

Advanced ELA: Grade 8

UNIT/Weeks (not consecutive)	Timeline/Topics	Essential Questions
1	<u>Fiction and Narrative Writing</u> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Annotation • Context Clues • Textual Evidence • Language, Style, and Audience • Character • Generating Questions • Author's Purpose and Point of View • Making and Confirming Predictions • Theme • Allusion • Plot and Story Structure • Central or Main Idea • Basic Spelling Rules I • Dashes and Hyphens - Dashes • Commas after Transitions • Compare and Contrast • Narrative Writing and Techniques • Story Beginnings • Conclusions 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • What strategies do effective readers of fiction use and why? • How does the author's use of structure affect the meaning of the text? • How does the author's point of view and purpose shape and direct the text?
2	<u>Poetry and Literary Analysis</u> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Poetic Elements and Structure • Making Inferences • Arguments and Claims • Visualizing • Central or Main Idea • Character • Textual Evidence • Allusion • Plot • Figurative Language • Summarizing • Active and Passive Voice • Verb Moods • Consistent Verb Voice and Mood • Reasons and Relevant Evidence • Style • Literary Analysis Writing Process 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Why is poetry a powerful form of expression? • How do readers' personal experiences enable them to connect with poems? • How does figurative language, imagery, symbolism, sensory language help engage readers?
3	<u>Informational Text and Informative Writing</u> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Evaluating Details • Greek and Latin Affixes and Roots • Media 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • How does the author's point of view and purpose shape and direct the text? • How does analyzing more than one text help us to interpret the author's intent and build our knowledge?

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Summarizing • Informational Text Structure and Elements • Synthesizing • Word Patterns and Relationships • Figurative Language • Context Clues • Technical Language • Language, Style, and Audience • Connotation and Denotation • Participles • Gerunds • Infinitives • Precise Language • Informative Writing 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • How do writers use language and structure to communicate information?
4	<p><u>Argumentative Text and Writing</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Making Connections • Character • Theme • Arguments and Claims • Reasons and Evidence • Compare and Contrast • Technical Language • Language, Style, and Audience • Media • Point of View • Setting a Purpose for Reading • Connotation and Denotation • Figurative Language • Allusion • Word Patterns and Relationships • Ellipses for Omission • Commas for Pause or Separation • Basic Spelling Rules II • Argumentative Writing • Thesis Statement 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Why is vivid and precise use of language so important? • How can one utilize evidence, factual or anecdotal, when supporting one's position in an argumentative piece? • How does an author's word choice impact the reader's interpretation of the text? • What strategies can a reader use to determine the figurative, connotative and technical meanings presented in an argumentative text?
5	<p><u>Drama and Argumentative Oral Presentation</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Dramatic Elements and Structure • Making Connections • Word Meaning • Informational Text Elements and Structure • Reasons and Evidence • Monitoring Comprehension • Language, Style, and Audience • Author's Purpose and Point of View • Writing for Effect 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • How does visualizing the action and the interaction between characters help you comprehend the story better? • What can the characters or individuals of a text teach us about culture, identity, and community?

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Participial Phrases • Gerund Phrases • Run-On Sentences • Sources and Citations • Oral Project 	
6	<p><u>Science Fiction, Fantasy, Research</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Making Inferences • Story Structure • Language, Style, and Audience • Greek and Latin Affixes and Roots • Generating Questions • Technical Language • Summarizing • Context Clues • Central or Main Idea • Point of View • Infinitive Phrases • Commonly Misspelled Words • Ellipses for Pause or Separation • Sentence Fragments • Evaluating Sources • Research and Note-Taking • Critiquing Research • Paraphrasing • Sources and Citations • Print and Graphic Features 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • What can fantastical stories teach us about our own world? • Why are fictional stories so compelling to readers and writers alike? • How can an escape into an imagined reality help us understand our own society?
7	<p><u>Novel Unit</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Differentiating Conflict • Author's Techniques • Theme • Research 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • How does great literature reveal truths about people, time, and place?