

SHORT STORIES UNIT

➤ Various short stories

Essential Questions	Students will know that	Students will be able to	Assessments
What elements are necessary in composing a short story?	Plot consists of exposition, conflict, rising action, climax, falling action, and resolution. Protagonist is a main character, antagonist is character(s) thwarting protagonist's goals.	Apply the concepts of elements of fiction and literary devices to analyse texts. Develop and apply vocabulary related to the parts of a short story.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Quizzes on Short Stories ● Projects throughout ● Well-Developed Paragraphs ● Persuasive Essay
What can we do to understand and interpret the meaning of a text?	Studying elements of story and literature allows for a thematic understanding of the text.	Create projects that synthesize learning from various texts.	
How is analysis of a story essential to comprehension and consideration?	Literary devices can be used to create mood, tone, foreshadowing, and irony.	Construct written analysis of texts in a variety of formats. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Cite evidence when making a claim. 	
How does literature contribute to an understanding of ourselves and others?	Making connections between the story and the reader creates relevancy and strengthens understanding.	Make connections between themselves, their lives, the world, and other texts.	
How can we learn more about the world through multiple perspectives?	Multiple perspectives are essential to and allow for deeper understanding of self and society.	Connect and analyze the themes of various texts to develop a complex and reflective understanding of themselves and their society.	
Common Core State Standards: CC.1.3.9-10.A, CC.1.3.9-10.B, CC.1.3.9-10.D, CC.1.3.9-10.E, CC.1.3.9-10.F, CC.1.3.9-10.K			

NOVEL UNIT

➤ *To Kill a Mockingbird*, by Harper Lee

Essential Questions	Students will know that...	Students will be able to...	Assessments
What influences how we look at and understand the world?	One's culture and background has an impact on their understanding of society and the world.	Understand and interpret one's own identity and perspective in relation to those of authors, narrators, and characters in literature.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Unit Test - Common Assessment ● Well-Developed Paragraphs ● Unit end project ● Thematic development ● Historical Context project
What are the consequences of prejudice and injustice, and how does an individual's response to them reveal their true character?	Strength of character is created through facing obstacles and overcoming them.	Analyze how characters behave amid conflict and determine what this says about them.	
How are the details and events from a story related to the time period and social customs?	Knowledge of time periods and social customs strengthens understanding and analysis of theme, morals, ethics, and values.	Connect historical events to a literary work.	
How does symbolism convey a larger theme in an extended work?	Understanding symbolism leads to stronger connections of text to society and the world.	Analyze literary elements through close reading and annotation of the text.	
When injustice occurs, is empathy enough?	In reading literature detailing injustice, we can grow to be more empathetic.	Connect themes from the novel to modern society.	
How can we make meaningful connections between history, literature, and modern society?	Socratic Seminar allows for student voice and exploration of key themes and connections.	Synthesize essential ideas through the use of modified Socratic Seminar.	
<p>Common Core State Standards: CC.1.3.9-10.K, CC.1.3.9-10.A, CC.1.3.9-10.B, CC.1.3.9-10.C, CC.1.3.9-10.D, CC.1.3.9-10.E, CC.1.4.9-10.S (Draw evidence from a literary text), CC.1.5.9-10.A (Engage in discussions)</p>			

DRAMA UNIT

➤ *Romeo and Juliet* by William Shakespeare

Essential Questions	Students will know that	Students will be able to	Assessments
How can we engage with and appreciate the language of Shakespeare?	Shakespeare revolutionized the English language and many of his words and themes are used in modern society.	Engage with and discuss Shakespearean language through close reading. Read and perform the play utilizing growing knowledge of drama.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Scene quizzes ● Scene performance ● WDP ● Final project ● Common Assessment
How do themes connect to characterization in <i>Romeo and Juliet</i> ?	Literary archetypal thematic elements (including love at first sight, star-crossed lovers, parental judgment, rashness/vengeance) often reflect life and can be found across cultures and times.	Critique themes on young love, feuds, rashness, revenge. Analyze character motives and actions as they contribute to theme.	
How can the meaning of words change depending on their usage and context?	Denotation and connotation affect the tone and mood of a play.	Apply drama and literary terms. Differentiate between denotation and connotation to determine multiple meanings in words.	
How was Shakespeare influential in his time period?	Shakespeare transformed the world of theater.	Investigate Shakespeare and the Elizabethan Era. Analyze Shakespearean play conventions.	
How does drama as a literary form impact characterization and genre? How does an effective playwright craft a play?	Dramatic works differ from novels in directorial and staging choices. The format and these choices directly impact characterization.	Compare and evaluate different stagings of the play to discuss genre, characterization, and directorial choices in drama.	
How does family and society impact the individual?	Considering questions that don't have clear answers is important and helps strengthen research and persuasion skills.	Discuss questions about the human condition, using research and text evidence to support substantive claims and thoughtful analysis.	
What is the role of fate as compared to free will?	Works written hundreds of years ago can still be profoundly relevant today.	Synthesize essential ideas through the use of modified Socratic Seminar.	

Common Core State Standards:

CC.1.3.9-10.A (Determine theme/central idea), CC.1.3.9-10.C (Analyze characters), CC.1.3.9-10.I (Clarify unknown words), CC.1.4.9-10.S (Draw evidence from a literary text), CC.1.5.9-10.E (Adapt speech to a variety of contexts),

POETRY UNIT

➤ Various poetry selections

Essential Questions	Students will know that...	Students will be able to...	Assessments
What purpose does poetry serve in a society?	Poetry presents a collective of truth within humanity, contributing to our understanding of self, others, and the world.	Make connections to the world, people, and oneself through poetry. Analyze poems for social commentary and self-reflection.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Poetry writing ● Poetry Analysis ● Close Reading
How do we use literal and figurative language to write, speak, and present effectively?	Figurative language enhances a text, allowing for deeper meanings to be interpreted.	Read and analyze both classic and contemporary poems Apply literary concepts learned through reading and discussion in order to compose various forms of poetry. Construct meaning through literal and figurative language.	
How are poetic devices used to engage readers?	Poetic devices are employed by an author in certain ways to convey meaning within a poem.	Evaluate word choice to effectively convey themes within a poem. Assess the sound (tone, rhythm, meter, rhyme scheme) of a piece in order to read it aloud.	
How do we use supplemental texts in various mediums to develop thematic elements of a story?	Shared themes exist across genres in order to convey universal truths.	Make connections between exemplar texts (novels, short stories) and assorted poems.	
<p>Common Core State Standards: CC.1.3.9-10.A (Determine theme), CC.1.3.9-10.F (Analyze how word choice influences mood), CC.1.3.9-10.G (Analyze how an idea is represented in two different mediums), CC.1.4.9-10.M (Write narratives)</p>			

WRITING

➤ Floating unit, incorporated throughout other units

Essential Questions	Students will know that...	Students will be able to...	Assessments
What are the elements that comprise a well-developed paragraph?	Well-developed paragraphs consist of a claim, evidence, analysis, and a concluding sentence.	Write well-developed paragraphs over the course of the semester.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Persuasive Essay (LoT) ● WDP's ● Narrative Writing ● Poetry writing (various styles)
How does one determine the most effective evidence to support a claim?	Effective evidence is found through research and thorough exploration of a thesis or topic statement.	Find evidence that effectively and clearly supports a claim. Explain how evidence supports claims and why it is significant.	
How does a thesis statement impact the organization and direction of a text?	Thesis statements should provide a clear claim with supporting reasoning in answer to a question.	Write a clear, focused, and persuasive thesis statement.	
How does the use of analysis strengthen evidence presented in a piece of writing?	For every piece of evidence, two pieces of analysis should be present.	Analyze evidence effectively in order to connect it back to the theme or topic sentence.	
How does a mastery of grammar improve the effect of writing?	Grammar improves the quality of writing, communicating interesting, coherent ideas with an audience	Use proper grammar to communicate ideas in writing.	
What is the purpose and importance of persuasive writing?	The purpose of persuasive writing is to argue a point with the expectation of moving the audience to action.	Write persuasively to achieve a purpose.	
What differentiates persuasive writing from other forms of writing (i.e., informational, narrative)?	The facts, statistics, quotes, research and anecdotes presented in an argumentative piece must be well-organized and extremely detailed resulting in an evenly-developed, clearly articulated thesis.	Compare and contrast persuasive writing with other genres.	
How does one consider audience and purpose when organizing one's writing?	Predicting the audience's knowledge and level of concern is essential and must be addressed when presenting claims and counterclaims.	Formulate writings that effectively utilize the author's voice. Consider the audience and adjust writing accordingly.	
Why is vivid and precise use of language so important?	Vivid and precise language improves the quality of writing, communicating	Use language precisely to convey meaning clearly.	

	interesting, coherent ideas with an audience.	Synthesize arguments without repetition.	
Common Core State Standards: CC.1.4.9-10.A (Write informatively), CC.1.4.9-10.C (Use evidence), CC.1.4.9-10.F (Demonstrate grade-appropriate use of grammar), CC.1.4.9-10.G (Write arguments), CC.1.4.9-10.S (Draw evidence from literature), CC.1.4.9-10.T (Develop and revise writing), CC.1.4.9-10.X (Write routinely),			

Honors Novel Units

LES MISERABLES

➤ *Les Miserables*, by Victor Hugo (abridged)

Essential Questions	Students will know that...	Students will be able to...	Assessments
Are people either entirely good or bad, or can they change?	A dynamic character is one who develops throughout a text.	Determine characterization of major characters in order to discuss growth	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● WDP ● Mood Board Project ● Student Discussion
Is there a place for mercy in the Law?	Historical setting influences the meaning of a text. Outcomes within a text are determined by the historical boundaries of the time period in which a text is written.	Analyze elements of story (character, conflict, setting) in order to discuss theme.	
What parts of a person's character are due to human nature and what are due to the society one lives in?	One's circumstances affect their opportunities in life.	Recognize literary devices (allegory, paradox, motif, juxtaposition) in order to discuss themes.	
What is Hugo's view of human nature? Is it naturally good, flawed by original sin, or somewhere between the two?	The author's style can be analyzed to derive more complex meaning.	Analyze the author's tone and word choice to understand its impact upon meaning.	
How does delivery of a text change the meaning and tone of the content?	The musical depicts symbolic occurrences through cinematography.	Compare/contrast the style between novel and musical.	
Common Core State Standards: CC.1.3.9-10.K, CC.1.3.9-10.A, CC.1.3.9-10.B, CC.1.3.9-10.C, CC.1.3.9-10.D, CC.1.3.9-10.E, CC.1.4.9-10.S (Draw evidence from a literary text) , CC.1.5.9-10.A (Engage in discussions)			

THE ODYSSEY

➤ *The Odyssey*, by Homer (abridged)

Essential Questions	Students will know that...	Students will be able to...	Assessments
How does Homer first present the archetype of the hero and hero's journey in order to illuminate societal values?	The hero and hero's journey is a universal archetype that developed from Homer's stories.	Trace and develop the archetype of a hero and the hero's journey over the course of a text.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● WDPs ● Map Project ● Blog project / writing project
How are we affected by our belief systems in our culture and society?	Authors can reflect and illuminate societal and cultural values in a variety of ways.	Analyze literary and poetic devices within a text, considering their effectiveness at conveying universal messages.	
What makes a hero?	Perspective influences our understanding of the world and our definition of a hero's qualities.	Explore genre and works by authors who represent diverse world cultures and evaluate those characters for their heroic traits.	
What are we missing when we read a text that is in translation?	Great literature reflects life, and the ways in which our values are represented in the stories we tell.	Compare various translations of the text to determine how perspective influences worldview.	
Common Core State Standards: CC.1.2.9-10.F, CC.1.2.9-10.G, CC.1.3.9-10.C, CC.1.3.9-10. G (Different mediums), CC.1.4.9-10.M (Narrative writing), CC.1.4.9-10.S, CC.1.5.9-10.G			

Extension Units

(supplemental and taught on an “as needed” basis)

READING STRATEGIES

➤ *Short stories and excerpts from various novels*

Essential Questions	Students will know that...	Students will be able to...	Assessments
How are literacy strategies tied to learning?	Literacy strategies deepen their understanding of the text	Determine the appropriate literacy strategy and then utilize that strategy to better understand a text	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Reading Strategies Assessment ● Reading Strategies Scavenger Hunt ● Book Speed Dating ● Visualizing PlayDoh ● Visualizing Posters - 12 Jewelz ● The Day the Crayons Quit Main Idea Activity ● More Than This - I do, We do, You do ● Conversation Piece - Homicide Report
What do good readers do?	Good readers use various skills to approach a text	Visualize elements of a text using various strategies	
How does finding the main idea help me identify the theme?	The main idea can be used to identify theme	Utilize the main idea to construct claim, evidence, and reasoning to support inferences about theme	
How does the types of questions I ask affect the outcome of information?	Thick and thin questions are constructed differently Utilizing thick and thin question will strengthen text analysis	Construct thick and thin questions to deepen their understanding of a text	
How can connecting to what I read deepen my analysis of the text?	Making connections to the text will deepen understanding and create relevancy	Make connections to their lives, other texts, and the society around them	
How can I possibly understand something if I'm not given all the information?	Constructing a best connection can be done in three steps (I connect, because, and so)	Making inferences about the text to deepen their critical reading skills	
How do I combine my understanding and skills with reading strategies to demonstrate a deeper understanding of a text?	Inferences are used to identify deeper understandings of the text and analyze literary devices	Synthesize a text to formulate an analysis of their reading	
Common Core State Standards: CC.1.3.9-10.A, CC.1.3.9-10.B, CC.1.3.9-10.D, CC.1.3.9-10.E, CC.1.3.9-10.F, CC.1.3.9-10.K			