

ESSENTIAL COURSE OF STUDY: GRADE 8 2010-2011

H=additional Honors English requirements

Quarter 1 Aug. 31 – Oct. 29	LITERATURE	NONFICTION AND INFORMATIONAL MATERIAL	WRITING Comparison Contrast Essay (p.424)	Required Reading (See District required/ recommended reading list)	REQUIRED ASSESSMENTS Boldface=required
Unit 1	RW: Plot and Conflict <i>Raymond's Run</i> <i>The Ransom of Red Chief</i> <i>The Clean Sweep</i> <i>The Hitchhiker</i> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Plot • Inferences • Conflict • Predict • Sequence • Foreshadowing 	<i>My First Free Summer</i> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Memoir • Cause-effect 	Personal Narrative	The 6 Most Important Decisions You'll Ever Make Nothing but the Truth-H To Kill a Mockingbird Screenplay-H Tales of Mystery and Terror-H	Unit Tests (A and B/C versions - new passages) Benchmark Tests (4 times a year - cumulative) Writing products assessed with 6 Traits
Unit 2	RW: Character and Point of View <i>The Treasures of Lemon Brown</i> <i>Rules of the Game</i> <i>Flowers for Algernon-H</i> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Point of View • Inferences • Conclusions • Character traits 	<i>Harriet Tubman: Conductor on the Underground Railroad</i> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Characterization • Monitor • Main idea and details • Biography 	Describing a Person		
Unit 3	RW: Setting and Mood <i>The Drummer Boy of Shiloh</i> <i>The Monkey's Paw</i> <i>Civil War Journal</i> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Setting • Inferences • Mood • Predict • Imagery • Speaker 	<i>The Story of an Eyewitness/Letter from New Orleans Leaving Desire</i> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Scope • Purpose for reading 	Comparison- Contrast Essay		

Quarter 2 Nov. 1 – Jan. 21	LITERATURE	NONFICTION AND INFORMATIONAL MATERIAL	WRITING Choose one or combine: Personal Response to Media or Literature (p. 648) and Literary Analysis (p.742)	Reading Requirements (See District required/ recommended reading list)	REQUIRED ASSESSMENTS Boldface=required
Unit 4	RW: Theme and Symbol <i>Gil's Furniture Bought and Sold</i> <i>Pandora's Box-H</i> <i>The Old Grandfather and His Little Grandson/The Wise Old Woman</i> <i>The Diary of Anne Frank</i> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Symbol • Inferences • Theme • Universal Theme • Purpose for Reading 	<i>A Diary from Another World/The Last Seven Months of Anne Frank</i> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Synthesize • Generalizations 	Short Story	<i>The Diary of Anne Frank</i> <i>The Glory Field-H</i> <i>1984-H</i> <i>Under the Persimmon Tree-H</i> <i>Life as We Knew it</i> <i>Clay</i> <i>Sweet Whisper Brother</i> <i>Rush</i> <i>Virginia Hamilton</i>	Unit Tests (A and B/C versions - new passages) Benchmark Tests (4 times a year - cumulative) Writing products assessed with 6 Traits
Unit 5	RW: Appreciating Poetry <i>Lineage</i> <i>Simile: Willow and Ginko</i> <i>Macavity: The mystery</i> <i>Cat/Vermin</i> <i>We Alone</i> <i>Speech to the Young: Speech to the .../Mother to Son</i> <i>On the Grasshopper and.../Ode to Solitude</i> <i>One More Round/Not My Bones</i> <i>Boots of Spanish.../The Song of Hiawatha</i> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Poetic form • Figurative language • Stanza • Sound devices • Rhyme scheme • Rhythm/meter 		Personal Response to Media or Literature (see note at top of column)		

Quarter 3 January 24- March 25	LITERATURE	NONFICTION AND INFORMATIONAL MATERIAL	WRITING Research projects	Required Reading (See District required/ recommended reading list)	REQUIRED ASSESSMENTS Boldface=required
Unit 6	RW: Style, Voice and Tone <i>New York Day Women</i> <i>The Lady, or the Tiger?</i> <i>Roughing It</i> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Style • Sequence • Tone • Paraphrase • Voice 	<i>Roughing It</i> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Voice • Monitor 	Quarter III/ Quarter IV: Career Research Report and Aligned Activities 1. Persuasive Business Letter: A student writes a letter to a future employer identifying how they match the requirements for a career they envision. A resume is included describing educational experience, honors won, and references. 2. A Career Research report investigating a potential future career. 3. A writing piece celebrating a significant contribution accomplished in the future. Literary Analysis (see note for Quarter 2)	<i>Roll of Thunder, Hear My Cry</i> <i>As You Like It</i> <i>The Poetry of Robert Frost-H</i>	Unit Tests (A and B/C versions - new passages) Benchmark Tests (4 times a year - cumulative) Writing products assessed with 6 Traits

Unit 7	RW: History, Culture and the Author <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Author's Background • Compare and contrast • Cultural conflict • Inferences 	<i>Dreams from My Father</i> <i>Out of Many, One</i> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Author's perspective • Autobiography • Cause-effect • Treatment • Compare and contrast 	Cause-Effect Essay	Of Mice and Men Multimedia presentation	
Unit 9		RW: Argument and Persuasion <i>Zoos: Myth.../Zoos Connect Us...</i> <i>Position on Dodge Ball.../The Weak Shall inherit...</i> <i>The Sanctuary of the School</i> <i>Educating Sons/The First Americans</i> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Argument • Fact and opinion • Persuasion • Author's Purpose • Compare/contrast • Historical context 	Persuasive Essay	Persuasive Speech	
Quarter 4 April 4 - June 9	LITERATURE	NONFICTION AND INFORMATIONAL MATERIAL	WRITING Research Projects	Required Reading (See District required/recommended reading list)	REQUIRED ASSESSMENTS Boldface=required
Unit 8		RW: Reading Informational Text <i>Interview with a Song catcher</i> <i>Kabul's Singing Sensation</i> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Text features • Summarize • Fact and opinion • Main ideas and details 		<i>A Whole New Mind-H</i> <i>That was Then, This is Now-H</i> <i>I, Robot-H</i> <i>The Gadget-H</i> <i>Photo by Brady: A Picture of the Civil War-H</i>	Unit Tests (A and B/C versions - new passages) Benchmark Tests (4 times a year - cumulative) Writing products assessed with 6 Traits

Unit 10		Research Strategies Workshop	Research Report (flexible due date completed by May 27, 2011)		
Student Resources Handbook		Reading Handbook <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Reading informational texts• Reading persuasive texts	Writing Handbook		