

Language Arts 8 Curriculum

Unit 1: Parts of Speech

3 weeks

LA8.5, LA8.6

Objectives	Methods	Resources	Assessment
<p>The students will:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Identify and classify nouns, verbs, adjectives, adverbs, pronouns, prepositions, conjunctions, and interjections.• Identify the function of each part of speech in a sentence	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Lecture• Class discussion• Practice exercises and worksheets from ch. 14-18 individually and in groups	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Textbook: Prentice Hall <i>Writing and Grammar (Silver Level)</i> ch. 14-18	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Teacher-made quizzes over ch. 14-18• Completion of worksheets• Teacher-made test over unit• Participation in class discussion

Unit 2: Basic Sentence Parts

2 weeks

LA8.5, LA8.6

Objectives	Methods	Resources	Assessment
<p>The students will:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Locate the subject and verb in sentences (regular, compound, hard to find)• Recognize and correct sentence fragments• Identify subject and verb complements (direct and indirect objects; predicate nominatives and adjectives)	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Lecture• Class discussion• Practice exercises and worksheets from ch. 19 individually and in groups	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Textbook: Prentice Hall <i>Writing and Grammar (Silver Level)</i> ch. 19	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Teacher-made quizzes over ch. 19• Completion of worksheets• Teacher-made test over unit• Participation in class discussion

Unit 3: Phrases and Clauses

3 weeks

LA8.5, LA8.6

Objectives	Methods	Resources	Assessment
<p>The students will:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Identify prepositional phrases• Identify appositives and appositive phrases• Identify verbals: participles, gerunds, and infinitives and their phrases• Identify adjective and adverb prepositional phrases• Distinguish between independent and subordinate clauses• Identify 4 types of sentence structure	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Lecture• Class discussion• Practice exercises and worksheets from ch. 20 individually and in groups	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Textbook: Prentice Hall <i>Writing and Grammar (Silver Level)</i> ch. 20	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Teacher-made quizzes over ch. 20• Completion of worksheets• Teacher-made test over unit• Participation in class discussion

Unit 4: Verbs

2 weeks

LA8.5, LA8.6

Objectives	Methods	Resources	Assessment
<p>The students will:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Identify and produce the 6 verb tenses and 6 forms• Identify and correct errors in verb usage as it relates to tense and form	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Lecture• Class discussion• Practice exercises and worksheets from ch. 22 individually and in groups	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Textbook: Prentice Hall <i>Writing and Grammar (Silver Level)</i> ch. 22	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Teacher-made quizzes over ch. 22• Completion of worksheets• Teacher-made test over unit• Participation in class discussion

Unit 5: Agreement

1 ½-2 weeks

LA8.5, LA8.6

Objectives	Methods	Resources	Assessment
<p>The students will:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Identify and correct problems with subject/verb agreement• Identify and correct problems with pronoun/antecedent agreement	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Lecture• Class discussion• Practice exercises and worksheets from ch. 24 individually and in groups	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Textbook: Prentice Hall <i>Writing and Grammar (Silver Level)</i> ch. 24	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Teacher-made quizzes over ch. 24• Completion of worksheets• Teacher-made test over unit• Participation in class discussion• Various writing assignments throughout the year

Unit 6: Capitalization and Punctuation

1-2 weeks

LA8.5, LA8.6

Objectives	Methods	Resources	Assessment
<p>The student will:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Learn capitalization and punctuation rules• Identify and correct errors in capitalization and punctuation• Produce sentences and paragraphs with correct capitalization and punctuation	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Lecture• Class discussion• Practice exercises and worksheets from ch. 26-27 individually and in groups	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Textbook: Prentice Hall <i>Writing and Grammar (Silver Level)</i> ch. 26-27	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Teacher-made quizzes over ch. 26-27• Completion of worksheets• Teacher-made test over unit• Participation in class discussion• Various writing assignments throughout the year

Unit 7: Drama

2-3 weeks

LA8.1, LA8.2, LA8.3, LA8.4, LA8.5, LA8.7, LA8.10, LA8.11

Objectives	Methods	Resources	Assessment
<p>The student will:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Learn basic biographical information about authors in the unit• Discover the characteristics of drama• Discuss the differences between inner and outer beauty as demonstrated in <i>The Ugly Duckling</i>• Learn the timing and piece of reading through a dramatic piece out loud with their classmates	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Lecture• Class discussion• Reading aloud• Answering the questions in the textbook about each dramatic piece	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Textbook: <i>Themes in Literature, 3rd ed.</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Completion of textbook comprehension questions• Teacher-made test over unit• Class participation in reading aloud

Unit 8: Poetry

2 weeks

LA8.1, LA8.2, LA8.3, LA8.4, LA8.5, LA8.7, LA8.10, LA8.11

Objectives	Methods	Resources	Assessment
<p>The students will:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Become familiar with analyzing poetry for meaning, themes, symbols, etc.• Learn basic biographical information about the authors of the unit• Define key poetry terms• Memorize "Faith" by John Greenleaf Whittier for extra credit• Attempt writing their own poetry in small groups	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Lecture• Class discussion• Reading aloud in groups and individually• Group poetry writing	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Textbook: <i>Themes in Literature, 3rd ed.</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Completion of textbook comprehension questions• Completion of poetry terms worksheet• Teacher-made test over unit• Class participation in reading aloud

Unit 9: Research Project

4 weeks

LA8.5, LA8.6, LA8.8, LA8.9

Objectives	Methods	Resources	Assessment
<p>The students will:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Learn the process of writing a research paper in MLA format• Demonstrate their ability to find good sources and create note cards• Develop skills in gleaning information from their sources• Differentiate between paraphrasing and plagiarism• Learn to organize their information into a sentence outline complete with citations in MLA format• Demonstrate their ability to edit their own writing• Use good grammar and spelling skills in their writing	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Lecture• Class discussion• One-on-one meetings with the teacher to discuss progress	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Textbook: Prentice Hall <i>Writing and Grammar (Silver Level)</i> ch. 11• Teacher-made handouts• Library	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Individual assessment of bibliography page, note cards, and sentence outline• Teacher-made rubrics for each portion of the assignment

Unit 10: Short Stories

2-3 weeks

LA8.1, LA8.2, LA8.3, LA8.4, LA8.5, LA8.7, LA8.10, LA8.11

Objectives	Methods	Resources	Assessment
<p>The students will:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Identify and define terms associated with short stories• Know basic information about authors from this unit• Know the basic plot of each short story• Conduct character analysis of the main characters of each short story	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Lecture• Class discussion• Reading aloud and silently• Answering questions about each story	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Textbook: <i>Themes in Literature</i>, 3rd ed.	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Participation in class discussion• Completion of comprehension questions about each story• Teacher-made test over unit• In-class journal assignments about themes presented in short stories

Unit 11: Fairy Tale Unit

5 weeks

LA8.1, LA8.2, LA8.3, LA8.4, LA8.5, LA8.7, LA8.10, LA8.11

Objectives	Methods	Resources	Assessment
<p>The students will:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Learn basic biographical information about J.M. Barrie and the Grimm brothers • Read and examine <i>Cinderella</i>, <i>Sleeping Beauty</i>, and <i>Snow White</i> • Analyze and discuss differences between original fairy tales and modern or Disney versions • Read and discuss theme, symbols, etc. in <i>Peter Pan</i> • Watch Disney version of <i>Peter Pan</i> as well as the 2003 movie and compare/contrast with the book • Define 5-610 new vocabulary words in each chapter of <i>Peter Pan</i> 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Lecture • Class discussion • Reading aloud and silently • Small group discussions • Answering comprehension questions about each story or chapter 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>Peter Pan</i> by J.M. Barrie • <i>Grimm's Complete Fairy Tales</i> 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Completion of teacher-made worksheets • Teacher-made quizzes • Teacher-made test over unit

Unit 12: Book Reports

1st and 2nd Quarter (approx. 9 weeks each)

LA8.1, LA8.4, LA8.6, LA8.8, LA8.10, LA8.12

Objectives	Methods	Resources	Assessment
<p>The students will:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Choose a book from a teacher-made list• Examine the setting, characters, and plot of the book• <u>1st report:</u> Answer teacher-made questions about the book• <u>2nd report:</u> Answer teacher-made questions and give an oral presentation using a visual aid• Use good grammar and spelling skills	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Individual reading time in class• Teacher explanation and handouts	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Library• Teacher-made handouts and book list	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Evaluation of book reports based on teacher-made rubrics

Unit 13: Vocabulary

August-March (approx. 27 weeks)

LA8.5, LA8.10

Objectives	Methods	Resources	Assessment
<p>The students will:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Memorize the definitions of 300 words (15 units of 20 words each)• Recognize the meanings of new words through context clues• Choose the correct word for use in new words• Choose synonyms and antonyms for new words• Use a dictionary to find other forms of the new words	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Individual weekly work in vocabulary workbooks	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Sadler-Oxford Inc. <i>Vocabulary Workshop, Level C</i>• Dictionaries	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Completion of workbook assignments• Weekly quizzes• Periodic cumulative review quizzes• Final Mastery Test

