

English 8 Course Outline  
Whitesboro Middle School

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- I. Marking Period 1:
  - a. Grammar (language)
    - i. Use of the daily MUG Shots sentences program
  - b. Vocabulary acquisition
    - i. Words from literary pieces (fiction and non-fiction) read
    - ii. Academic words added as needed
  - c. Writing
    - i. Evidence Based Claims—Short Response Questions
      - 1. Using evidence to support claim
      - 2. Using correct paragraph structure
    - ii. Narrative
      - 1. Short narrative poem utilizing story elements taught (modeled after those in *Inside Out & Back Again*)
    - iii. Literature Analysis Essay (scaffolded)
      - 1. Essay structure
      - 2. Incorporating quotations into writing
      - 3. Supporting claim with evidence
      - 4. Sentence Variety
      - 5. Using correct paragraph structure
      - 6. Using effective transitions
    - iv. Research Skills Utilized
      - 1. Use of evidence to support claim
      - 2. Using quotations—basic citations
  - d. Reading
    - i. Close reading
    - ii. Genres
    - iii. Reading comprehension—multiple choice questions
    - iv. Central idea
    - v. Finding relevant evidence
    - vi. Denotation and connotation
    - vii. Vocabulary in context
    - viii. Literary terms studied: plot, character/characterization, setting, theme, conflict, point of view
    - ix. Figurative language terms studied: Metaphor/extended metaphor, symbol, simile, mood, tone
- II. Marking Period 2:
  - a. Grammar (language)
    - i. Continue with daily use of MUG Shots sentences program
  - b. Vocabulary acquisition
    - i. Words from literary pieces (fiction and non-fiction)
    - ii. Academic words added as needed

- iii.
- c. Writing
  - i. Evidence Based Claims—Short Response Questions, lead into essay (scaffolded)
    - 1. Creating a claim
    - 2. Using evidence to support claim
    - 3. Using correct paragraph structure
    - 4. Sentence Variety
  - ii. Literature Analysis Essay (mastery)
    - 1. Essay Structure
    - 2. Incorporating quotations into writing
    - 3. Supporting claim with evidence
    - 4. Sentence variety
    - 5. Using correct paragraph structure
    - 6. Using effective transitions
    - 7. Using more sophisticated vocabulary
  - iii. Research Skills Utilized
    - 1. Use of evidence to support claim
    - 2. Using quotations—basic citations
- d. Reading
  - i. Close reading
  - ii. Genres
  - iii. Reading comprehension—multiple choice questions
  - iv. Central idea
  - v. Finding relevant evidence
  - vi. Denotation and connotation
  - vii. Vocabulary in context
  - viii. Effect of literary elements and figurative language on text.

### III. Marking Period 3:

- a. Grammar (language)
  - i. Continued use of daily MUG shot sentence program
- b. Vocabulary acquisition
  - i. Words from literary pieces (fiction and non-fiction)
  - ii. Academic words added as needed
- c. Writing
  - i. Evidence based claims—short response questions
  - ii. Argument (scaffolded)
  - iii. Argument (mastery)
  - iv. Research Skills Utilized:
    - 1. Establishing a claim
    - 2. Citing sources
    - 3. Using quotations in writing
    - 4. Works Cited list

- d. Reading
  - i. Close reading
  - ii. Genres
  - iii. Reading comprehension—multiple choice questions
  - iv. Central idea
  - v. Finding relevant evidence
  - vi. Denotation and connotation
  - vii. Vocabulary in context
  - viii. Effect of literary elements and figurative language on text.
  
- IV. Marking Period 4:
  - a. Grammar (language)
    - i. Use of the MUG Shots sentences program
  - b. Vocabulary acquisition
    - i. Words from literary pieces (fiction and non-fiction) read
    - ii. Academic words added as needed
  - c. Writing
    - i. Focus on research—writing an annotated bibliography
  - d. Research
    - i. Creating a claim
    - ii. Developing an inquiry path
    - iii. Choosing most relevant research materials
    - iv. Creating a bibliography
    - v. Annotating a bibliography
  - e. Reading
    - i. Close reading
    - ii. Genres
    - iii. Reading comprehension—multiple choice questions
    - iv. Central idea
    - v. Finding relevant evidence
    - vi. Denotation and connotation
    - vii. Vocabulary in context
    - viii. Effect of literary elements and figurative language on text.