uses a range of emotive language appropriate to the topic, purpose and audience (uses language to influence the views of others or to evoke emotion on civics and citizenship issues, such as sustainability challenges or when planning and carrying out a civics-related action)	

Creating texts

Targeted Achievement Standard	Examples of how indicators relate to the AC standard. Individual student literacy may be at different levels of the progression as indicated in Figure 1.		
	Informative texts	Persuasive texts	
Year 8	CrT10	CrT10	
Students:	Crafting ideas	Crafting ideas	
 explain different points of view on civics and citizenship issues when planning for action, students take into account multiple perspectives, use democratic processes, and develop solutions to an issue develop and present reasoned arguments on civics and citizenship issues using appropriate texts, subject-specific language and concepts. 	 writes to explain and analyse (writes a causal explanation to show how each freedom supports active participation in Australia's democracy) orients the reader to the topic or concept (uses a definition in the opening paragraph) intentionally selects structural elements for effect (includes an appropriate conclusion that summarises, restates or synthesises) uses evidence and research including multimodal resources to expand upon information and concepts and add authority Text forms and features uses more elaborate noun groups that include classifying adjectives and specific nouns (statute law, common law, executive law, customary law) uses passive voice and nominalisation strategically (the results were analysed, judgement, development) 	 writes to discuss, evaluate and review (writes an analytical exposition that argues a point of view substantiated by evidence, such as the most effective way to participate in Australia's democracy) orients the reader to the persuasive premise of the text (states position in the opening paragraph) includes persuasive points with effective elaborations and supporting evidence (uses evidence to align the reader with own position on a civics and citizenship issue) uses multimodal resources to add impact to written text (uses images and graphics to persuade the audience) intentionally selects structural elements for effect (includes an appropriate conclusion that sums up, recommends or reiterates) includes counterargument or refutation if appropriate 	

Targeted Achievement Standard	Examples of how indicators relate to the AC standard. Individual student literacy may be at different levels of the progression as indicated in Figure 1.		
	Informative texts	Persuasive texts	
Year 8	CrT10	CrT10	
	uses discipline-specific terminology to provide accurate and explicit information (freedoms, responsibilities, statutory law and customary law) uses vocabulary to indicate and describe relationships (additionally, similarly)	(debates how to manage situations when rights and freedoms are in conflict) Text forms and features • uses rhetorical devices such as rhetorical questions or repetition (what would life be like without freedoms afforded by democracy?) • uses research including multimodal resources to add authority • judiciously selects evidence and language to strengthen arguments Vocabulary • uses topic-specific vocabulary to add credibility and weight to arguments (freedoms, responsibilities, statutory law and customary law) • uses passive voice and nominalisation strategically (the results were analysed)	