Teaching Notes

The goal of RI.6.1 is for students to learn how a text can present facts both explicitly and implicitly through inference. The module uses a famous speech by President Ronald Reagan at the Brandenburg Gate of the Berlin Wall to distinguish between these types of facts. The following information contains ideas that teachers can incorporate into their classroom as well as additional resources to peruse and integrate into instruction as appropriate.

Activity

- 1. Select a text that includes a number of details (both explicit and implicit). Make sure it is a topic that the students will understand at least reasonably well. This is important because understanding the implied details may require an understanding of the context.
- 2. Have students read the texts and create lists of implied and explicit details. It is also productive to have students work in small groups or pairs to do this.
- 3. Have the students (or groups) craft a short analysis of the implied details. The analysis should draw connections between the explicit and implicit details.

Writing Prompt

Provide students with a longer text (or two) that uses different text structures throughout. Have students identify the different sections and explain in a short essay the following:

- How do the features in these sections show the particular text structure?
- How do the different text structures work together to support a particular point or argument?

Additional Resources

Consider these additional resources when teaching RI.6.1:

- Full Text of Reagan's Address at the Brandenburg Gate: http://millercenter.org/president/speeches/speech-3415
- "'Tear Down This Wall': How Top Advisers Opposed Reagan's Challenge to Gorbachev— But Lost":

http://www.archives.gov/publications/prologue/2007/summer/berlin.html