

How To Read the New York State World Language Standards

Modern Languages

The NYS World Language Standards consist of **four elements** (defined below) that vary in order (as seen at right):

 **Contexts for Communication**
the circumstances in which communication takes place

 **Language Functions**
the purposes for communication

 **Language Skills**
the modalities through which communication occurs

 **Cultural Knowledge**
information about the target culture, implicit or explicit

Standard elements inform and provide structure for **Can-Do Statements** (as seen at right).

NYS World Language Standards and Elements

Standard 1: Interpretive Communication



Learners **understand, interpret, and analyze** what is heard, read, received*, or viewed on a variety of topics, using a range of diverse texts, including authentic resources.

*A term specific to American Sign Language

Standard 2: Interpersonal Communication



Learners interact and negotiate meaning in spontaneous, spoken, visual*, or written communication to **exchange information** and **express feelings, preferences, and opinions**.

*A term specific to American Sign Language

Note: Cultural knowledge depends on the interlocutors.

Standard 3: Presentational Communication



Learners present information and ideas on a variety of topics adapted to various audiences of listeners, readers, or viewers* to **describe, inform, narrate, explain, or persuade**.

Standard 4: Relating Cultural Practices and Products to Perspectives



Learners use the target language to **identify, describe, and explain** the practices and products of the cultures studied as well as the cultural perspectives they suggest.

Standard 5: Cultural Comparisons



Learners use the target language to **compare** the products and practices of the cultures studied and their own.

From Standard Elements to Can-Do Statements

Can-Do Statement Structure

I can + **language function** + **context for communication** + **language skill*** / **cultural knowledge***.

** Note that language skill and cultural knowledge may be implied.

Sample Can-Do Statements

I can **exchange information** about **a typical school day** with a **school exchange partner** by **speaking online**.

I can **compare typical school days** in the U.S. and the target culture by **completing a Venn Diagram**