

Language Arts Studies 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: Novel and Drama

Tuck Everlasting by Natalie Babbitt
Elements of 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

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, *The Word Within the Word* 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.