

English 8

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Class 18

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Description:

English 8 is an important preparatory step toward earning a high school diploma and preparing for a post-secondary education. Eighth grade ELA supports students through this important transition by focusing on the development of reading and writing skills.

Goals:

The goal of this course is to meet or exceed the *common core standards*. The standards are informed by the highest, most effective models from states across the country and countries around the world, and provide teachers and parents with a common understanding of what students are expected to learn. These standards define the knowledge and skills students should have within their education careers so that they will graduate high school able to succeed in entry-level, credit-bearing academic college courses and in workforce training programs (www.corestandards.org).

Text:

Students will use a variety of texts from multiple sources. Most textual materials will be provided in class, either through paper copy or an online source. Online access will be important to your students. If this will be a challenge we can certainly make accommodations. Please communicate your specific needs.

Students will be given two weeks notice to acquire a copy of the following novels:

The Pigman by Paul Zindel

The Outsiders by S.E. Hinton

Fahrenheit 451 by Ray Bradbury

All other texts will be provided in class.

Student Supply List:

Each student is required to have a public library card, a composition notebook, loose leaf paper, black or blue ink pens, and a highlighter.

Resources:

www.corestandards.org

www.abclibrary.org

Note: Lessons will be assigned through our Google Classroom Account.
Parents are invited to join.

Course Schedule:

Q1	Reading/Assignment
	Topic
1	“Working toward Your Dreams” Understanding Theme. Grammar Focus: Types of sentences: declarative, interrogative, imperative, exclamatory Read, Langston Hughes (poetry) Read, “Moon” by Chaim Potok Character and Characterization Image and Imagery Identifying purpose in writing
2	Introduce the RACE strategy Figure of Speech: Simile, Metaphor, Personification Read “Born Worker” by Gary Soto Grammar focus: Identifying complete subjects and predicates
3	Writing focus: preparing a biographical memoir Grammar focus: identifying complete sentences; fixing sentence fragments; using a semi-colon Review literary tools and key vocabulary Read “An hour with Abuelo” by Judith Ortiz Cofer Reading strategy: POV, first-person pov Read ‘Abuelito Who’ by Sandra Cisneros Grammar Focus: Pronouns
4	Writing Focus: composing a Narrative Poem Understanding Irony, Speaker, Tone Read “Legacies” by Nikki Giovanni Grammar: Choosing colorful words and phrases; nouns, verbs and adjectives
5	Understanding Allegory Read “Freedom” by William Stafford Read “The Road Not Taken” by Robert Frost Summary vs Paraphrase Using the SPOTTTS strategy and TPCAST strategy
6	Understanding Historical fiction, Symbol, Mood Read “The Drummer Boy of Shiloh” by Ray Bradbury Read “The Bracelet” by Yoshiko Uchida

	<p>Read "Our Struggle is Against All Forms of Racism" by Nelson Mandela</p> <p>Writing Focus: Writing a persuasive letter or speech, personal and professional</p> <p>Grammar Focus: Run-on sentences</p>	
7	<p>Understanding Narration, Conflict</p> <p>Read "Women" by Alice Walker</p> <p>Read "On Education" by Anonymous</p> <p>Read "The Story-Teller" by Saki</p> <p>Read a selection from "The Autobiography of Malcolm X" by Malcolm X and Alex Haley</p> <p>Writing focus: writing imaginative fiction</p> <p>Grammar focus: organization</p>	
8	<p>Understanding Description (sensory details), Suspense, Setting</p> <p>Read "The Room" by Arthur Porges</p> <p>Read "The Third Level" by Jack Finney</p> <p>Writing Focus: Imaginative fiction, creating a detailed setting</p>	
9	<p>Elements of the Oral Tradition</p> <p>Read "Pecos Bill" by Adrien Stoutenburg</p> <p>Read "Paul Bunyan of the North Woods" by Carl Sandburg</p> <p>Understand Anecdote, Hyperbole</p> <p>Review for end of Q1 exam</p>	
Q2	<p>Reading/Assignment Topic</p> <p>Read The Pearl by John Steinbeck</p>	Core standard focus
1		
2	Continue The Pearl by John Steinbeck	
3	Continue The Pearl by John Steinbeck	
4	Finish The Pearl by John Steinbeck	
5	Writing focus: developing a short story	
6	<p>Elements of Poetry</p> <p>Night Clouds by Amy Lowell</p> <p>The Bat by Theodore Roethke</p> <p>Bats by Randall Jarrell</p> <p>Paul Revere's Ride by Henry Wadsworth Longfellow</p>	

7	<p>Player Piano by John Updike Pretty Words by Elinor Wylie Blue Cornucopia by Robert Francis Without Title by Diane Glancy</p>	
8	<p>Emily Dickinson, selected poems Ode to my socks by Pablo Neruda Childhood and poetry by Pablo Neruda Writing focus: comparing and contrasting poems</p>	
9	<p>Review Final Exam, summative Q1 & Q2</p>	
Q3	<p>Reading/Assignment Topic</p>	Core standard focus
	<p>The Diary of Anne Frank, a play by Frances Goodrich and Albert Hackett</p>	
1	<p>The Diary of Anne Frank continued</p>	
2	<p>The Diary of Anne Frank continued</p>	
3	<p>The Diary of Anne Frank continued</p>	
4	<p>The Diary of Anne Frank continued</p>	
5	<p>Elements of Nonfiction From Ishi in Two Worlds by Theodora Kroeber Do not ask us to give up the buffalo for the sheep by Chief Ten Bears A Tale of Two Rocks by Valerie Jablow</p>	
6	<p>Chac by Alan Rabinowitz From Soul of a Citizen by Paul Rogat Loeb Writing focus: Assembling a Scientific Report, how a toy works</p>	
7	<p>Elements of Informational and Visual Media How to Use a Compass by Kjetil Kjernsmo Orienteering: the Thinking Sport by David LaRochelle Writing Focus: persuasive writing, Pacific Gem Cruise Line Death and the Miser by Peggy Thomson with Barbara Moore</p>	
8	<p>The Writing Process Brainstorm, write, edit, revise....</p>	
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