

**Amherst-Pelham Regional School District
District Curriculum Overview**

Subject: English

Course: Writing & Literature A and B

Grade Level: Ninth

Concepts/Enduring Understandings/Themes	Topics	Unit Content/Skills	Essential Activities/Agreements
<p>Writing is a meaning-making process that can provide personal fulfillment and allows the writer to gain insights and understanding into their learning, him or herself and their world</p> <p>Writers attend to focus, structure, elaboration, style and conventions as key elements of quality writing in order to develop their ideas, advance, their intent, and appeal to the reader.</p> <p>Writers write for a variety of purposes including: exploring, entertaining, informing, analyzing, describing, persuading, revealing feelings, or responding to reading.</p> <p>Writers listen to, read, and analyze text in order to craft and shape their writing and develop a variety of styles.</p> <p>Writing to learn promotes higher level thinking and provides students with a way of learning that enables them to personalize, internalize, and deepen their understanding.</p>	<p>The Writing Process</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Ideation and Invention ▪ Selection and Organization ▪ Drafting ▪ Editing/Revision/Publishing <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Paragraph and Essay Development ▪ Grammar and Style <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Audience and purpose <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Evaluate and Present <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Research and Exploration 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Understands phases of the writing process: differentiate inventing, composing, revising, and editing in a variety of modes of modes of discourse. • Employs unity, structure, and coherence • Uses the appropriate Parts of Speech, Sentence Structure and Variety, Logic, Spelling, Diction, Punctuation, Capitalization, Usage • Considers the intended reader when developing compositions in a variety forms such as journal entry, personal essay, poetry, business letter, research project, and book review • Assesses and selects best writing to showcase for publication to showcase in course portfolios • Conducts research on issues and interests by generating ideas and questions, posing problems, gathering, evaluating, and synthesizing data from a variety of sources. 	<p>Writing & Literature A: Modes of Discourse:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Personal narrative • Descriptive vignette • Persuasive essay • Poetry writing (free verse) • Analytical writing (close reading and/or theme or character) • Imaginative writing • Low stakes writing: reader response, exit/ entrance slips, freewriting, free choice • Short research writing to understand historical context of texts • Definition essay (option) • Honors Project (option) • Course Portfolio <p>Writing & Literature B: Modes of Discourse:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Original student written short story • Analytical writing (formal essay and close reading) • Imaginative writing • Low stakes writing: reader response, exit/entrance slips, freewriting, free choice • Collaborative assignments and activities (e.g. exploration of textual details and language) • Oral presentations and interpretations on selected readings • Research paper and oral presentation on an independent reading, including bibliographic documentation • Honors Project (option) • Course Portfolio

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<p>Reading a wide range of print and non-print texts to builds an understanding of texts, of themselves, and of the cultures of the United States and the world; to acquire new information; to respond to the needs and demands of society and the workplace; and for personal fulfillment. Among these texts are fiction and nonfiction, classic and contemporary works.</p> <p>Readers draw on their prior experience, their interactions with other readers and writers, their knowledge of word meaning and of other texts, their word identification strategies, and their understanding of textual features (e.g., sound-letter correspondence, sentence structure, context, graphics).</p> <p>Reading a wide range of literature from many periods in many genres to builds an understanding of the many dimensions (e.g., philosophical, ethical, aesthetic) of human experience.</p> <p>Readers apply a wide range of strategies to comprehend, interpret, evaluate, and appreciate texts.</p> <p>Readers use a variety of technological and information resources (e.g., libraries, databases, computer networks, video) to gather and synthesize information and to create and communicate knowledge.</p> <p>Readers develop an understanding of and respect for diversity in language use, patterns, and dialects across cultures, ethnic groups, geographic regions, and social roles.</p> <p>Readers participate as knowledgeable, reflective, creative, and critical members of a variety of literacy communities</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Structure and Elements of Various Texts ▪ Personal, Cultural, and Geographic Perspectives ▪ Decoding Text ▪ Literary Genres, Elements, and Themes ▪ Close Reading of Text ▪ Connotation: Interpretation of Subtext, Figurative Language and Imagery ▪ Research ▪ Oral and Written Language Patterns and Usage ▪ Literary Theory/Criticism 	<p>Writing & Literature A: Classical Epic: Introduction to context, plot, character, theme, style</p> <p>Modern Drama: Introduction to context, plot, character, theme, style</p> <p>Autobiography: Introduction to context, theme, style</p> <p><i>House on Mango Street:</i> Introduction to context, plot, character, theme, style</p> <p>Writing & Literature B: Short Stories: Introduction to elements of fiction</p> <p>Shakespearean Drama: Introduction to context, plot, character, theme, style</p> <p>Modern Novel: Introduction to context, plot character, theme, style</p> <p><i>Night:</i> Introduction to context, theme, style</p>	<p>Writing & Literature A: Core Texts:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Homer’s <i>The Odyssey</i> • Hansberry’s <i>A Raisin in the Sun</i>, Fugard’s <i>Master Harold and the Boys</i>, or Williams’ <i>The Glass Menagerie</i> • Moody’s <i>Coming of Age in Mississippi</i>, Angelou’s <i>I Know Why the Caged Bird Sings</i>, Wright’s <i>Black Boy</i> • Cisneros’ <i>The House on Mango Street</i> <p>Writing & Literature B: Core Texts:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>Contemporary Short Stories</i> and other selections • Shakespeare’s <i>Romeo and Juliet</i> or <i>A Midsummer Night’s Dream</i> • Achebe’s <i>Things Fall Apart</i> or Tan’s <i>The Joy Luck Club</i>; Kingsolver’s <i>The Bean Trees</i>; Dorris’s <i>Yellow Raft on Blue Water</i> • Wiesel’s <i>Night</i>
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