

Course Description:

In this course, students read and analyze literary texts from several genres, including a novel, excerpts from novels, short stories, poems, and plays. The course's reading selections demonstrate ways to understand characters, plot, explicit and implicit information, theme, poetic techniques, and figurative language, among other ideas and concepts. Students read the entire novel *The Wonderful Wizard of Oz* by L. Frank Baum throughout every unit of the course. They also read excerpts from the novels *The Adventures of Tom Sawyer* and *Little Women* as well as various stories and plays. Topics of these include challenging situations, getting caught doing something wrong, finding something unexpected, and why the crocodile has a wide mouth. Additionally, students read poems by famous poets such as Robert Louis Stevenson, Robert Frost, Christina Rossetti, and Carl Sandburg, to name a few.

With these reading selections, students practice ways to identify central ideas and themes; make inferences; analyze word choice; identify figurative and connotative language; and compare and contrast poems, poems to stories, and poems to video versions. In addition, students learn several language skills, including regular and irregular verbs, conjunctive adverbs, intensive pronouns, pronoun case, and the correct use of pronouns. For writing projects, students learn the elements to plan, create, write, revise, and edit their own personal narrative and learn about different forms of poetry and poetic techniques to write several types of poems. Through the lessons provided in this course, students have the opportunity to master techniques to potentially achieve a deeper appreciation of literary texts as well as narrative and poetry writing.

Course Objectives:

- Describe and analyze how the elements of plot cause characters to respond or change in literary texts.
- Identify and describe themes and central ideas in literary texts.
- Identify and analyze how an author develops point of view and perspective in literary texts.
- Describe and analyze how sentences, chapters, scenes, or stanzas affect the structure in literary text.
- Identify and analyze explicit and implicit details in texts to make inferences.
- Identify and interpret figurative and connotative meanings in literary texts.
- Determine the impact of word choice in literary texts.
- Identify and explain poetic forms, structure, and techniques when looking into poetry.
- Compare and contrast topics, themes, ideas, and experiences between stories, poems, and videos.
- Identify and use regular and irregular verbs.
- Identify and use conjunctive adverbs and pronoun case.
- Identify and correct vague pronoun use and shifts in pronoun number and person.
- Complete writing activities and projects in which the development, organization, and style are appropriate to task, purpose, and audience.
- Use knowledge of writing ideas, concepts, and strategies to write a personal narrative and various forms of poetry.

Required Materials:

All Graphic Organizers can be found in the Graphic Organizer Library, as well as in each specific activity plan.

*Additional materials are listing in the course.

Course Overview:

This course creates an engaging learning experience that provides students with instruction, videos and animations and the opportunity to further explore and practice course concepts with selected

readings, workbook exercises critical thinking activities, discussion board, checkpoints, writing projects and unit exams