



Southmoreland School District

9CP English Language Arts

Curriculum Overview

9CP English Language Arts Overview:

In this course we will be studying all of the major genres of literature: fiction, non-fiction, poetry and drama. Within these modules, students will also study an entire novel and write a research paper. This course requires extensive readings from several genres and periods. In addition to studying structure and style, you will consider the social and historical values reflected in a wide range of literary works.

You will be required to make critical judgments about such things as character, motivation, theme, setting, point-of view, style, voice, and structure.

You will demonstrate your knowledge through presentations, analytical essays and/or creative writing, journal writing, tests, projects, and peer and self-evaluations. Writing is an integral part of the College Prep course. Writing assignments focus on critical analysis of literature and include informative, persuasive, and narrative essays. As a graduation requirement, during your 10th grade year you will be required to show proficiency on the Keystone examination in both reading and writing.

You will be presented with attitudes, experiences, and ideas you may not have encountered in your own life by exploring literature, film, theater, and other forms of language expression.

Module Titles:

Module 1: Elements of Fiction

Module 2: The Research Paper

Module 3: Elements of Nonfiction

Module 4: Elements of Poetry

Module 5: Elements of Drama

Module Overviews:

Module 1: Elements of Fiction

While reading short stories and novels, students will define, identify, and analyze plot, setting, characterization, point of view, and theme. The following fiction terms from the Keystone Literature Glossary will be included: allusion, antonym, connotation, cultural significance, dialect, dialogue, diction, flashback, foreshadowing, irony, literary movement, mood, narrator, symbolism, synonym, syntax, and tone. Novel study will include *To Kill a Mockingbird* or a text of equal literary significance. In addition, students will create and support a thesis statement in a brief literary analysis. Students will format documents using MLA and learn to cite both a print source and an online source.



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Module 2: The Research Paper

Students will select a topic, conduct research, draft a research paper, cite sources, and revise and edit. Topics covered will include the following: punctuation, sentence patterns and variety, transitions, thesis, outline, Works Cited page, in-text citations, direct quotes, revising, editing, and writing resources.

Module 3: Elements of Nonfiction

While reading essays and speeches, students will define, identify, and analyze the author's purpose, context clues, diction, fact, main idea, propaganda techniques, and text organization/structure. Students will differentiate between informative nonfiction, persuasive nonfiction, and literary nonfiction. Ultimately, students will write and present their own "I Have a Dream" speech.

Module 4: Elements of Poetry

Students will read and differentiate between narrative, lyrical, and dramatic poetry. While reading new poetry, students will engage in conversations about alliteration, allusion, connotation, diction, figurative language, hyperbole, imagery, metaphor, mood, personification, simile, sound devices, structure of a poem, style, symbolism, theme, and tone. In addition, students will write original poetry.

Module 5: Elements of Drama

Students will explore the elements of drama. Elements of drama include the following: dialogue, figurative language, foreshadowing, hyperbole, imagery, irony, monologue, soliloquy, and theme.