MCS ADVANCED PLACEMENT LITERATURE Subject Group Overview

Unit Name	Unit 1 **Reading Literally and Figuratively**	Unit 2 **Analyzing Comparisons and Representations**	Unit 3 **Analyzing Tensions**	Unit 4 **Analyzing Perspectives**	Unit 5 **Analyzing Comparisons**	Unit 6 **Analyzing Representations**	Unit 7 **Analyzing Associations**	Unit 8 **Analyzing Incongruities**	Unit 9 **Analyzing Complexities**
Time Frame	4 weeks	3 weeks	4 weeks	4 weeks	3 weeks	5 weeks	5 weeks	4 weeks	4 weeks
Standards [AP Literature & Composition Big Ideas and Skill Categories](#)	CHR 1.A SET 2.A STR 3.A STR 3.B NAR 4.A NAR 4.B LAN 7.A	CHR 1.A STR 3.C STR 3.D FIG 5.B FIG 6.A FIG 6.B LAN 7.A	CHR 1.A CHR 1.B SET 2.A STR 3.E STR 3.F LAN 7.A LAN 7.B LAN 7.C LAN 7.D LAN 7.E	CHR 1.A CHR 1.C CHR 1.D SET 2.B SET 2.C STR 3.A STR 3.D NAR 4.A NAR 4.B NAR 4.C LAN 7.B LAN 7.C LAN 7.D LAN 7.E	STR 3.C FIG 5.A FIG 5.B FIG 5.D FIG 6.B FIG 6.C FIG 6.D LAN 7.B LAN 7.C LAN 7.D LAN 7.E	CHR 1.A CHR 1.C CHR 1.E STR 3.A STR 3.B STR 3.D NAR 4.C NAR 4.D FIG 5.C LAN 7.B LAN 7.C LAN 7.D LAN 7.E	CHR 1.B CHR 1.D SET 2.B SET 2.C STR 3.A STR 3.B NAR 4.D FIG 5.C FIG 5.D FIG 6.A FIG 6.C LAN 7.B LAN 7.C LAN 7.D	STR 3.C STR 3.D FIG 5.B FIG 5.C FIG 6.B FIG 6.D LAN 7.B LAN 7.C LAN 7.D LAN 7.E	CHR 1.B CHR 1.E STR 3.E STR 3.F NAR 4.C LAN 7.B LAN 7.C LAN 7.D

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Content Specific Information (Essential Knowledge)									
• Characters reflect cultural values, beliefs, assumptions, and biases, which are revealed through their description, dialogue, and behavior. • Character perspective is shaped by their background, personality, relationships, and experiences and is revealed through their interactions with others and the environment. • Setting—time and place—shapes character behavior and conveys social or cultural values through specific textual details.	• Characters reveal values, beliefs, biases, and cultural norms through their thoughts, dialogue, actions, and choices; these details also communicate their perspectives and motives. • The structure of a text—including order of information, line and stanza breaks, and shifts—shapes meaning, builds contrast, and guides reader expectations. • Contrasts in a text may appear through tone, perspective, character dynamics, setting, imagery, or time, often signaled by shifts in language, punctuation, or structure. • Specific word choices, including repetition, alliteration, and referents, create emphasis, shape associations, and affect interpretation; ambiguity in language can shift meaning. • Similes and metaphors compare two things to transfer traits, evoke associations, or emphasize qualities; interpretation depends on context and readers' prior knowledge.	• Characters reveal values, perspectives, and motives through their words, actions, descriptions, and how others perceive or compare them; readers interpret character through these details and through the narrator's lens. • Characters create expectations through description, and whether they meet or defy those expectations shapes interpretation; motives can be inferred from actions or inaction. • Character perspectives may shift over time and be influenced by changes in relationships or experiences; some characters remain static while others undergo internal or external transformation. • Dynamic characters often affect the climax or resolution through their choices, while static characters may highlight or contrast those changes.	• Specific textual details reveal a character's perspective, motives, agency, and complexities in relationships. • A character's choices—what they say, do, or avoid—reflect what they value. • Contrasting characters help highlight different traits, perspectives, and themes. • The protagonist is the main character; the antagonist opposes them and may be another person, internal conflict, society, or nature. • Conflicts often arise from characters' opposing value systems. • Setting conveys not just time and place but also social, cultural, and historical context, and helps establish mood and atmosphere. • The environment a character inhabits provides insight into who they are and their connection to the world around them.	• Structure in texts and poetry (whether traditional or open form) shapes meaning by organizing ideas and emphasizing key themes. • Figurative language (like metaphor, personification, and allusion) adds depth by shifting meaning beyond the literal. • Imagery appeals to the senses and reinforces ideas or emotions; patterns of imagery create emphasis. • Word choice, including connotation and description, influences tone and reader interpretation. • Hyperbole and understatement draw attention to traits by exaggerating or minimizing.	• Characters reflect values, beliefs, assumptions, and cultural norms. • Textual details reveal character perspectives and motives. • Foil characters highlight traits in others through contrast. • Conflicting actions, speech, or thoughts reveal character complexity. • Writers structure plots to shape interpretation and reader experience. • Nonlinear techniques (flashback, foreshadowing, in medias res, stream of consciousness) build tension and suspense. • Contrasts introduce ambiguity, nuance, and complexity in texts. • Narrators and speakers shape meaning through tone, diction, syntax, and selected details. • Bias and reliability of narrators affect reader understanding of events and motives.	• Characters reflect values, beliefs, assumptions, and cultural norms. • Textual details reveal character perspectives and motives. • Foil characters highlight traits in others through contrast. • Conflicting actions, speech, or thoughts reveal character complexity. • Writers structure plots to shape interpretation and reader experience. • Nonlinear techniques (flashback, foreshadowing, in medias res, stream of consciousness) build tension and suspense. • Contrasts introduce ambiguity, nuance, and complexity in texts. • Narrators and speakers shape meaning through tone, diction, syntax, and selected details.	• Writers use structure—sequence, parts, and their relationships—to shape meaning. • Ideas in poems may extend across lines or stanzas. • Punctuation plays a crucial role in interpretation. • Interruptions in patterns emphasize key ideas. • Juxtaposition may highlight antithesis. • Irony occurs when outcomes or statements contradict expectations. • Paradox reveals unexpected insights through contradiction. • Ambiguity allows for multiple interpretations of a text. • Specific word choices and imagery influence tone and meaning. • Symbols may reflect a narrator's or character's perspective.	• Characters represent a range of values, beliefs, and cultural norms. • Character change (or lack of change) affects reader interpretation. • Minor characters often stay unchanged and serve plot functions. • A character's choices, actions, and speech reveal complexity. • A character's response to a story's resolution shows their values and may contrast with earlier behavior. • Inconsistencies in a character shape interpretation of character, events, plot, conflict, or setting. • Significant events can reveal conflicting value systems tied to central conflict. • Plot events build tension, anticipation, and suspense.

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• Plot is a connected sequence of events shaped by cause and effect, including conflict, rising/falling action, and resolution; its structure focuses readers on key ideas, relationships, and developments. • A narrator or speaker controls what information is included, shaping how readers understand events and characters; their point of view affects reliability and insight. • First-person narrators are influenced by their involvement in events, while third-person narrators range from limited to omniscient, shaping perspective and detail.	• Figurative comparisons, whether direct (similes) or implied (metaphors), invite readers to interpret meaning beyond the literal, enriching understanding of the text. • A strong literary argument includes a defensible thesis and a clear line of reasoning supported by textual evidence; paragraphs begin with a claim and connect evidence to interpretation.	• Setting includes not only time and place, but also the social, cultural, and historical context, all of which reflect and convey underlying values. • Significant events, episodes, or encounters advance plot and develop characters, especially through conflict. • Conflict can be internal (within a character) or external (with outside forces), and multiple conflicts often overlap, intensify one another, or reflect deeper contrasts in values or perspectives. • Inconsistencies or contrasts in a text can signal or deepen conflict and theme. • A literary interpretation begins with a defensible thesis supported by claims and textual evidence.	• Plot structure—the order and pacing of events—shapes meaning and reader expectations. • Archetypal patterns are familiar dramatic situations that guide how a story unfolds. • Contrasts emphasize key traits, ideas, or values and often signal conflict. • Conflict—whether internal or external—drives the narrative and may intersect with other conflicts. • Narrators or speakers shape the reader's experience through their perspective, tone, and what they choose to emphasize or conceal. Narrative distance affects how closely readers connect to the events or characters. • Diction, syntax, and descriptive language reveal the narrator's or speaker's attitude. • A thesis states an interpretation that must be supported with evidence and a clear line of reasoning.	• Metaphors, especially extended ones, focus on traits shared between subjects and depend on context for meaning. • Allusions add layers of meaning by referencing outside texts, events, or cultural knowledge. • Literary arguments require a clear, defensible thesis supported by relevant evidence and logical reasoning. • Commentary connects evidence to claims and the overall thesis. • Coherence in writing comes from logical flow and use of transitions between ideas.	• Symbols are objects or characters that represent broader ideas or concepts. • Some symbols are widely recognized; others are specific to the text's context. • Figurative comparisons (like metaphor and personification) deepen meaning. • Word choice and imagery create associations that shift meaning beyond the literal. • A thesis presents a defensible interpretation supported by textual evidence. • A line of reasoning connects claims and evidence to the thesis through commentary. • Effective essays use relevant and sufficient evidence explained clearly. • Purposeful syntax, diction, and punctuation enhance clarity and coherence in literary analysis.	• Bias and reliability of narrators affect reader understanding of events and motives. • Symbols are objects or characters that represent broader ideas or concepts. • Some symbols are widely recognized; others are specific to the text's context. • Figurative comparisons (like metaphor and personification) deepen meaning. • Word choice and imagery create associations that shift meaning beyond the literal. • A thesis presents a defensible interpretation supported by textual evidence. • A line of reasoning connects claims and evidence to the thesis through commentary. • Effective essays use relevant and sufficient evidence explained clearly.	• Conceits are extended metaphors with surprising or paradoxical comparisons. • Conceits often link nature and the individual. • Multiple comparisons can interact in complex ways. • Allusions create associations based on shared knowledge. • A thesis makes a defensible interpretation using textual evidence and reasoning. • Commentary explains how evidence supports the thesis. • A line of reasoning logically connects claims and supports the thesis. • Sophisticated arguments may explore broader implications, alternate readings, or analogies. • Effective evidence is purposeful, relevant, and supported by explanation.	• Resolution of tension or conflict creates catharsis or emotional release. • Conflicts may involve unseen actions or characters. • Some narratives end without full resolution, contributing to theme or interpretation. • Narrators and speakers shape how readers experience and interpret a text. • Word choice, details, or syntax can reveal a narrator's or speaker's perspective. • Texts can include multiple or opposing perspectives to increase complexity. • Narrators or speakers may evolve over the course of a text. • Shifts or contradictions in a narrator's perspective can create irony or depth.

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		• Literary analysis begins with a defensible claim supported by specific evidence; strong commentary connects evidence to interpretation. • Argumentation includes identifying meaningful details, forming a logical line of reasoning, and explaining how literary elements convey meaning in the text.		• Commentary connects evidence to the thesis through a clear line of reasoning that explains the significance of the evidence in supporting the interpretation. • A line of reasoning unfolds logically through related claims and analysis, linking all parts of an essay back to the central thesis.	• Commentary explains how evidence supports claims and ties back to the thesis. • Strong arguments are built through logically connected claims, clear topic sentences, and purposeful evidence. • Effective writing is cohesive and coherent, using transitions and clear organization to connect ideas smoothly. •			• Purposeful syntax, diction, and punctuation enhance clarity and coherence in literary analysis.	• Interpretation can evolve through analyzing evidence or forming a claim first. • Writers must attribute ideas and references to others properly.	• A thesis makes a defensible interpretation using evidence and reasoning. • Commentary explains how evidence supports the thesis. • A line of reasoning links claims logically to the thesis. • Advanced arguments may discuss broader implications, alternate interpretations, or analogies. • Effective evidence is relevant, sufficient, and explained through commentary. • Interpretation can begin with either evidence or thesis and evolve recursively.

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	Common Assessments/ Performance Projects	• AP Classroom Multiple choice questions • AP Classroom Personal Progress Checks • Defensible Thesis Statement • Multiple choice prose assessment • Multiple choice poetry assessment • Unit mini-exam from Test Bank	• AP Classroom Multiple choice questions • AP Classroom Personal Progress Checks • Justifying a thesis through a line of reasoning • Multiple choice prose assessment • Multiple choice poetry assessment • Unit mini-exam from Test Bank	• AP Classroom Multiple choice questions • AP Classroom Personal Progress Checks • Explaining an interpretation through commentary • Multiple choice prose assessment • Multiple choice poetry assessment • Unit mini-exam from Test Bank	• AP Classroom Multiple choice questions • AP Classroom Personal Progress Checks • Creating unity through commentary • Multiple choice prose assessment • Multiple choice poetry assessment • Unit mini-exam from Test Bank	• AP Classroom Multiple choice questions • AP Classroom Personal Progress Checks • Creating coherence through transitions • Multiple choice prose assessment • Multiple choice poetry assessment • Unit mini-exam from Test Bank	• AP Classroom Multiple choice questions • AP Classroom Personal Progress Checks • AP Free Response Question (FRQ) • Multiple choice prose assessment • Multiple choice poetry assessment • Unit mini-exam from Test Bank	• AP Classroom Multiple choice questions • AP Classroom Personal Progress Checks • AP Free Response Question (FRQ) • Multiple choice prose assessment • Multiple choice poetry assessment • Unit mini-exam from Test Bank	• AP Classroom Multiple choice questions • AP Classroom Personal Progress Checks • AP Free Response Question (FRQ) • Multiple choice prose assessment • Multiple choice poetry assessment • Unit mini-exam from Test Bank	• AP Classroom Multiple choice questions • AP Classroom Personal Progress Checks • AP Free Response Question (FRQ) • Multiple choice prose assessment • Multiple choice poetry assessment • Unit mini-exam from Test Bank
	Differentiation For Tiered Learners	Marietta City Schools teachers provide specific differentiation of learning experiences for all students. Details for differentiation for learning experiences are included on the district unit planners.								

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