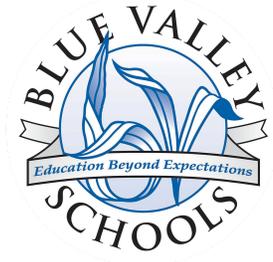


English Language Arts 8



UNIT 1: Relationships

ESSENTIAL QUESTIONS

How does effective communication impact our relationships and understanding of the people and world around us?

BIG IDEAS

- Students understand how to communicate effectively through writing and speaking.
- Students understand how to read analytically in order to determine themes and central ideas.
- Students cite textual evidence accurately and effectively to support ideas and opinions.

GUIDING QUESTIONS

Content

- What is a theme or central idea? RL.8.2, RI.8.2
- How does a theme or central idea impact the development of a text? RL.8.2, RI.8.2

Process

- How do I create an objective summary of the text I'm reading? RL.8.2, RI.8.2
- How do I cite textual evidence that supports my analysis of a text? RL.8.1, RI.8.1
- How do I compare and contrast the text structures in order to analyze the texts' meaning and style? RL.8.5
- How do I communicate effectively in writing and speaking? W.8.10, 11; SL.8.1
- How do I compose a narrative that is clear in its communication and utilizes techniques of good writing? W.8.3

Reflective

- What advantages/disadvantages do different mediums have, and how do they impact our understanding of different topics? RI.8.7
- How do text structures contribute to meaning and style? RL.8.5
- What attributes does an effective text include? RL.8.2, RI.8.2, W.8.3

UNIT 2: Journey

ESSENTIAL QUESTIONS

How do people's journeys affect their understanding of the people and world around them?

BIG IDEAS

- Students understand how to analyze and construct an argument.
- Students understand how word choice and language impact communication.
- Students edit, publish, and collaborate with technology.

GUIDING QUESTIONS

Content

- What purpose and effect does figurative language, word choice, allusions, etc. have in texts? RL.8.4, 12; RI.8.4

Process

- How do I determine the meanings of words and phrases in order to understand and analyze the meaning of the text? RL.8.4
- How do I connect themes, allusions, patterns and characters across pieces of literature? RL 8.9

Reflective

- How does the editing process help me develop and strengthen my writing? W.8.5
- How does my knowledge of craft and structure help me evaluate and analyze different texts? RI.8.4
- How does modern fiction reflect texts that came before them? RL.8.9

UNIT 3: Human Spirit

ESSENTIAL QUESTIONS

How can a person's point of view impact their understanding of themselves, others, and the world around them?

BIG IDEAS

- Students find and use credible evidence to support ideas.
- Students identify and analyze point of view.
- Students compare and make connections between texts.

GUIDING QUESTIONS

Content

- What role does an author's point of view or purpose serve in a text? RI.8.6
- How does an author acknowledge and respond to conflicting evidence or viewpoints?
- What makes information credible, relevant and accurate?

Process

- How do I determine different points of view and their impacts on a text?
- How do I determine the credibility and relevance of sources?

Reflective

- How can different points of view impact a text or a reader's understanding of it? RL.8.6
- Why is the credibility of a source important?

UNIT 4: Change

ESSENTIAL QUESTIONS

How can we adapt to change in order to better understand and impact the world around us?.

BIG IDEAS

- Students can analyze two texts and determine the difference between fact and interpretation.
- Students understand how audience and purpose can influence a writer and text.
- Students present clearly and coherently, adhering to expectations of voice, eye contact, etc.

GUIDING QUESTIONS

Content

- What makes a text “high quality?” RL 8.13
- What makes a claim and its supports clear, coherent, and relevant? W.8.1, RI.8.8
- How do audience and purpose affect a writer’s approach to a text? W 8.12

Process

- How can I integrate multimedia and visual displays to strengthen a presentation? SL.8.5
- How can I make sense of conflicting texts? RL 8.9
- How do I develop a clear and effective argument? W.8.1, RI.8.8

Reflective

- How does the presentation of information demonstrate the media’s purpose? SL.8.2
- What elements make a presentation focused and coherent? SL 8.4