# ESSENTIAL COURSE OF STUDY: GRADE 8 2010-2011

H=additional Honors English requirements

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Quarter 1</th>
<th>LITERATURE</th>
<th>NONFICTION AND INFORMATIONAL MATERIAL</th>
<th>WRITING Comparison Contrast Essay (p.424)</th>
<th>Required Reading (See District required/recommended reading list)</th>
<th>REQUIRED ASSESSMENTS</th>
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</table>
| Aug. 31 – Oct. 29 | RW: Plot and Conflict  
*Raymond’s Run*  
*The Ransom of Red Chief*  
*The Clean Sweep*  
*The Hitchhiker*  
  - Plot  
  - Inferences  
  - Conflict  
  - Predict  
  - Sequence  
  - Foreshadowing | My First Free Summer  
  - 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 |
| RW: Character and Point of View  
*The Treasures of Lemon Brown*  
*Rules of the Game*  
*Flowers for Algernon-H*  
  - Point of View  
  - Inferences  
  - Conclusions  
  - Character traits | Harriet Tubman: Conductor on the Underground Railroad  
  - Characterization  
  - Monitor  
  - Main idea and details  
  - Biography | Describing a Person |
| RW: Setting and Mood  
*The Drummer Boy of Shiloh*  
*The Monkey’s Paw*  
*Civil War Journal*  
  - Setting  
  - Inferences  
  - Mood  
  - Predict  
  - Imagery  
  - Speaker | The Story of an Eyewitness/Letter from New Orleans Leaving Desire  
  - Scope  
  - Purpose for reading | Comparison-Contrast Essay |
<table>
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<tr>
<th>Quarter 2</th>
<th>LITERATURE</th>
<th>NONFICTION AND INFORMATIONAL MATERIAL</th>
<th>WRITING</th>
<th>Reading Requirements</th>
<th>REQUIRED ASSESSMENTS</th>
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<td>Nov. 1 – Jan. 21</td>
<td>RW: Theme and Symbol Gil’s Furniture Bought and Sold Pandora’s Box-H The Old Grandfather and His Little Grandson/The Wise Old Woman The Diary of Anne Frank Symbol Inferences Theme Universal Theme Purpose for Reading</td>
<td>A Diary from Another World/The Last Seven Months of Anne Frank Symbol Inferences Theme Universal Theme Purpose for Reading</td>
<td>Choose one or combine: Personal Response to Media or Literature (p. 648) and Literary Analysis (p.742)</td>
<td><strong>The Diary of Anne Frank</strong> The Glory Field-H 1984-H Under the Persimmon Tree-H Life as We Knew it Clay Sweet Whisper Brother Rush Virginia Hamilton</td>
<td>Unit Tests (A and B/C versions - new passages) Benchmark Tests (4 times a year - cumulative) Writing products assessed with 6 Traits</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Unit 4</strong></td>
<td>RW: Appreciating Poetry Lineage Simile: Willow and Ginko Macavity: The mystery Cat/Vermin We Alone Speech to the Young: Speech to the .../Mother to Son On the Grasshopper and.../Ode to Solitude One More Round/Not My Bones Boots of Spanish.../The Song of Hiawatha Poetic form Figurative language Stanza Sound devices Rhyme scheme Rhythm/meter</td>
<td>Personal Response to Media or Literature (see note at top of column)</td>
<td></td>
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</table>
| 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  
*New York Day Women*  
*The Lady, or the Tiger?*  
*Roughing It*  
- Style  
- Sequence  
- Tone  
- Paraphrase  
- Voice | *Roughing It*  
- 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.  
3. A writing piece celebrating a significant contribution accomplished in the future.  
- Literary Analysis  
(see note for Quarter 2) | *Roll of Thunder, Hear My Cry*  
*As You Like It*  
*The Poetry of Robert Frost-H*  
| 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  
- Author’s Background  
- Compare and contrast  
- Cultural conflict  
- Inferences | Dreams from My Father Out of Many, One  
- 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  
Zoos: Myth.../Zoos Connect Us...  
Position on Dodge Ball.../The Weak Shall inherit...  
The Sanctuary of the School Educating Sons/The First Americans  
- 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  
Interview with a Song catcher Kabul’s Singing Sensation  
- Text features  
- Summarize  
- Fact and opinion  
- Main ideas and details | A Whole New Mind-H  
That was Then, This is Now-H  
I, Robot-H  
The Gadget-H  
Photo by Brady: A Picture of the Civil War-H | 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  
• Reading informational texts  
• Reading persuasive texts | Writing Handbook |  |