

Content Area: English		Grade Level/Course		District: ISD 1				
Author: Lindsey Kaiser		8th Grade English		Date: August 2016				
Unit	Content (Essential Questions)	Objectives/ Skills/ Processes	Learning Targets	Vocabulary	Assessment	Resources & Technology (Students will always need a computer to access email, internet, Google Drive, etc.)	Mn Standard & Benchmarks	Estimate # of days on Unit
Sept. - Fiction stories/Short stories from Elements of Literature book. Paragraph work. Class debate.	What are the elements that make up a short story? What is a theme? What is irony? What is foreshadowing? What is satire? What does it mean to be insane? What literary techniques should a student know and what reading strategies should a student be able to apply when reading a story?	Students will read, understand, and analyze short stories. Outline basic structure, structural elements and literary devices in stories read. Identify literary devices used in prose: metaphor, dramatic irony, symbolism, coincidence, foreshadowing, flashback, irony, allusion, hyperbole, oxymoron, parody. Students will be able to recognize plot elements in short stories and analyze characters- their traits, motivations, conflicts, points of view, relationships, and changes. Readers compare and contrast themes across short texts to explore various recurring and universal themes. Students will engage effectively in a range of collaborative discussions (one-on-one, in groups, and teacher-led) with diverse partners on grade 8 topics, texts, and issues, building on other's ideas and expressing their own clearly.		Context clues, Greek and Latin roots, prefixes, suffixes, inference, figurative language, similes, metaphors, figures of speech, verbal irony, situational irony, dramatic irony, puns, connotations, denotations, short story elements (exposition, rising action, climax, falling action, resolution/denouement). Theme, satire, conflict (internal and external), foreshadowing, tone, mood, point of view, types of characterization, symbolism, protagonist, antagonist, flashback, Imagery, Sensory details.	Short story reading quizzes, vocabulary quizzes, paragraph assessments, class debate on the Tell-Tale Heart, final test on short stories.	Law of the Land by: , The Monkey's Paw by: W. W. Jacobs, The Landlady by: Roald Dahl, The Tell-Tale Heart by: Edgar Allen Poe, The Lottery by: Shirley Jackson, The Ransom of Red Chief by: O. Henry, Flowers for Algernon (excerpt) by: Ruth Cullham. 6 +1 Traits of Writing Book by:	Writing Benchmarks: 8.7.1.1 (a-e), 8.7.3.3 (a-e), 8.7.4.4, 8.7.5.5, 8.7.6.6, Speaking, Viewing, Listening and Media Literacy Benchmarks: 8.9.1.1 (a-e), 8.9.2.2, 8.9.3.3, 8.9.4.4, 8.9.5.5, 8.9.6.6 Language Benchmarks: 8.11.1.1 (a-d), 8.11.2.2 (a-c), 8.11.3.3a, 8.11.4.4 (a-d), 8.11.5.5 (a-c), 8.11.6.6 Reading Literature Benchmarks: 8.4.1.1, 8.4.2.2, 8.4.3.3, 8.4.4.4, 8.4.5.5, 8.4.6.6, 8.4.7.7, 8.4.9.9, 8.4.10.10b	
Oct. - Narrative writing/online story maker/comics/short story/creative writing	What writing techniques sh	Students will plan, draft, revise, and write a personal narrative and fictional short story. I		Dialogue, active v. passive voice, chronological order,	Final narrative paper, character sketch, and fictional short story.		Writing Benchmarks: 8.7.3.3 (a-e), 8.7.4.4, 8.7.5.5, 8.7.6.6, Language Benchmarks: 8.11.1.1 (a-d), 8.11.2.2 (a-c), 8.11.3.3a	
Nov. - Science Fiction/Utopia v. Dystopia/The Giver by: Lois Lowry or Legend by: Marie Lu	What is a dystopia? Is it ever really possible to achieve a utopic society? Do rules limit our freedoms or keep us safe? Is the promise of progress worth the loss of lives? Why are dystopian novels so popular? What are the characteristics of dystopian fiction? When should one conform to the wishes or rules of others? What are the effects of standing up for what you believe? How important is it for people to have choices and the ability to make choices? How does conformity impact the individual and society? How would our world change if everyone was the same? When is it necessary to challenge those in power?			Utopia, Dystopia, Theme, Symbolism, Identity, Euthanasia, Genetic Engineering,	Chapter quizzes, final exam, vocabulary work, class discussions, group activities, socratic seminar, community life schedule, venn diagrams, create your own utopia project, argumentative essays. Kahoot review.	The Giver by: Lois Lowry or Legend by: Marie Lu	Speaking, Viewing, Listening and Media Literacy Benchmarks: 8.9.7.7 (a-c), Language Benchmarks: 8.11.4.4 (a-d), 8.11.5.5 (a-c), 8.11.6.6 Reading Literature Benchmark: 8.4.1.1, 8.4.2.2, 8.4.3.3, 8.4.4.4, 8.4.7.7	
Dec. - Argumentative Writing	How is an argument developed? What are the characteristics/necessities of a solid argument? What is credible evidence? What is a credible source? How do I cite my information? How do writers of argumentative papers structure and craft their pieces? How do writers of position papers use language features to persuade their readers?	Students will be able to argue a position and effectively refute a counter claim to understand how to develop and communicate arguments. Choose a topic which they are interested in and gather related research materials to formulate a position based on authentic concerns. Research credible sources and take notes on a topic about which they are interested to find and organize evidence to support their claim. Compare and contrast multiple accounts of the same topic or event to effectively acknowledge and address alternative or opposing claims. Craft strong claim statements about an issue to express the position clearly and powerfully. Plan how their argument will unfold to organize their writing in a logical way that establishes a formal style so the reader can follow the reasoning. Edit for conventions of Standard English to convey ideas and concepts clearly. Provide a list of sources to give credit to any and all resources utilized during the research process.		Claims, evidence, logic, phrases, clauses, counterclaims, formal tone, conclusion, analysis, transitions, cohesion, style, context, point of view, sequence, rebuttal, hook, citations.	Argumentative Essays based on writing prompts. Final argumentative essay based on theme from dystopia novel.		Writing Benchmarks: 8.7.1.1 (a-e), 8.7.4.4, 8.7.5.5, 8.7.6.6, 8.7.7.7, 8.7.8.8 Language Benchmarks: 8.11.4.4 (a-d), 8.11.5.5 (a-c), 8.11.6.6 Reading Informational Text Benchmarks: 8.5.8.8	
Jan. - Greek Mythology, Informative Writing Research paper and presentation. The Iliad, Odyssey, Aeneid (abridged and modified).	How do myths reflect the way we think, grow, mature, and deal with experience?			Plagiarism, MLA format, Citations,	Myths quizzes, vocabulary quizzes, research a Greek God and design a multimedia presentation. Final exam, compare/contrast activity.	Various Greek Mythology plays, Abridge versions of The Odyssey, The Iliad, and the Aeneid. Various Greek Myths stories, Jim Henson's Storyteller myth videos, Disney's Hercules, Percy Jackson and the Lightning Thief movie.	Writing Benchmarks: 8.7.2.2 (a-f), 8.7.4.4, 8.7.5.5, 8.7.6.6, 8.7.7.7, 8.7.8.8 Speaking, Viewing, Listening and Media Literacy Benchmarks: 8.9.7.7 (a-c) Language Benchmarks: 8.11.4.4 (a-d), 8.11.5.5 (a-c), 8.11.6.6 Reading Literature Benchmark: 8.4.7.7, 8.4.9.9, 8.4.10.10 (a-b)	
Feb. - Nonfiction articles from Scope magazine, Newsela, Dogonews. Nonfiction novel choice: Prisoner B-3087 or A Long Walk to Water. Nonfiction writing - Informational Text (research paper)	How does understanding a text's structure help me better understand its meaning? What are the 6 different types of text structure? What do readers gain from reading informational text? What life skills did victims use to cope with the adversity? How can we use the historical literature to help us cope with our own troubles? How have lessons from our past mistakes affected the way we now deal with conflicts?	Students will be able to synthesize the important ideas from smaller sections of the whole to determine the overall main idea. Identify and analyze the relationship between key ideas, people, and events in informational text to begin to organize information. Determine the meaning of new vocabulary in their reading to expand their vocabulary.		objective summary, analogies, central idea, inferences, analysis, textual evidence, conclusions, compare/contrast, tone, allusions, author's purpose	Newela.com, Dogonews.com, Article of the week, Scholastic Scope magazine. Prisoner B-3087 by:		Writing Benchmarks: 8.7.4.4, 8.7.5.5, 8.7.6.6, 8.7.7.7, 8.7.8.8, 8.9.9.9b Language Benchmarks: 8.11.1.1 (a-d), 8.11.2.2 (a-c), 8.11.3.3a, 8.11.4.4 (a-d), 8.11.5.5 (a-c), 8.11.6.6 Reading Informational Text Benchmarks: 8.5.1.1, 8.5.2.2, 8.5.3.3, 8.5.4.4, 8.5.5.5, 8.5.6.6, 8.5.7.7, 8.5.8.8, 8.5.9.9	

