



Southmoreland School District

10 English Language Arts Curriculum Overview

10 ELA Overview:

This course will provide an in-depth study of various literary techniques employed in prose, poetry, and drama. Students will read a wide variety of text, including works for mature readers. This course includes intensive study of representative works from various genres and periods, concentrating on works of recognized literary merit. Students will also master the Common Core Standards in preparation for the Keystone Examination in May. During your 10th grade year you will be required to show proficiency on the Keystone Literature examination in both reading and writing as well as take the PSAT. It is also possible to receive an “Advanced” designation on the Keystone Exam.

Module Titles:

- Module 1: Short Stories**
- Module 2: Novel**
- Module 3: The Research Paper**
- Module 4: Poetry**
- Module 5: Drama**

Module Overviews:

Module 1:

This unit will have students review the elements of the plot (Exposition, Rising Action, Climax, Falling Action, and Resolution) as well as be introduced to the First Person and Omniscient Point of View. There will also be emphasis placed on the literary terms irony (verbal, dramatic, and situational), characterization, and setting.

Module 2:

Vocabulary enrichment, critical thinking skills, reading comprehension, and understanding the concept of theme will be at the forefront of what the students will be learning from the reading of a novel.

Module 3:

During the time spent on the research paper, students will be guided through the 5 Steps of the writing process, research methods, citation methods, and thesis development. The research paper will consist of five (5) paragraphs.



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Module 4:

The poetry unit explores works from other poets, as well as developing and writing poetry. Elements of poetry are explored and consist of, but are not limited to, terms such as alliteration, internal rhyme, external rhyme, rhyme scheme, and symbolism.

Module 5: Drama

The drama unit will consist of understanding the basic elements of drama such as conflict, resolution, acts, scenes, stage directions, dialogue, monologue, soliloquy, tragic hero, and tragic flaw. Students also explore parts of the drama *The Tragedy of Julius Caesar* written by William Shakespeare.