

a-g English 11 (CA Standards)

Course Description:

Overview:

a-g English 11 (CA Standards) is a full-year California Common Core Standards-based course which introduces the student to various genres and periods of American Literature. The course is designed to improve students' abilities in becoming skilled readers of prose in a variety of periods, genres, disciplines, and rhetorical contexts with an emphasis on students' interpretive skill in reading challenging literature. Students have a number of opportunities and projects to advance their writing and stylistic development in composing for a variety of purposes, audiences, and contexts. Students write on a variety of subjects and in a range of discourse modes, including expository and argumentative writing, applying and integrating appropriate rhetorical strategies. Overall, this course will enable students to read, comprehend, and interpret complex texts in American Literature with understanding and to effectively communicate with advanced audiences and readers through writing.

Prerequisite: None

Co-requisites: None

Course Content:

Collection 1- Coming to America
Exploration and Settlement

1. Collection Description: In this collection, students will explore how America has always been a land shaped by immigrants.

Novel Study: The Scarlet Letter by Nathaniel Hawthorne

Analyze the Text/Critical Vocabulary/Vocabulary Strategy/Post-test Completed for Each Text

Anchor Text:

- Historical Account- from Of Plymouth Plantation by William Bradford
- Historical Writing- Coming of Age in the Dawnland from 1491 by Charles C. Mann
- Drama- Introduction to The Tempest by William Shakespeare

Compare Text and Media

- Media Versions of The Tempest
- Film Version The Tempest by BBC Shakespeare
- Short Story- Balboa by Sabina Murray
- Argument- “Blaxicans” and Other Reinvented Americans by Richard Rodriguez
- Poem- New Orleans by Joy Harjo

2. Performance Task- Write an Argument

This collection focuses on how relocating to the Americas changed settlers’ lives and how settlers changed the Americas through their interaction with the land and its native populations. Look back at Of Plymouth Plantation and at other texts in this collection. Write an argument that persuades readers to agree with your claim about how immigration changed America and the lives of those who settled here.

An effective argument:

- States a precise claim, or position, on an issue
- Develops the claim with valid reasons and relevant evidence
- Anticipates opposing claims and offers well-supported counterclaims
- Establishes clear, logical connections among claims, counterclaims, reasons, and evidence
- Includes an introduction, a logically structured body, and a conclusion
- Maintains an appropriate tone based on its audience and context

Key Learning Objectives:

- Cite text evidence. Determine central ideas. Determine themes. Support inferences. Determine meaning of words/phrases. Analyze language. Analyze story structure. Understand point of view and irony. Analyze and evaluate an argument. Determine author’s purpose. Analyze drama interpretations. Analyze foundational texts.

Collection 2- Building a Democracy

A New American Nation

1. Collection Description: This collection explores how people who are so different can work together to create a unified whole while also protecting the rights of everyone.

Analyzing the Text/Critical Vocabulary/Vocabulary Strategy/Post-test Completed

for Each Text

Compare Anchor Texts:

- Public Documents- The Declaration of Independence by Thomas Jefferson
From The United States Constitution: Preamble and Bill of Rights
- Argument- The Federalist No.10 by James Madison
- History Article- Thomas Jefferson: The Best of Enemies by Ron Chernow
- Compare Texts- Colonial American Poetry

Poems:

- To the Right Honorable William, Earl of Dartmouth by Phillis Wheatley
- On Being Brought from Africa to America by Phillis Wheatley
- On the Emigration to America and Peopling the Western Country by Philip Freneau

- Short Story- A Soldier for the Crown by Charles Johnson
- Media Analysis- Documentary Film- Patrick Henry: Voice of Liberty (A&E)
- Public Document- from The United States Constitution
- Public Document- Petition to the Massachusetts General Assembly- Woody Holton (Video Link)

2. Collection Performance Task

Write an Informative Essay

This collection focuses on ways that Americans during and after the revolution envisioned the future of their new nation. Choose three texts in the collection, including the anchor texts- the Declaration of Independence and the U.S. Constitution- and identify how each author, character, or founder finds a balance between preserving individual rights and forming a strong, long-lasting union. Write an informative essay in which you cite evidence from all three texts.

Your informative essay should include:

- An introduction with a clear thesis statement about the conflict between centralized government and individualism as explored in the anchor texts and one other text from the collection
- A logically structured body that thoroughly develops the topic with relevant examples, details and quotations from the texts
- Transitions to clarify the relationships between sections of your essay and to link ideas with the textual evidence that supports them

- A conclusion that follows from the ideas in the body of the essay
- Precise use of language with appropriate tone and style

Key Learning Objectives:

- Analyze and compare themes and topics. Analyze ideas and sequence. Analyze language. Understand a key term. Analyze style. Analyze structure.
- Analyze and evaluate an argument. Analyze point of view. Analyze a video. Evaluate constitutional principles. Analyze foundational documents.

Collection 3- The Individual and Society
A Distinctly American Voice

1. Collection Description: In this collection, you will explore how writers in the early 19th century created a new “American” literature.

Novel Study: Edgar Allen Poe Anthology including The Cask of Amontillado, Fall of the House of Usher and The Pit & the Pendulum

Analyzing the Text/Critical Vocabulary/Vocabulary Strategy/ Post-test Completed for Each Text

Anchor Text:

- Poem- from Song of Myself by Walt Whitman
- Essay- Growing Up Asian in America by Kesaya E. Noda

Poems:

- The Soul selects her own Society by Emily Dickinson
- Because I could not stop for Death by Emily Dickinson
- Much Madness is divinest Sense by Emily Dickinson
- Tell all the Truth but tell it slant by Emily Dickinson

Essay:

- From Walden by Henry David Thoreau

Anchor Text:

- Argument- Against Nature by Joyce Carol Oates

Compare Texts:

- Short Story- The Minister's Black Veil by Nathaniel Hawthorne
- Short Story- The Pit and the Pendulum by Emily Dickinson
- Short Story- The Men in the Storm by Stephen Crane
- Science Writing- The Yuckiest Food in the Amazon by Mary Roach
- Short Story- A Journey by Edith Wharton
- Poem- Ode to a Large Tuna in the Market by Pablo Neruda

2. Collection Performance Task

Write a Narrative

The texts in this collection focus on the individual and how individuals fit into the larger schemes of nature and society. Consider the following quotation:

“Trust thyself: every heart vibrates to that iron string” (Ralph Waldo Emerson, from “Self-Reliance”)

What does this quote really mean and how does it connect to the texts in this collection? Should we all listen to our own internal sense of what is right or wrong, or what is true or untrue? Look back at the anchor text, “Song of Myself” and at the other texts in the collection. Then synthesize your ideas about the role of an individual in society by writing a personal, nonfiction, or fictional narrative.

An effective narrative:

- Introduces a setting and main character and establishes a clear point of view
- Engages readers by presenting a conflict, situation, or observation that sets the narrative in motion
- Describes a clear and logical sequence of events
- Uses a variety of narrative techniques, such as dialogue, pacing, and description
- Reveals a significant theme related to the Emerson quotation
- Concludes by resolving the conflict or by conveying the writer's reflection on the experiences described in the narrative

Debate an Issue:

This collection focuses on individualism, imagination, society, and nature. The anchor text “Against Nature” presents a critique of the way many writers have interpreted the natural world, including Henry David Thoreau in *Walden*. Do you agree or disagree with Joyce Carol Oates's critical assessment of nature writing? Synthesize your ideas by writing a brief argument and then debating the issue

with your classmates.

Participate in an effective debate:

- Argue for or against Oates's assessment of nature writing
- Draw upon evidence from "Against Nature" and at least one other text from the collection
- Follow an orderly format in which speakers from each team take turns presenting their claims, counterclaims, reasons, and evidence
- Encourage a thoughtful, well-reasoned exchange of ideas in which participants respond to diverse perspectives, build on each other's ideas, and evaluate the reasoning of other speakers

Key Learning Objectives:

- Cite text evidence. Summarize. Determine central ideas. Determine themes. Analyze ideas and events. Analyze language. Interpret symbols.
- Analyze structure. Analyze structure and mood. Determine author's purpose. Evaluate purpose and style.

Collection 4- A New Birth of Freedom Civil War and Reconstruction

1. Collection Description: In this collection, you will explore how African Americans and women gained new freedoms after a bloody civil war.

Novel Study: Moby Dick by Herman Melvill

Anchor Text:

- Speech- Second Inaugural Address by Abraham Lincoln
- Speech- What to the Slave Is the Fourth of July by Frederick Douglass
- Public Document- Declaration of Sentiments by Elizabeth Cady Stanton
- History Writing- Building the Transcontinental Railroad by Iris Chang

Media Analysis:

- Documentary Film- The 54th Massachusetts
- Poem- Runagate Runagate by Robert Hayden

2. Collection Performance Task

Present a Persuasive Speech

The important historical texts in this collection focus on the continuing work of bringing freedom and justice to all members of American society. Look back at the anchor text, Lincoln's Second Inaugural Address, and at the other texts in the collection. What messages about freedom- its meaning and its costs- do the texts convey? Synthesize your ideas by preparing a persuasive speech about a kind of freedom you would like to see expanded in today's world.

An effective speech:

- Identifies a type of freedom to be expanded and states a precise claim about it
- Develops the claim with valid reasons and evidence from Lincoln's Second Inaugural Address and two other collection texts
- Anticipates opposing claims and addresses them effectively with counterclaims
- Establishes logical relationships among claims, reasons, and evidence
- Has a conclusion that follows logically from the body of the speech and makes a persuasive call to action
- Engages the audience by including a variety of rhetorical devices and techniques to support the claim
- Maintains a formal tone through appropriate word choices and the use of standard English
- Maintains interest with appropriate emphasis, volume and gestures.

Key Learning Objectives:

- Cite text evidence. Analyze ideas and events. Analyze language. Analyze structure.
- Analyze author's point of view. Analyze author's purpose. Integrate and evaluate information. Evaluate seminal texts.

Collection 5: An Age of Realism America Transformed

1. Collection Description: In this collection, students will explore how post-Civil War America experienced rapid industrialization, urban growth, and social change.

Anchor Text:

- Short Story- To Build a Fire by Jack London
- Compare Texts: Novel- from The Jungle by Upton Sinclair
- Investigative Journalism: Food Product Design- From Fast Food Nation by Eric Schollosser

- Essay- The Lowest Animal by Mark Twain
- Compare Text and Media- Tenements and the “Other Half”
- Essay- Genesis of the Tenement by Jacob Riis
- Image Collection- Tenement Photos by Jacob Riis
- Report- Child Mortality Rates
- Video- America The Story of Us by Jacob Riis History
- Short Story- The Story of an Hour by Kate Chopin
- Poem- The Fish by Elizabeth Bishop
- Short Story- The Men in the Storm by Stephen Crane
- Science Writing- The Yuckiest Food in the Amazon by Mary Roach
- Short Story- A Journey by Edith Wharton
- Poem- Ode to a Large Tuna in the Market by Pablo Nerud

2. Collection Performance Task

Write an Analytical Essay:

This collection opens with the quotation “Reality is that which, when you stop believing in it, doesn’t go away.” Review the anchor text, “To Build a Fire,” and the other collections texts. What particular themes or central ideas does each writer want readers to recognize about reality, and why? What stylistic choices does each author make to reveal a specific version of reality? Synthesize your ideas by writing an analytical essay.

An effective analytical essay

- Includes a clear thesis statement, or controlling ideas
- Organizes central ideas in a logically structured body that clearly develops the thesis statement
- Uses transitions to create a cohesion between sections of the text and to clarify relationships among ideas
- Includes relevant textual evidence to illustrate central ideas
- Has a concluding section that follows logically from the body

Key Learning Objectives:

- Cite text evidence. Analyze technical terms. Interpret symbols. Analyze structure. Analyze author’s choices. Analyze irony and point of view. Determine author’s purpose. Determine author’s point of view. Evaluate use of satire. Integrate and evaluate information.

Life in a Global Society

1. Collection Description: In this collection, you will explore how Americans have responded to modern life in a globally connected world.

Novel Study: *Moby Dick* by Herman Melville

Anchor Text:

- Short Story: *Winter Dreams* by F. Scott Fitzgerald

Compare Texts:

- The Harlem Renaissance
- Poems of the Harlem Renaissance

Poems:

- *Song of the Son* by Jean Toomer
- *From the Dark Tower* by Countee Cullen
- *A Black Man Talks of Reaping* by Arna Bontemps
- *Mending Wall* by Robert Frost
- *The Death of the Hired Man* by Robert Frost

Modern American Drama

- Anchor Text: *The Crucible* by Arthur Miller
- Compare Text and Media: Media Versions of *The Crucible*
- Audio Version: *The Crucible*
- Production Images: *The Crucible*
- Opinion and Dissents: *Tinker v. Des Moines Independent Community School District* Supreme Court of the United States
- Science Essay: *The Coming Merging of Mind and Machine* by Ray Kurzweil
- Short Story: *Reality Check* by David Brine
- Argument: *The Ends of the World as We Know Them* by Jared Diamond
- Poem: *The Universe as Primal Scream* by Tracy K. Smith

2. Collection Performance Tasks

Write an Argument:

This collection opens with the quotation “Reality is that which, when you stop believing in it, doesn’t go away.” Review the anchor text, “To Build a Fire”, and the other collection texts. What particular themes or central ideas does each

writer want readers to recognize about reality, and why? What stylistic choices does each author make to reveal a specific version of reality? Synthesize your ideas by writing an analytical essay.

An effective analytical essay

- Includes a clear thesis statement, or controlling idea
- Organizes central ideas in a logically structured body that clearly develops the thesis statement
- Uses transitions to create a cohesion between sections of the text and to clarify relationships among ideas
- Includes relevant textual evidence to illustrate central ideas
- Has a concluding section that follows logically from the body

Participate in a Panel Discussion:

This collection focuses in part on the abundance of information in American society and how it affects our lives and future. Look back at the texts in the collection, including the anchor text *The Crucible*, and consider the quotation by Gertrude Stein: “Everybody gets so much information all day long that they lose their common sense.” What influences how people react to information: Write and deliver a reflective narrative about an experience you have had with information overload.

An effective reflection narrative

- Explores the significance of a personal experience, event, or concern.
- Uses sensory language to convey a vivid picture
- Includes narrative techniques such as dialogue, pacing, and description
- Draws comparisons between the specific incident and broader themes about how information affects us

Key Learning Objectives:

- Cite textual evidence to support inferences. Analyze character motivation. Analyze science fiction. Analyze drama elements. Analyze language. Analyze structure.
- Analyze structure of an argument. Analyze author’s point of view. Analyze drama interpretations. Delineate and evaluate an argument. Analyze foundational works.

Course Material

Textbooks

Title	Author	Publisher	Edition	Primary
<p>CA Standards-based textbook (This course is aligned to the <u>2017 Collections Grade 11 Houghton Mifflin Harcourt</u> textbook, but it is designed to work with the following CA standards aligned textbooks as well)</p>	<p>Kylene Beers, Martha Hougen, Carol Jago, Williams L. McBride, Erik Palmer and Lydia Stack</p>	<p>Houghton Mifflin Harcourt</p>	<p>2017</p>	<p>Yes</p>
<p><u>Mirrors & Windows, Connecting with Literature Common Core State Standards Edition, American Tradition</u></p>	<p>EMC Publishing</p>	<p>EMC Publishing</p>	<p>2012+</p>	<p>Yes</p>
<p><u>Pearson myPerspectives™ English Language Arts</u></p>	<p>Elfrieda “Freddy” Hiebert, Ph.D.; Kelly Gallagher; Ernest Morrell, Ph.D.; Jim Cummins</p>	<p>Pearson</p>	<p>2017</p>	<p>Yes</p>

Grade 11				
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Library Texts

Title	Author	Publisher	Edition	Read in entirety
The Scarlet Letter	Nathaniel Hawthorne	Barnes & Noble	2004	Yes
Edgar Allen Poe Anthology including The Cask of Amontillado, Fall of the House of Usher, and The Pit & the Pendulum	Edgar Allen Poe	Barnes & Noble	2004	Yes
Moby Dick	Herman Melvill	Barnes & Noble	2016	Yes