

Course Title

IAA ELA 8



**INNOVATIVE**  
ARTS ACADEMY

Course Overview

This 8th Grade English Language Arts course is designed to help students develop essential skills in reading, writing, speaking, and listening.

Unit Title

Grammar and Mechanics

Time Frame

6 weeks

Unit Title

Creative Writing

Time Frame

6 weeks

Unit Title

Connectivity and Its Consequences

Time Frame

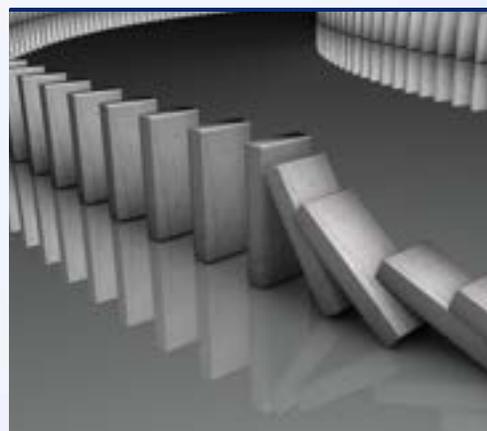
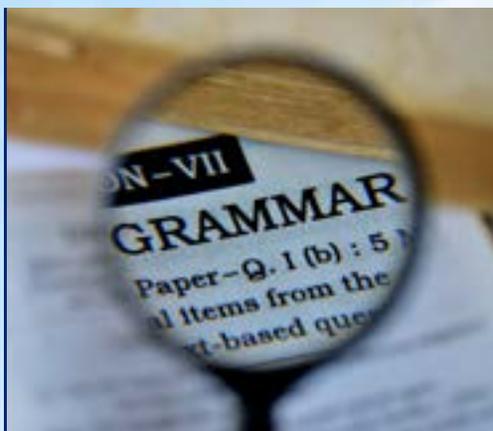
6 weeks

Unit Title

The Nature of Conflict and Opposition

Time Frame

6 weeks



Focus of the Unit

Students will work on becoming well versed at applying the conventions of standard English grammar, usage, capitalization, punctuation, and spelling.

Focus of the Unit

Students will gain knowledge advanced elements of creative writing with the goal of writing a creative story.

Focus of the Unit

We will explore the impact of technology on individuals and society. We will read and analyze informational texts and arguments about topics like social media, smartphones, and other technologies, and how they relate to growing up and finding our path

Focus of the Unit

Students will read and analyze texts that explore different forms of conflict and opposition. We will discuss themes like fear, oppression, societal challenges, and internal conflicts

Board Approved 8/2025

Course Title

**IAA ELA 8**



**INNOVATIVE**  
ARTS ACADEMY

Course Overview

This 8th Grade English Language Arts course is designed to help students develop essential skills in reading, writing, speaking, and listening.

Unit Title

Forging Identity and Finding Your Place

Time Frame

6 weeks

Unit Title

Understanding the Past, Shaping the Future

Time Frame

6 weeks

Unit Title

Time Frame

Unit Title

Time Frame

Who am I ?



Focus of the Unit

We will focus on exploring how individuals develop their identity and find their place in the world through different mediums.

Focus of the Unit

We will study significant historical periods throughout the world, focusing on reading and analyzing texts and historical accounts related to the events and their impact.

Focus of the Unit

Focus of the Unit

<b>Unit Title</b>	<b>8th Grade Grammar and Mechanics</b>
<b>Time Frame</b>	6 weeks



**INNOVATIVE**  
ARTS ACADEMY

	<b>Essential Question(s)</b>
	How does understanding and using grammar and mechanics help us create clear and meaningful written and verbal communication?

	<b>Focus of the Unit</b>
	Students will work on becoming well versed at applying the conventions of standard English grammar, usage, capitalization, punctuation, and spelling.

<b>Standards</b>	CC.1.4.8.E.1 Write with an awareness of the stylistic aspects of composition, specifically using precise language. CC.1.5.8.G Demonstrate command of the conventions of standard English when speaking based on Grade 8 level and content
------------------	--

<b>Learning Targets</b>
I can use grade-appropriate grammar, capitalization, punctuation, and spelling in my writing.

<b>Learning Targets</b>
I can write complete sentences and recognize and correct sentence fragments and run-on sentences.

<b>Learning Targets</b>
I can use precise language and appropriate word choice in my writing to convey my ideas clearly

<b>Learning Targets</b>
I can use standard English grammar when speaking in discussions



<b>Resources</b>	<b>HMH, IXL, Google Drive, Graphic Organizers</b>
------------------	---

<b>Unit Title</b>	<b>8th Grade Creative Writing</b>
<b>Time Frame</b>	6 Weeks



**INNOVATIVE**  
ARTS ACADEMY

	<b>Essential Question(s)</b>
	How does creative writing help us explore ideas, express ourselves, and understand the world and ourselves?

	<b>Focus of the Unit</b>
	In this unit, we will focus on learning how to use dialogue and creative elements to effectively tell a story about real or imagined experiences.

<b>Standards</b>	CC.1.4.8.M Write narratives to develop real or imagined experiences or events. CC.1.4.8.O Use narrative techniques such as dialogue, description, and pacing, precise words and phrases, relevant descriptive details, and sensory language to convey experiences and events.
------------------	--

<b>Learning Targets</b>
I can plan and draft a creative stories based on real or imagined experiences.

<b>Learning Targets</b>
I can use narrative techniques, including dialogue, description, and sensory language, to develop my story.

<b>Learning Targets</b>
I can organize my narrative with a clear structure and sequence of events, including an engaging beginning, developing plot, and a conclusion

<b>Learning Targets</b>
I can revise and edit my writing to improve clarity, style, and command of standard English conventions



<b>Resources</b>	<b>HMH, IXL, Google Drive, Graphic Organizers</b>
------------------	---

<b>Unit Title</b>	<b>8th Grade Connectivity and its Consequences</b>
<b>Time Frame</b>	6 Weeks



**INNOVATIVE**  
ARTS ACADEMY

	<b>Essential Question(s)</b>
	How does our increasing connection through technology shape who we are and how we interact with the world and each other?

	<b>Focus of the Unit</b>
	We will explore the impact of technology on individuals and society. We will read and analyze informational texts and arguments about topics like social media, smartphones, and other technologies, and how they relate to growing up and finding our path

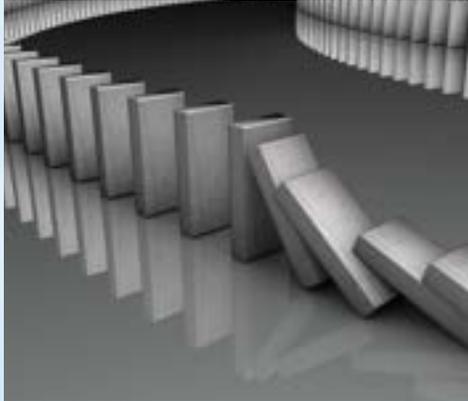
<b>Standards</b>	CC.1.2.8.H Evaluate an author’s argument, reasoning, and specific claims for the soundness of the arguments and the relevance of the evidence. CC.1.4.8.G Write arguments to support claims in an analysis of substantive topics.
------------------	--

<b>Learning Targets</b>
I can analyze informational texts about the impact of technology on individuals and society.

<b>Learning Targets</b>
I can evaluate claims and evidence used to support arguments about technology and its effects.

<b>Learning Targets</b>
I can write an argument that takes a stance on an issue related to technology or its consequences.

<b>Learning Targets</b>
I can participate effectively in discussions about the themes and texts in the unit, building on ideas and expressing my own clearly.



<b>Resources</b>	<b>HMH, IXL, Google Drive, Graphic Organizers</b>
------------------	---

<b>Unit Title</b>	<b>8th Grade Nature of Conflict and Opposition</b>
<b>Time Frame</b>	6 Weeks



**INNOVATIVE**  
ARTS ACADEMY

	<b>Essential Question(s)</b>
	How do individuals and societies confront, navigate, and understand the forces of conflict and opposition?

	<b>Focus of the Unit</b>
	Students will read and analyze texts that explore different forms of conflict and opposition. We will discuss themes like fear, oppression, societal challenges, and internal conflicts

<b>Standards</b>	CC.1.3.8.J Analyze characteristics of a variety of literary genres. CC.1.4.8.S Draw evidence from literary or informational texts to support analysis, reflection, and research, applying grade-level reading standards for literature and literary nonfiction.
------------------	--

<b>Learning Targets</b>
I can analyze texts from different genres that explore themes of conflict and opposition.

<b>Learning Targets</b>
I can explain how specific events or dialogue in a story reveal conflict or how characters respond to challenges.

<b>Learning Targets</b>
I can support my analysis of conflict, opposition, and character responses with specific evidence from the texts.

<b>Learning Targets</b>
I can participate actively and respectfully in discussions about conflict, resistance, and overcoming obstacles in the texts we read.



<b>Resources</b>	<b>HMH, IXL, Google Drive, Teacher Selected Novel, Graphic Organizers</b>
------------------	---

<b>Unit Title</b>	<b>8th Grade Forging Identity and Finding your Place</b>
<b>Time Frame</b>	6 Weeks



**INNOVATIVE**  
ARTS ACADEMY

	<b>Essential Question(s)</b>
	How do the places we call home and the experiences of growing up shape our identity and sense of belonging?

	<b>Focus of the Unit</b>
	We will focus on exploring how individuals develop their identity and find their place in the world through different mediums.

<b>Standards</b>	<p>CC.1.4.8.S Draw evidence from literary or informational texts to support analysis, reflection, and research, applying grade-level reading standards for literature and literary nonfiction.</p> <p>CC.1.3.8.C Analyze how particular lines of dialogue or incidents in a story or drama propel the action, reveal aspects of a character, or provoke a decision.</p>
------------------	---

<b>Learning Targets</b>
I can analyze texts to understand how place, experiences, relationships, and background shape a character or our own identity and sense of belonging.

<b>Learning Targets</b>
I can determine and analyze key themes related to identity, belonging, and maturation from the texts we read.

<b>Learning Targets</b>
I can support my analysis and interpretations of identity, character, and themes with specific, relevant evidence from the texts.

<b>Learning Targets</b>
I can participate actively in discussions about the themes of identity, place, and growing up, building on others' ideas and expressing my own clearly.



<b>Resources</b>	<b>HMH, IXL, Google Drive, Graphic Organizers</b>
------------------	---

<b>Unit Title</b>	<b>8th Grade Understanding the Past and Shaping the Future</b>
<b>Time Frame</b>	6 Weeks



**INNOVATIVE**  
ARTS ACADEMY

	<b>Essential Question(s)</b>
	What can we learn from the past, what does it mean to be a witness, and how can we document our own time for the future?

	<b>Focus of the Unit</b>
	We will study significant historical periods throughout the world, focusing on reading and analyzing texts and historical accounts related to the events and their impact.

<b>Standards</b>	CC.1.2.8.A Determine the central idea of a text and how it is conveyed through particular details; provide a summary of the text distinct from personal opinions or judgments. CC.1.2.8.C Analyze how a text makes connections among and distinctions between individuals, ideas, or events.
------------------	---

<b>Learning Targets</b>
I can analyze literary and informational texts to understand historical events, their impact, and the experiences of individuals involved.

<b>Learning Targets</b>
I can evaluate the value and characteristics of primary sources.

<b>Learning Targets</b>
I can use evidence from texts to support my analysis and understanding of the historical context, themes, and individual responses.

<b>Learning Targets</b>
I can participate effectively in discussions about the historical events, what we can learn from them, and the meaning of being a witness.



<b>Resources</b>	<b>HMH, IXL, Google Drive, Graphic Organizers</b>
------------------	---