



Course Overview

Welcome to Introduction to Literature 9! This year, we'll spend about 180 days together. Our big goal is to explore who we are, how we connect with others, and the challenges we face in our world, all by reading and talking about stories and different kinds of writing. We'll work on understanding what we read, writing our own ideas, and sharing our thoughts out loud. By the end of the year, we'll connect everything we've learned to a major novel like *To Kill a Mockingbird*.

Unit Title

Unit 1: Belonging and Connection

Time Frame

6 Weeks

Unit Title

Unit 2: The Struggle for Freedom

Time Frame

6 Weeks

Unit Title

Unit 3: Survival and Human Nature

Time Frame

6 Weeks

Unit Title

Unit 4: Heroes, Quests, and Facing Challenges

Time Frame

6 Weeks



Unit 1



Unit 2



Unit 3



Unit 4

Focus of the Unit

We'll look at how people connect with others, how we fit in (or don't), and what it means to be part of a community. We'll explore friendships, differences, and finding common ground.

Focus of the Unit

This unit is about how people fight against unfairness (oppression). We'll explore what freedom means, the fight for equal rights, and how people inspire change, dealing with things like prejudice.

Focus of the Unit

We'll think about what helps people survive really tough times. We'll also explore if people are naturally selfish or selfless and look at the difficult feelings in relationships, like sorrow.

Focus of the Unit

This unit focuses on the challenges people face and how they deal with them. We'll read stories about heroes and their journeys or quests.



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Unit Title

Unit 5: Exploring Love and Sorrow

Time Frame

6 Weeks



Unit Title

Unit 6: Literature, Justice and Identity (Novel Unit)

Time Frame

6 Weeks



Focus of the Unit

We will dive into different ways love is shown and how it connects to joy and pain. We'll spend time reading Shakespeare's *Romeo and Juliet*.

Focus of the Unit

In this longer unit, we'll read full novels like *To Kill a Mockingbird* to look closely at big issues like fairness (justice), prejudice, and figuring out who you are (identity). This unit brings together what we learned all year.

Unit Title	Unit 1: Belonging and Connection
Time Frame	6 Weeks



INNOVATIVE
ARTS ACADEMY

	Essential Question(s)
	How can people from different backgrounds find common ground? What helps us keep our relationships strong?

	Focus of the Unit
	Learning how we connect with others, how we fit in (or don't fit in), dealing with differences and similarities, and understanding friendships and community.

Standards	CC.1.2.9-10.D, C.1.3.9-10.A, CC.1.4.9-10.A, CC.1.5.9-10.A
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Learning Targets
I can understand how writers try to share a message or convince me of an idea.

Learning Targets
I can compare and research topics about people and friendships.

Learning Targets
I can write about my own experiences and feelings about fitting in or connecting with others.

Learning Targets
I can share my ideas in group discussions or presentations.



Resources	IXL, HMH Student Textbooks, Google Drive, 911 Memorial Website
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Unit Title	Unit 2: The Struggle for Freedom
Time Frame	6 Weeks



INNOVATIVE
ARTS ACADEMY

	Essential Question(s)
	How do people manage to find freedom when they are being oppressed?

	Focus of the Unit
	Looking at times when people faced unfairness or were held back (oppression), what it truly means to be free, fighting for equal rights, and how people inspire change, sometimes dealing with things like prejudice or censorship.

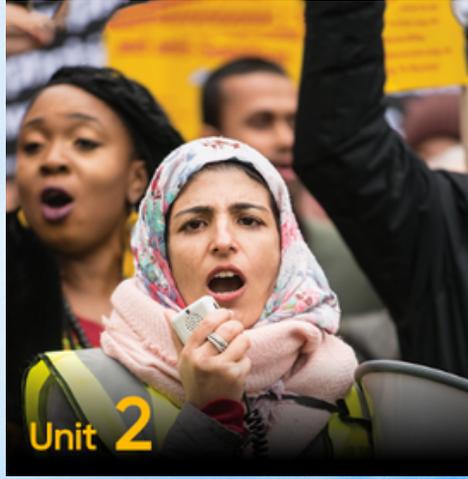
Standards	CC.1.2.9-10.E, CC.1.4.9-10.G, CC.1.4.9-10.I, CC.1.5.9-10.B
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Learning Targets
I can figure out how speakers and writers use language to inspire action.

Learning Targets
I can compare different texts about freedom and fairness.

Learning Targets
I can write arguments or creative pieces about important social issues.

Learning Targets
I can create presentations to share information about fighting for freedom.



Resources	IXL, HMH Student Textbooks, Google Drive
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Unit Title	Unit 3: Survival and Human Nature
Time Frame	6 Weeks



INNOVATIVE
ARTS ACADEMY

	Essential Question(s)
	What skills or qualities do you need to survive a major crisis? How can love bring both happiness and sadness?

	Focus of the Unit
	Thinking about what helps people get through really tough times (survival), whether people are naturally selfish or selfless, dealing with inner struggles, and understanding the difficult parts of life and relationships, including sorrow.

Standards	CC.1.2.9-10.B, CC.1.3.9-10.F, CC.1.4.9-10.S
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Learning Targets
I can understand the events and main ideas in stories about difficult experiences.

Learning Targets
I can read between the lines and make smart guesses about what a text means.

Learning Targets
I can write about survival, difficult feelings, and human actions in different ways.

Learning Targets
I can discuss complex topics like what makes people act the way they do in a crisis.



Resources	IXL, HMH Student Textbooks, Google Drive
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Unit Title	Unit 4: Heroes, Quests, and Facing Challenges
Time Frame	6 Weeks



INNOVATIVE
ARTS ACADEMY

	Essential Question(s)
	What makes someone want to take on a difficult challenge?

	Focus of the Unit
	Focusing on the challenges people face, how they solve problems, what motivates them, making difficult decisions, and exploring stories about heroes and their journeys or quests.

Standards	CC.1.2.9–10.E, CC.1.3.9–10.F, CC.1.4.9–10.A, CC.1.5.9–10.D
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Learning Targets
I can recognize features of epic stories and heroic figures.

Learning Targets
I can write a story or description from a different point of view.

Learning Targets
I can create presentations about tackling challenges.

Learning Targets
I can write clearly about how people overcome difficulties.



Resources	IXL, HMH Student Textbooks, Google Drive
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Unit Title	Unit 5: Exploring Love and Sorrow
Time Frame	5 Weeks



INNOVATIVE
ARTS ACADEMY

	Essential Question(s)
	How can love bring both joy and pain?

	Focus of the Unit
	Dive deep into different ways love is shown, how it connects to life and death, joy, pain, and the complicated parts of relationships. We'll specifically spend time with Shakespeare's Romeo and Juliet .

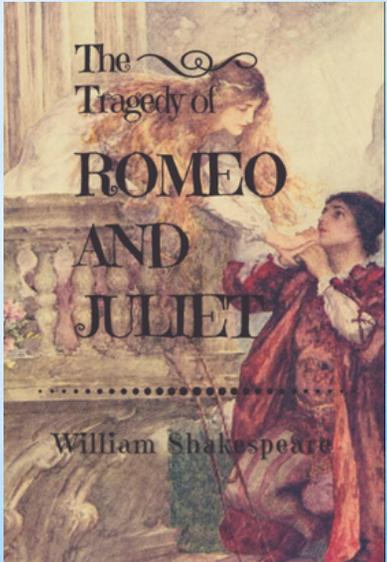
Standards	CC.1.3.9-10.A, CC.1.3.9-10.F, C.1.4.9-10.A, CC.1.5.9-10.G
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Learning Targets
I can understand the feelings and ideas in poems and plays about love and sorrow.

Learning Targets
I can write creatively about emotions, like poems or letters.

Learning Targets
I can analyze how writers like Shakespeare use language to show emotion.

Learning Targets
I can perform or present ideas about love and sorrow.



Resources	IXL, HMH Student Textbooks, Google Drive,
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Unit Title	Unit 6: Literature, Justice and Identity (Novel Unit)
Time Frame	11 Weeks



INNOVATIVE
ARTS ACADEMY

	Essential Question(s)
	What happens in our community and the world when there is prejudice? How are we changed by experiences and society? How are we shaped by the moral standards of our community? How do our individual decisions and actions play a role in shaping the lives of those around us?

	Focus of the Unit
	Reading full novels, including <i>To Kill a Mockingbird</i> , to look closely at big social issues like injustice, prejudice, community, identity, and figuring out who you are and the difference between right and wrong. This unit builds on everything we learned before.

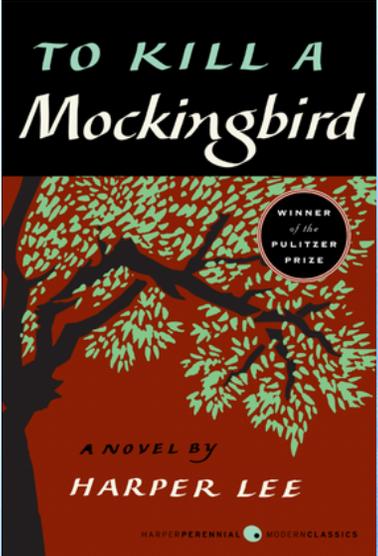
Standards	CC.1.3.9-10.C, CC.1.4.9-10.G, CC.1.4.9-10.S, CC.1.5.9-10.A
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Learning Targets
I can read and understand the characters, plot, and themes in a longer novel.

Learning Targets
I can understand how history and society influence the characters and events in a story.

Learning Targets
I can discuss and write about complex social issues like prejudice and justice using examples from the novels.

Learning Targets
I can use evidence from the text to support my ideas about characters and themes



Resources	IXL, HMH Student Textbooks, Google Drive, <i>To Kill a Mockingbird</i>
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