

8th Grade ELA: Unit 1 (August 9-September 27); Unit 2 (September 28 through November 19); Unit 3 (November 29 through February 03); Unit 4 (February 04 through April 05); Unit 5 (April 06 through May 25)

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| <p><b>Unit 1: Rites of Passage Essential Question:</b> What are some milestones on the path to growing up?<br/> <b>Whole Class Learning:</b> What event changed your understanding of yourself, or that of someone you know?<br/> <b>Small Group Learning:</b> What defines an event or an experience in a young person’s life as a milestone or rite of passage?<br/> <b>Performance Based Assessment (Nonfiction Narrative Essay):</b> What rite of passage has held the most significance for you or for a person you know well?</p> |  |
| <b>Standards</b>                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                        |  |
| <b>8.RL.KID.2</b> Determine a theme or central idea of a text and analyze its development over the course of the text, including its relationship to the characters, setting, and plot; provide an objective summary.                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                   |  |
| <b>8.RL.CS.4</b> 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 allusions to other texts and repetition of words and phrases, and analogies.                                                                                                                                                                                                                                          |  |
| <b>8.RL.CS.5</b> Compare and contrast the structure of two or more texts and analyze how the differing structure of each text contributes to its meaning and style.                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                     |  |
| <b>8.RL.CS.6</b> Analyze how similarities and differences in the points of view of the audience and the character create effects such as suspense, humor, or dramatic irony.                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                            |  |
| <b>8.RI.CS.4</b> Determine the meaning of words and phrases as they are used in a text, including figurative, connotative, and technical meanings; analyze the impact of a specific word choice on meaning and tone, including analogies and allusions to other texts.                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                  |  |
| <b>8.W.TTP.3</b> Write narratives (fiction and nonfiction) to develop real or imagined experiences or events using effective techniques, relevant descriptive details, and well-structured event sequences.                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                             |  |

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| <p><b>Unit 2: The Holocaust Essential Question:</b> How do we remember the past?<br/> <b>Whole Class Learning:</b> How are historical events reflected in the play <i>The Diary of Anne Frank</i>?<br/> <b>Small Group Learning:</b> How do the selections contribute to your understanding of the Holocaust and the ways in which we remember the past?<br/> <b>Performance-Based Assessment (Informative/Explanatory Essay):</b> How can literature help us remember and honor the victims of the Holocaust?</p> |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                          |
| <b>Standards</b>                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                   |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                          |
| <b>8.RL.KID.3</b>                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                  | Analyze how particular lines of dialogue or incidents in a story or drama propel the action, reveal aspects of a character, or provoke a decision.                                                                                       |
| <b>8.RL.CS.6</b>                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                   | Analyze how similarities and differences in the points of view of the audience and the character create effects such as suspense, humor, or dramatic irony.                                                                              |
| <b>8.RI.KID.2</b>                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                  | Determine a central idea of a text and analyze its development over the course of the text, including its relationship to supporting ideas; provide an objective summary.                                                                |
| <b>8.RI.CS.4</b>                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                   | 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 and allusions to other texts. |
| <b>8.RI.CS.5</b>                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                   | Analyze in detail the structure of a specific paragraph or section in a text, including the role of particular sentences in developing and refining a key concept.                                                                       |
| <b>8.RI.CS.6</b>                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                   | Determine an author's point of view or purpose in a text and analyze how an author acknowledges and responds to conflicting evidence or viewpoints.                                                                                      |
| <b>8.W.TTP.2</b>                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                   | Write informative/explanatory texts to examine a topic and convey ideas, concepts, and information through the selection, organization, and analysis of relevant content.                                                                |

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| <p><b>Unit 3: What Matters Essential Question:</b> When is it right to take a stand?<br/> <b>Whole Class Learning:</b> What is a problem you think needs to be solved? How would you solve it?<br/> <b>Small Group Learning:</b> When you take a stand, how much does winning matter?<br/> <b>Performance-Based Assessment:</b> Is it important for people to make their own choices in life?</p> |  |
| <b>Standards</b>                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                  |  |
| <b>8.RI.KID.3</b> Analyze the techniques used to distinguish between and to make connections among individuals, events, or ideas in a text.                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                       |  |
| <b>8.RI.CS.4</b> 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 and allusions to other texts.                                                                                                                                         |  |
| <b>8.RI.CS.5</b> Analyze in detail the structure of a specific paragraph or section in a text, including the role of particular sentences in developing and refining a key concept.                                                                                                                                                                                                               |  |
| <b>8.RI.CS.6</b> Determine an author’s point of view or purpose in a text and analyze how an author acknowledges and responds to conflicting evidence or viewpoints.                                                                                                                                                                                                                              |  |
| <b>8.RI.IKI.8</b> Delineate and evaluate the argument and specific claims in a text, assessing whether the evidence is relevant and sufficient to support the claims and the reasoning is sound.                                                                                                                                                                                                  |  |
| <b>8.RI.IKI.9</b> Analyze a case in which two or more texts provide conflicting information on the same topic and identify where the texts disagree on matters of fact or interpretation.                                                                                                                                                                                                         |  |
| <b>8.W.TTP.1</b> Write arguments to support claims with clear reasons and relevant evidence.                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                      |  |

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| <p><b>Unit 4: Human Intelligence Essential Question:</b> In what different ways can people be intelligent?<br/> <b>Whole Class Learning:</b> What has happened to you so far as a result of the experiment, and what do you predict will happen to you as time progresses?<br/> <b>Small-Group Learning:</b> How does each selection highlight a different way to be intelligent?<br/> <b>Performance Based Assessment (Informative/Explanatory):</b> In what different ways can people be intelligent?</p> |  |
| <b>Standards</b>                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                            |  |
| <b>8.RL.KID.2</b> Determine a theme or central idea of a text and analyze its development over the course of the text, including its relationship to the characters, setting, and plot; provide an objective summary.                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                       |  |
| <b>8.RL.CS.4</b> 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 allusions to other texts and repetition of words and phrases, and analogies.                                                                                                                                                                                                              |  |
| <b>8.RL.CS.5</b> Compare and contrast the structure of two or more texts and analyze how the differing structure of each text contributes to its meaning and style.                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                         |  |
| <b>8.RL.CS.6</b> Analyze how similarities and differences in the points of view of the audience and the character create effects such as suspense, humor, or dramatic irony.                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                |  |
| <b>8.RL.IKI.9</b> Analyze how contemporary texts are shaped by foundational texts or literary archetypes and how authors allude to traditional works, myths, or religious texts; describe how traditional elements are rendered anew.                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                       |  |
| <b>8.RI.KID.2</b> Determine a central idea of a text and analyze its development over the course of the text, including its relationship to supporting ideas; provide an objective summary.                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                 |  |
| <b>8.RI.KID.3</b> Analyze the techniques used to distinguish between and to make connections among individuals, events, or ideas in a text.                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                 |  |
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| <b>8.W.TTP.2</b> Write informative/explanatory texts to examine a topic and convey ideas, concepts, and information through the selection, organization, and analysis of relevant content.                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                  |  |

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| <p><b>Unit 5: Invention Essential Question:</b> Are inventions realized through inspiration or perspiration?<br/> <b>Whole Class Learning:</b> Which text—“Uncle Marcus” or “To Fly”—best describes the dream or fantasy of human flight?<br/> <b>Small-Group Learning:</b> Are inventions realized through inspiration or perspiration?</p> |  |
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| <b>Performance Based Assessment (Argumentative Essay):</b> Which invention described in this unit has had the biggest impact on humanity?                                                                                                                                                      |  |
| <b>Standards</b>                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                               |  |
| <b>8.RL.KID.2</b> Determine a theme or central idea of a text and analyze its development over the course of the text, including its relationship to the characters, setting, and plot; provide an objective summary.                                                                          |  |
| <b>8.RL.KID.3</b> Analyze how particular lines of dialogue or incidents in a story or drama propel the action, reveal aspects of a character, or provoke a decision.                                                                                                                           |  |
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| <b>8.RI.IKI.8</b> Analyze a case in which two or more texts provide conflicting information on the same topic and identify where the texts disagree on matters of fact or interpretation.                                                                                                      |  |
| <b>8.W.TTP.1</b> Write arguments to support claims with clear reasons and relevant evidence.                                                                                                                                                                                                   |  |