

WCSD SYLLABUS - INSTRUCTIONS FOR COMPLETION

The syllabus template must be used when completing any WCSD Syllabus. Format must remain unchanged, and the formatting outlined in the table below must be followed for each line/section of the syllabus.

Orientation: Landscape

Font: Arial

Text Color: Black

Red text is a placeholder for needed information; text which needs to be inserted. Delete these placeholder notes before finalizing your syllabus. Text color must be changed to black.

| LINE/SECTION | FONT SIZE | FONT STYLE |
|-----------------------|-----------|------------|
| Course Title; Grade | 14 | Bold |
| Description of Course | 10 | Regular |
| Table | 10 | Regular |
| Resources | 10 | Regular |
| Revised | 10 | Regular |

Add rows to the syllabus table as needed. If the table continues to a new page, column headings must be copied and inserted to repeat on each new page.

Completed syllabus must be sent to Dr. Barbara Chomik for review and approval.

Whitehall-Coplay School District Syllabus

Course Title: English 8

Grade: 8

DESCRIPTION OF COURSE: The 8th grade English curriculum integrates writing, grammar, literature, and vocabulary. Writing instruction focuses on generation and organization of ideas, using different prewriting strategies. Revision and editing skills are also stressed as students produce text-dependent essays based on themes explored in literature units. Also, students practice on-demand writing from prompts on each of the three benchmark open-ended responses. Grammar is taught mainly through mini-lessons using daily language review (DLR's) and focused concepts with multiple practice exercises specific to the 8th grade PSSA released items. Grammar instruction emphasizes identification and usage of parts of speech, sentence structures, and punctuation. The study of literature provides an overview of a variety of genres, mostly geared toward young-adult readers. Vocabulary skills are taught using context clues from the literature selections. Students also research and present historical background topics from major literature units.

| REQUIRED TOPICS OF STUDY | SUGGESTED INSTRUCTIONAL TIME | STANDARDS/ELIGIBLE CONTENT |
|---|------------------------------|--|
| <i>Collections Unit 1 - Culture and Belonging</i> (short stories, poetry, memoir, essay) | 2 weeks | CC.1.5.7.A, CC.1.2.7.F, CC. 1.1.7.G, CC.1.2.7.B, CC1.2.7.J |
| <i>Collections Unit 2 - The Thrill of Horror</i> (short stories, literary criticism, essay) | 6 weeks | CC.1.5.7.A, CC.1.2.7.F, CC. 1.1.7.G, CC.1.2.7.B, CC1.2.7.J |
| <i>Collections Unit 3 - The Move Toward Freedom</i> (biography, autobiography, historical fiction and non-fiction, poem, journal entries) Research background topics. | 6 weeks | CC.1.5.7.A, CC.1.2.7.F, CC. 1.1.7.G, CC.1.2.7.B, CC1.2.7.J |
| <i>Collections Unit 4 - Approaching Adulthood</i> (short stories, poetry, argument essays, articles) | 4 weeks | CC.1.5.7.A, CC.1.2.7.F, CC. 1.1.7.G, CC.1.2.7.B, CC1.2.7.J |
| <i>Collections Unit 5 - The Legacy of Anne Frank</i> (drama, diary entries, literary criticism, speech, poem) TDA essay, research background topics | 6 weeks | CC.1.5.7.A, CC.1.2.7.F, CC. 1.1.7.G, CC.1.2.7.B, CC1.2.7.J |

| | | |
|---|---|--|
| <i>Freak the Mighty</i> (adolescent fiction; novel) TDA essay | 6 weeks | CC.1.1, CC1.2, CC.1.3, CC1.6, CC1.6, CC1.7, CC1.9 |
| <i>The Outsiders</i> (adolescent fiction; novel) TDA essay, research background topics | 6 weeks | CC.1.1, CC1.2, CC.1.3, CC1.6, CC1.6, CC1.7, CC1.9 |
| <i>The Adventure of the Speckled Band</i> (mystery fiction) TDA essay, research background topics | 4 weeks | CC.1.1, CC1.2, CC.1.3, CC1.6, CC1.6, CC1.7, CC1.9 |
| Grammar (parts of speech, sentence structures, phrases and clauses, punctuation, capitalization) | Every other week throughout the year 18 weeks | CC1.5.8.C, CC1.4.8.Q, CC1.4.8.F, CC.1.4.8.L, CC.1.4.8.R |
| Vocabulary (words in context from literature selections) | Every other week throughout the year 18 weeks | CC.1.5.8.G, CC.1.2.8.F, CC. 1.2.8.J, CC.1.2.8.K CC.1.3.8.F, CC.1.3.8.I, CC.1.3.8.J |
| Composition (TDA essays from major literature units and benchmark open-ended prompts) | 7 TDA essays spread throughout the year 10 weeks | CC.1.5.8.A, CC.1.5.8.D, CC.1.4.8.B, CC.1.4.8.H, CC.1.4.8.C, CC.1.4.8.D CC.1.4.8.J, CC.1.4.8.P, CC.1.4.8.E CC.1.4.8.K, CC.1.4.8.S |
| Research (historical background topics from major literature units) | 4 weeks | CC.1.1.8.G, CC.1.2.8.H, CC.1.2.8.I, CC.1.2.8.A CC.1.2.8.B, CC.1.4.8.C, CC.1.4.8.X, C.1.4.8.U CC.1.4.8.V, CC.1.4.8.W |

RESOURCES:

- *Collections 8* - textbook
- *Collections 8 Close Reader* - workbook
- *Freak the Mighty* - novel
- *The Outsiders* - novel
- Daily Language Review - exercises for grammar and punctuation
- Study Island - 8th grade ELA mastery lessons

Revised: June 2021

