

LINCOLN PUBLIC SCHOOLS  
Foreign Language Learning Expectations: Grades 6-8

**Strand:**

Communication

Massachusetts  
Standard: 1

Interpersonal  
Communication

Students of  
modern  
languages will  
provide and  
obtain  
information,  
express feelings  
and emotions,  
and exchange  
opinions.

**Big Ideas**

- ❑ Interpersonal communication is at the heart of all human interaction.

**Key Outcomes**

- ❑ Students will demonstrate an understanding of **successful communication in the target language** by actively negotiating meaning among individuals, either listeners and speakers or readers and writers.

**Essential Knowledge and Skills**

*In the target language, with no major patterns of error, students will:*

- ❑ Greet and respond to greetings appropriately.
- ❑ Ask and respond to questions to clarify information.
- ❑ Introduce and respond to introductions.
- ❑ Make and respond to requests by students and teacher.
- ❑ Exchange information and knowledge about a variety of topics.
- ❑ Exchange opinions about people, activities or events.
- ❑ Express needs and emotions based on various settings.
- ❑ Discuss a class reading using simple sentences and phrases.
- ❑ Take risks in more sophisticated vocabulary and grammatical structures.

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**Strand:**

Communication

Massachusetts  
Standard: 2

Interpretive  
Communication

Students will  
interpret ideas  
and information  
written or  
spoken in a  
language other  
than English.

**Big Ideas**

- Exposure to written and spoken language improves the ability to appropriately interpret ideas in the target language.

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**Key Outcomes**

- Students will demonstrate an understanding of **what others are trying to communicate in the target language** by listening, reading and viewing materials with appropriate interpretation of meaning using aural, visual and contextual clues.

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**Essential Knowledge and Skills**

*In the target language students will:*

- Follow instructions such as recipes, tasks and logic problems
- Understand some ideas and familiar details in contextualized authentic and adapted texts
- Obtain information and knowledge from short stories, narratives, adapted texts and authentic material (advertisements, menus, maps and programs)
- Read or listen to and interpret signs, simple stories, poems and informational texts
- Understand learned expressions, sentences, questions and polite commands in messages

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**Strand:**

**Communication**

Massachusetts  
Standard: 3

Presentational  
Communication

Students present  
informational  
concepts and  
ideas to an  
audience of  
listeners or  
readers on a  
variety of topics.

**Big Ideas**

- ❑ Precise language is a necessary tool for effective expression of ideas in a variety of environments.

**Key Outcomes**

- ❑ Students will demonstrate an understanding of **the role that precise language plays** by speaking or writing in the target language using selected words, phrases and expressions with no major patterns of error.

**Essential Knowledge and Skills**

*In the target language, students will:*

- ❑ Identify and describe people, places and things
- ❑ Use repetition, rephrasing and gestures to explain vocabulary and enhance communication
- ❑ Present short skits, recite poems and anecdotes and perform songs in the target language
- ❑ Prepare audio or video recorded messages for their peers in the target culture on topics of shared personal interest, in their daily lives at home or at school
- ❑ Write short notes or letters to peers in the target culture on topics of shared personal interest
- ❑ Prepare a diary/journal of their daily activities and those of their families and friends
- ❑ Summarize the plot and describe characters in selected readings, such as short stories and/or folk tales
- ❑ Prepare and present information on topics of geography, history or personal interest
- ❑ Express opinions and ideas in the target language based on experience
- ❑ Explain vocabulary in the target language
- ❑ Identify and describe geographical locations of target culture.
- ❑ Write lists and short notes on a variety of topics

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**Strand:**

Cultures

Massachusetts  
Standard: 4

Cultural  
Understanding

Students gain  
knowledge and  
understanding of  
other cultures.

**Big Ideas**

- ❑ Culture and language are symbiotic.
  - ❑ Language is the main medium for the expression of a culture.
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**Key Outcomes**

- ❑ Students will demonstrate an understanding of **the relationship between products and perspectives of another culture** by being able to identify and describe objects, images, symbols, products, contributions and expressive forms of the culture.
  - ❑ Students will demonstrate an understanding of **the practices and perspectives of the cultures studied** by being able to recognize, interpret, describe and produce language and behaviors appropriate to the culture.
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**Essential Knowledge and Skills**

*In the target language, students will be able to:*

- ❑ Use appropriate words, phrases, expressions and gestures in interactions such as greetings, farewell, school routines and other daily activities
- ❑ Interact appropriately in group cultural activities such as games, storytelling, celebrations and dramatizations
- ❑ Identify cultural aspects of the target culture such as toys, clothes, foods, currencies, games, traditional crafts, and musical instruments
- ❑ Identify aspects of the target culture presented in stories, dramas, films and photographs
- ❑ Identify distinctive contributions made by people in the target culture
- ❑ Demonstrate knowledge of artistic expression in the target culture by identifying, learning, and performing songs, dances, or memorizing poems
- ❑ Demonstrate artistic expression by identifying and making examples of crafts or visual arts by using traditional techniques
- ❑ Demonstrate knowledge of the target culture's geography by naming countries and features such as rivers, mountains, cities and climate

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**Strand:**

Comparisons

Massachusetts  
Standard: 5

Linguistic  
Comparisons

Students  
demonstrate  
understanding of  
the nature of  
language through  
comparisons of  
the language  
studied and their  
own.

**Big Ideas**

- Comparing and contrasting one's own language with another enables individuals to recognize linguistic patterns that support language acquisition.
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**Key Outcomes**

- Students will demonstrate an understanding of **linguistic structures** by identifying similarities and differences between the target language and their own.
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**Essential Knowledge and Skills**

*In the target language or in English students will:*

- Ask and answer questions regarding similar/different phonetic/writing systems used in the target language
- Give examples of ways in which the target language differs from/ is similar to English
- Give examples of borrowed and loan words
- Identify linguistic characteristics of the target language and compare and contrast them with English linguistic characteristics

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**Strand:**

Comparisons

Massachusetts  
Standard: 6

Cultural  
Comparisons

Students  
demonstrate  
understanding of  
the concept of  
culture through  
comparisons of  
the cultures  
studied and their  
own.

**Big Ideas**

- ❑ Comparing and contrasting one's culture and another enables individuals to gain insight about one's self and about the diverse world in which they live.

**Key Outcomes**

- ❑ Students demonstrate understanding of **insights gained into another culture** by recognizing and analyzing similarities and differences of behavior patterns among the target culture and the students' own culture.

**Essential Knowledge and Skills**

*In the target language or in English students will:*

- ❑ Ask and answer questions regarding different forms of communication in the target culture and their own such as signs, symbols, displays, and inscriptions
- ❑ Describe patterns of behavior of the target culture, such as celebrations, and compare/contrast them with those of their own culture
- ❑ Describe some cultural beliefs and perspectives relating to family, school, and play in both target culture and their own
- ❑ Identify and discuss cultural characteristics of the target culture and compare and contrast them to cultural characteristics of their own culture

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**Strand:**

**Connections**

Massachusetts  
Standard: 7

Making  
Connections

Students will use the target language to reinforce and/or expand their knowledge of other disciplines and to acquire new information and knowledge.

**Big Ideas**

- ❑ The study of language enhances learning and provides access to other content areas with better knowledge and skills.
- ❑ Knowledge of another language gives people better insights to the world in which we live.

**Key Outcomes**

- ❑ Students will demonstrate an understanding of **language and culture** by using skills from other disciplines.
- ❑ Students will demonstrate an understanding of **other viewpoints** by using authentic sources to obtain information and then to identify and describe those viewpoints

**Essential Knowledge and Skills**

*In the target language students will:*

- ❑ Obtain geographical information from printed maps and travel guides or Internet resources in the target language and use this information to achieve the learning standards from the Geography Strand of the History and Social Science Framework
- ❑ Read age-appropriate authentic fiction and nonfiction from the target culture and analyze it using the learning standards from the Literature Strand of the English Language Arts Framework;
- ❑ Collect data and graphing results in the target language in order to achieve the learning standards of the Patterns, Functions, and Relations Strand of the Mathematics Framework.
- ❑ Obtain political and economic information from newspapers, other print sources and interactive CD Roms in the target language and comparing to Social Sciences
- ❑ Learn song lyrics and connect to student's own culture
- ❑ Obtain historical information from various resources and use this information to support and expand

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**Strand:**

Communities

Massachusetts  
Standard: 8

Community  
Awareness

Students will use  
languages other  
than English  
within and  
beyond the  
school setting.

**Big Ideas**

- ❑ Students become lifelong learners by using another language for enjoyment and enrichment.
- ❑ Language is a vehicle to connect with the world.

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**Key Outcomes**

- ❑ Students demonstrate understanding of **using meaningful language in context** by producing and responding to questions in the target language within and beyond the school setting.
- ❑ Students demonstrate understanding **of the interdependence of people throughout the world** by making connections with the culture using authentic sources, technology and the media.

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**Essential Knowledge and Skills**

*In the target language students will:*

- ❑ Converse with speakers of the target language locally or throughout the world
- ❑ Read or write email or letters with people of the target language and or culture
- ❑ Attend culture events and share
- ❑ Research and describe current events in target culture
- ❑ Make and exchange drawings or photographs and discuss them orally or in letters and email with students either in Massachusetts, the United States or in another country
- ❑ Exchange information about and opinions of products and media of target culture
- ❑ Perform for school or community