

# Reading Literature Standard 4 (RL4)

Cycle 2/week 2-4/December 5 – 20

**What is the standard:** Determine the meaning of words and phrases as they are used in a text, including figurative and connotative meanings; analyze the impact of specific word choices on meaning and tone, including analogies or allusions to other texts.

**What it means:** You will identify and interpret idioms in literature.

**Every student must complete level 2.**



## Level 2

Write the definition of idiom in your ISN. On page 253 in The Graveyard Book, Scarlett says, “I don’t understand. Murders don’t get swept under the carpet.” In your ISN, write just the idiom Scarlett used.

**Choose one of the following assignments. (Remember, the highest score you can earn on a level 3 is a B, and the highest score you can earn on a level 4 is an A.)**

## Level 3

In the conversations between the men in the Interlude, on pages 166 – 170, Neil Gaiman uses more than seven idioms! Write at least five of them in your ISN. Explain what each one means.

## Level 3

In the book, *There’s a Frog in my Throat*, by Loreen Leedy and Pat Street, there are over 400 English-language idioms. Write at least five idioms in your ISN. Explain what each one means, and give an example of how it might be used.

## Level 4

In the conversations between the men in the Interlude, on pages 166 – 170, Neil Gaiman uses more than seven idioms! Write at least five of them in your ISN, and draw what it would look like they were taken literally. Then, draw or write what each one really means in the context of the story.

## Level 4

The idioms used in *The Graveyard Book* are in English, and make sense to people who are familiar with the culture in America, Canada, or United Kingdom. Other countries have their own unique idioms. For example, in Germany, they say “a cat’s jump,” which means that something is just a short distance away. Research at least five idioms from another language and culture. Make a poster or write an essay listing them and what they mean.

W2

Level 2

Prewriting exercise of some kind

Level 3

Write 5 paragraph essay

Level 4

Write a 5 paragraph essay that includes references, such as quotes with citations, to The Graveyard Book.

L2

Level 3

While you're doing W2, use correct conventions!

Level 4

While you're doing W2, use correct conventions and something else to knock my socks off. Gotta think on this one.

RL2

Level 2

Summarize The Graveyard Book

Level 3

Figure out the main theme in TGB. Prepare a note or two and talk about it during the dialogue.

Level 4

Figure out the main theme in TGB and use textual evidence to prove it. Prepare some notes, and talk about it during the dialogue.

SL1

Level 4

Participate in the socratic dialogue. Level 2 means you at least opened your mouth. Level 3 is talking about the theme, following the basic rules of conversation. For a level 4, talk in an educated, academic manner.