

Unit 1 ELA 8 Communication

8 ELA Unit Communication

Unit 1: Finding Your Voice

Overview of the Unit:

In this unit, students will examine how writers explore the question of identity and conflicting aspects of one's identity. Students will answer the question, "Who am I?"

At the end of the unit, students will write an original first-person narrative in which they explore conflicting aspects of their personality or identity. Students will use anecdotes and sensory or figurative language to convey ideas and experiences vividly. Students may choose to write as themselves or as a fictional narrator.

Along the way, students will learn more about how one's identity develops, the difference between social identity and self-identity, and how parts of one's personality or identity can conflict. Students will also analyze model texts to deepen their understanding of how writers use language, narrative techniques, sentence structure, and various essay structures to convey meaning.

Unit 1: Major Assignments and Due Dates

- **Week of August 31-September 4:** About Me Presentation (SL.8.4, SL.8.6)
- **Week of September 7-11:** Analyzing word choice (RL.8.4), citing evidence (RL.8.1)
- **Week of September 21-25:** Collaborative Discussion (SL.8.1)
- **Week of October 5-9:** Personal Narrative (W.8.4, W.8.5)
- **Reassessment Window: October 12-13** ([Policy](#))

****All dates are tentative and subject to change as the unit progresses. ****

Important Information:

- Our current curriculum, Lenses on Literature, is a part of a pilot.
 - All the work for these lessons will be completed in class, on paper or within the Lenses on Literature workbooks, which will remain in their ELA classroom.
- Daily lesson plans for each teacher will be posted on their Canvas course via a presentation agenda.
- This is a live document which will be updated throughout the unit. Please check back if you want updates.
- 8 ELA Teachers and contact information:
 - Josie Judisch: josie.judisch@north-scott.k12.ia.us
 - Jen Kuhn: jen.kuhn@north-scott.k12.ia.us
 - Madison Knoche: madison.knoche@north-scott.k12.ia.us
 - Amy Miers: amy.miers@north-scott.k12.ia.us
 - Mykah Peterson: mykah.peterson@north-scott.k12.ia.us
- Please allow 24 hours for a response from your student's teacher per the district's policy.

Resources for Caregivers:

- Here's the [family letter](#) from our curriculum if you want to know more about what students are learning and how you can support their learning from home.