

NEED TO KNOW / NICE TO KNOW

9TH GRADE

UNIT 1	
ENDURING UNDERSTANDING	
Explore narrative elements (i.e., plot, setting, character) throughout the text, with a particular focus on character analysis, through close reading, annotation, and making inferences. Ability to write a paragraph supporting a claim with textual evidence.	
NEED TO KNOW	NICE TO KNOW
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Annotate a narrative text • Identify plot/setting/character/conflict • Make inferences to analyze character • Write a thesis statement • Pull/Cite evidence • Identify the parts of a paragraph and their function 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Use context clues to determine word meaning • Understand the established norms in conversation • Paraphrase the ideas of others • Use academic vocab in speaking and writing • Edit & Correct for capitalization and punctuation (periods and apostrophes)

UNIT 2	
ENDURING UNDERSTANDING	
Identify main idea, details, and claims in expository texts; assess the usefulness of a source, cite sources and avoid plagiarism to conduct a short research project.	
NEED TO KNOW	NICE TO KNOW
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Annotate expository texts using SOAPSTONE • Identify main idea/claim vs details • Assess the usefulness of a source • Cite sources accurately • Avoid plagiarism • Use academic vocab in speaking and writing 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Identify counterclaim • Differentiate between the connotative and denotative meanings of words • Edit and correct writing to demonstrate command of subject verb agreement and parallel structure in writing • Use digital media to present research findings

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UNIT 3	
ENDURING UNDERSTANDING	
Identify and analyze literary devices/figurative language. This unit will also focus on structure, organization, and editing of a complete expository essay.	
NEED TO KNOW	NICE TO KNOW
<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Annotate poetry using SOAPSTONE• Identify and analyze literary devices (figurative language, symbolism, and tone)• Identify the parts of an expository essay and their functions	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Adapt language to audience (Codeswitching)• Use and edit for transitions in writing

UNIT 4	
ENDURING UNDERSTANDING	
Students will pull evidence from multiple sources to analyze and support a claim about theme across texts.	
NEED TO KNOW	NICE TO KNOW
<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Identify theme• Analyze theme across texts• Develop an essay or project (includes claim and evidence).• Edit & Correct to include complete grammatically correct sentences following conventions (no fragments/run-on sentences, capitalization...)	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Dovetail and build on the ideas of others