### ESSENTIAL ELEMENT, LINKAGE LEVELS, AND MINI-MAP

**ELA: GRADE 8**

**ELA.EE.W.8.2.c**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Grade-Level Standard</th>
<th>DLM Essential Element</th>
<th>Linkage Levels</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>ELA.W.8.2.c</td>
<td>ELA.EE.W.8.2.c</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
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**Use appropriate and varied transitions to create cohesion and clarify the relationships among ideas and concepts**

**ELA.EE.W.8.2.c**

**Write complete thoughts as appropriate**

**EMERGENT WRITING (EW.8):**
- **Initial Precursor:** Can produce single word utterances
- **Distal Precursor:** Can produce utterances comprising of two words

**CONVENTIONAL WRITING (CW.8):**
- **Proximal Precursor:** Can use two words together when producing a written text
- **Target:** Student is able to produce a complete thought in writing. Up to this point, students may produce writing that requires some interpretation or context to understand (e.g., frg lgs = frogs use their legs to jump). By this node students are able to create a complete thought (e.g., Frogs jump). The produced thought may not be grammatically correct (i.e., The frogs can jump), but still conveys a complete thought or idea
- **Successor:** Can write coherent, semantically accurate, and grammatically correct simple sentences

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This EE is tested in an ELA writing testlet. Writing testlets are assessed at two levels: Emergent Writing and Conventional Writing. The initial and distal precursor nodes are assessed in the emergent writing testlet in Grade 8 with four other Essential Elements: EE.W.8.2.a, EE.W.8.2.b, EE.W.8.2.d, and EE.W.8.2.f. The proximal precursor, target and successor nodes are assessed in the conventional writing testlet in Grade 8 with four other Essential Elements: EE.W.8.2.a, EE.W.8.2.b, EE.W.8.2.d, and EE.W.8.2.f.

A diagram showing the relationship of nodes in the mini-map appears below.
**Key to map codes in upper right corner of node boxes:**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Code</th>
<th>Description</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>IP</td>
<td>Initial Precursor</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>DP</td>
<td>Distal Precursor</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>PP</td>
<td>Proximal Precursor</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>T</td>
<td>Target</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>SP</td>
<td>Supporting</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>D</td>
<td>Successor</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>UN</td>
<td>Untested</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
ELA.EE.W.8.2.c - Write complete thoughts as appropriate.

- **F-95**
  - *IP*
  - One word utterances (Can use single words)

- **ELA-21**
  - *DP*
  - Can produce a two word message.

- **ELA-31**
  - *UN*
  - Can use simple sentences (SVO order)

- **ELA-1272**
  - *PP*
  - Can connect two or more words together when writing

- **ELA-2273**
  - *UN*
  - Can produce writing that expresses more than one idea

- **ELA-1872**
  - *T*
  - Can write a complete thought.

- **ELA-128**
  - *S*
  - Can write grammatically correct simple sentences