

# THE ANCHOR STANDARD CHALLENGE # 16



## What are the Anchor Standards?

The AZ English Language Arts 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 AZ ELA Standards. 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?

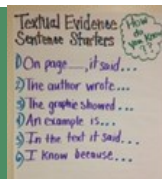
The AZ ELA Anchor Standards can be found on <http://www.azed.gov/standards-practices/k-12standards/english-language-arts-standards/>.

Visit <http://coconino.az.gov/1893/ELA-Anchor-Standards> to view previous Anchor Standards Challenges.

## 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](mailto:kdonatell@coconino.az.gov). A special prize will be awarded to the school that has the most success using the charts!



## Writing Anchor Standard # 6:

Use technology, including the Internet, to produce and publish writing and to interact and collaborate with others.

## W.6 Explained

In this day and age it is impossible for a student to be college and career ready without being a proficient user of technology. One place where the AZ ELA Standards really focus on the incorporation of technology is in Writing Standard #6. This standard is not only asking students to produce and publish their writing pieces with the use of technology but to also interact and collaborate with others.

Most teachers have probably been requiring students to type up writing pieces yet not as many have been requiring students to go a step further and publish them. More often than not, students see writing assignments as just a performance for their teacher. By having them publish their work they focus on creating a completed quality product as it will be viewed by others. Publishing motivates students and emphasizes higher level thinking such as creativity and organization. Teachers have many options when it comes to publishing, ranging from social media posts to class websites to printing a hard copy.

The second half of this standard asks for students to interact and collaborate through the use of technology. This is an important skill for students to master as at some point in their future career they will most likely need to collaborate with someone in a different city, state or even country. With the assistance of web-based programs, collaboration and interaction is very easy. Students can edit a peer's work, providing comments and feedback, or a group of students can all contribute to a project. Once again, students seem to be more motivated when they know their peers will be looking at their work.

Thankfully there are a multitude of programs and apps, some free of charge, that allow students to practice these skills. Google Docs, Edmodo, Scribble Press, and Storybird are just a few examples. By having students use technology for production, publication, interaction and collaboration they will become more vested in their education and will be better prepared for college and career.

Adapted from: <http://www.teachingthecore.com/common-core-w-ccr-7-explained/>

