

Unpacking the Standards: College Level

Council of Writing Program Administrators Outcomes Statement for First-Year Composition

Unpacking a standard helps us determine what the standard exactly states, what it means for student learning, and what it calls for us, as teachers, to teach. The easiest way to do this is to break the standard down into component parts.

WPA Outcome	Unpacking the WPA Outcome		
	Student Target in student-friendly language	What students need to know (nouns)	What students need to be able to do (verbs)
<p>Choose a standard and write it here <i>Read a diverse range of texts, attending especially to relationships between assertion and evidence, to patterns of organization, to the interplay between verbal and nonverbal elements, and to how these features function for different audiences and situations</i></p>	<p>Read a wide range of different texts</p> <p>Pay attention to the writer's argument and the evidence used to support it; also to how a text is organized</p> <p>Examine how nonverbal elements, like images and tables, relate to the use of language</p> <p>Analyze the intended purpose and audience of the text</p> <p>Skills Needed:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Ability to identify assertions and evidence • Knowledge of conventional organizational strategies • Multimodal literacy • Understand audience and purpose 	<p>Find nouns in the standard.</p> <p>Text Assertion Relationship Evidence Organization Verbal Nonverbal Audience Situation</p>	<p>Find verbs in the standard.</p> <p>Read Attend</p>
<p>Key Vocabulary</p> <p>Assertion, evidence, organization, nonverbal, audience, situation</p>			

