

# English Gifted and Talented Syllabus

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Seventh grade English Gifted and Talented is a literature-based program that incorporates all of the SC Standards for English Language Arts. These standards are available at <http://ed.sc.gov/agency/offices/cso/standards/ela>

## Unit I: Appearance vs. Reality

Fiction and Nonfiction

Prentiss Hall Textbook Unit  
Plot Diagram Graphic Organizer  
Selected stories and nonfiction articles

*Twelfth Night* by William Shakespeare (Adapted by Diane Davidson)  
Elements of drama  
Shakespeare and his times  
Writing: journal, summary, expository, character analysis

## Unit II: Two Classics

*The Prince and the Pauper* by Mark Twain  
Elements of fiction  
Historical fiction  
Writing: dialectical journal, two-voice poem, character analysis  
*A Christmas Carol* by Charles Dickens  
*Scrooge and Marley* (play adaptation by Israel Horowitz)  
Elements of drama  
Dialogue  
Victorian England  
Comparing/contrasting characters  
Writing: comparison/contrast, journal

## Unit III: Conflict Arising from Diversity

The Japanese American Experience in WWII  
*Farewell to Manzanar* by Jeanne Wakatsuki Houston  
*Dear Miss Breed*  
*Tulsa Burning*  
Elements of fiction and nonfiction  
Selected poems  
Writing: journal, summary/paraphrase, autobiography, letter  
Web site analysis  
Picture books  
Elements of fiction and nonfiction  
Writing: dialectical journals, poetry, descriptive, persuasive

Speaking: persuasive speech  
Universal themes  
Diction, symbolism, historical background, bias  
Writing: comparison/contrast essay, dialectical journal, newspaper articles, place poetry  
Problem solving  
Elements of Biography

## Unit IV Part 1: Poetry

Poetry Unit from Prentice Hall Text  
Other selected poems  
Writing: poetry

## Part 2: Dreams

*Gossamer* by Lois Lowry  
Stylistic elements of author: description, tone, characterization, diction, *in media res*  
Elements of fiction: setting, conflict, theme, symbolism  
Critical thinking  
Writing: journal, double-entry journal, essay, original short story  
Writing a Short Story  
Thinking about Plot  
Elements of a Short Story  
Character Traits/Characterization  
Poetry

**Additional Activities:** Grammar and style review, vocabulary, stems Lists 11-20, Daily Dose (Word of the Day, editing/proofreading practice, standards review), independent reading, book reviews, journaling

**Classroom Behavior:** Students are expected to follow Classroom Expectations and to obey all school rules: Be on time. Bring all required materials, Stay in your seat. Raise your hand if you wish to speak. Show respect to everyone.