



## ***English eLearning Guide – Week 8***

**English I:** How do authors, including dystopian fiction authors, depict the future of our society?

- After learning about the dystopian genre, students will compare fictional threats to those that actually threaten humankind.

**English II:** What should be the future of human exploration of Mars?

- Students will study several sides of an ongoing debate to analyze complex arguments and evaluate evidence. Later, they will form their own opinions and write a short persuasive essay to defend their ideas.

**English III:** Why do people succeed?

- Students will read fiction and nonfiction that explore and define the attributes and conditions that exist to allow people to succeed in their endeavors.

**English IV:** Why are people altruistic?

- Students will read about psychological concepts to explain why people choose to help others, sometimes even putting themselves in danger. They also will study true events that illustrate selflessness.

# English I - WEEK 8

## Objectives

- Students will analyze how authors use text structure to communicate messages.
- Students will analyze how setting influences the character and plot.
- Students will write an expository essay with evidence to back their ideas.

## Essential Question

- How do authors, including dystopian fiction authors, depict the future of our society?

**Note: Beginning the week of April 14 and in alignment with our Adjusted Grading Guidelines, teachers in grades 6-12 may assign student work from the Digital Backpack eLearning guide, or from the teacher's itsLearning course, for a grade.**

## For Parents

- If you have access to a printer, print the texts below. If you do not have printer access, students can access the texts online.
- Have your student read each text and answer the questions. *If your student needs assistance with reading, see the note about Commonlit in the "Resources" section below.*
- For the more difficult questions and the comparative task, encourage your student to discuss and brainstorm their ideas.
- If students complete writing tasks, encourage them to read what they've written aloud, and revised their work for clarity.
- Complete this process for all lessons.

## For Students

- **Task 1:** "Someone Might Be Watching: An Introduction to Dystopian Fiction"
- **Task 2:** "Examination Day"
- **Task 3:** "Autumntime"
- **Task 4:** "Technology Haiku"
- **Task 5:** "Why are Bees Vanishing?"
- Extension Activity:
  - Read a book for 30 minutes.
  - **Log** to keep track of reading

## Resources

- **CommonLit** is offering free **parent accounts**. Many of the reading assignments above come from CommonLit. If your student needs assistance with the readings, create an account, search for the article by title, and click the "Read Aloud" button.
- **Sora** is a free app with books and reading resources for students. Log in with SBISD credentials.
- **Noredink** is a free online writing platform. Students should start with the modules for "Body Paragraphs: Claims, Evidence, and Reasoning."

# English II - WEEK 8

## Objectives

- Students will compare and contrast subtly different arguments on a complex topic.
- Students will synthesize information on a complex topic to form and defend their own nuanced opinion.
- Students will write an argumentative essay using evidence and reasoning from multiple sources.
- Students will select and evaluate text evidence to support their argument.

## Essential Question

- What should be the future of human exploration of Mars?

**Note: Beginning the week of April 14th, and in alignment with our Adjusted Grading Guidelines, teachers in grades 6-12 may assign student work from the Digital Backpack eLearning guide, or from the teacher's itsLearning course, for a grade.**

## For Parents

- If you have access to a printer, print the texts below. If you do not have printer access, students can access the texts online.
- This week, your student will read/watch several texts related to the essential question. Then they will form their own opinion and write an essay, using evidence from the texts they read.
  - Students can work on lined paper, a notebook, or a separate document like Microsoft Word or Google docs.
  - The final task is to write an essay. Before they draft the essay, your student should plan it out using the guide in Task 5.
  - If your student struggles with the writing, use the resources below, especially NoRedInk.

## For Students

- **Task 1:** Why we need to go back to Mars
  - **TED Talk** video
- **Task 2:** Are humans really headed to Mars anytime soon?
- **Task 3:** The case against Mars colonisation
- **Task 4:** Should we terraform Mars?
- **Task 5:** Plan and write your essay
- Extension Activity:
  - Read a book for 30 minutes.
  - **Log** to keep track of reading.

## Resources

- Review the **basic strategies** of persuasive writing.
- **CommonLit** is offering free **parent accounts**. Many of the reading assignments above come from CommonLit. If your student needs assistance with the readings, create an account, search for the article by title, and click the "Read Aloud" button.
- **Sora** is a free app with books and reading resources for students. Log in with SBISD credentials.
- **Noredink** is a free online writing platform. Students should start with the modules for "Embedding Evidence: Avoiding Plagiarism & Using Citations."

# English III - WEEK 8

## Objectives

- Students will explore multi-genre texts that illustrate different ways to define success and the attributes of successful people.
- Students will connect concepts related to success to fiction and poetry.
- Students will analyze texts for main idea, purpose, details, and craft elements.

## Essential Question

- Why do people succeed?

**Note: Beginning the week of April 14th, and in alignment with our Adjusted Grading Guidelines, teachers in grades 6-12 may assign student work from the Digital Backpack eLearning guide, or from the teacher's itsLearning course, for a grade.**

## For Parents

- If you have access to a printer, print the texts below. If you do not have printer access, students can access the texts online.
- Have your student read each text and answer the questions. *If your student needs assistance with reading, see the note about CommonLit in the "Resources" section below.*
- For the more difficult questions and the comparative task, encourage your student to discuss and brainstorm their ideas.
- If students complete writing tasks, encourage them to read what they've written aloud, and revised their work for clarity.
- Complete this process for all lessons.

## For Students

- **Task 1:** Characteristics of Resilient People
- **Task 2:** Excerpt from "The World Before Him"
- **Task 3:** The Fallacy of Success
- **Task 4:** Luck
- **Task 5:** 8 Traits of Successful People - Video Only
- Optional Readings: **Invictus** (Poem) and **The Two Brothers** (Short Story)
- Extension Activity:
  - Read a book for 30 minutes.
  - **Log** to keep track of reading.

## Resources

- **CommonLit** is offering free **parent accounts**. Many of the reading assignments above come from CommonLit. If your student needs assistance with the readings, create an account, search for the article by title, and click the "Read Aloud" button.
- **Sora** is a free app with books and reading resources for students. Log in with SBISD credentials.
- **Noredink** is a free online writing platform. Students should start with the modules for "Embedding Evidence: Avoiding Plagiarism & Using Citations."

## AP Language Resources

- **AP Language Shmoop** - **Login Instructions** for SBISD students. All students have a free account with Shmoop.
- Create an account or log into **AP Students** to complete exam practice.

# English IV - WEEK 8

## Objectives

- Students will explore multi-genre texts that illustrate why people are altruistic and help others.
- Students will connect psychological concepts related to altruism to true events, a poem, and a parable.
- Students will analyze texts for main idea, purpose, details, and craft elements.

## Essential Question

- Why are people altruistic?

**Note: Beginning the week of April 14th, and in alignment with our Adjusted Grading Guidelines, teachers in grades 6-12 may assign student work from the Digital Backpack eLearning guide, or from the teacher's itsLearning course, for a grade.**

## For Parents

- If you have access to a printer, print the texts below. If you do not have printer access, students can access the texts online.
- Have your student read each text and answer the questions. *If your student needs assistance with reading, see the note about CommonLit in the "Resources" section below.*
- For the more difficult questions and the comparative task, encourage your student to discuss and brainstorm their ideas.
- If students complete writing tasks, encourage them to read what they've written aloud and revised their work for clarity.
- Complete this process for all lessons

## For Students

- **Task 1:** Why do Human Beings do Good Things? The Puzzle of Altruism
- **Task 2:** Help Him Up! A Witness's Account of Panic on a Subway Platform
- **Task 3:** The Limits of Empathy
- **Task 4:** Sympathy
- **Task 5:** The Selfish Giant
- Extension Activity:
  - Read a book for 30 minutes.
  - **Log** to keep track of reading.

## Resources

- **CommonLit** is offering free **parent accounts**. Many of the reading assignments above come from CommonLit. If your student needs assistance with the readings, create an account, search for the article by title, and click the "Read Aloud" button.
- **Sora** is a free app with books and reading resources for students. Log in with SBISD credentials.
- **Noredink** is a free online writing platform. Students should start with the modules for "Embedding Evidence: Avoiding Plagiarism & Using Citations."

## AP Literature Resources

- **AP Literature Shmoop - Login Instructions** for SBISD students. All students have a free account with Shmoop.
- Create an account or log into **AP Students** to complete exam practice.