Notes

The Concept English Unit and Lesson Plan Requirements describes how ALL 6-12 Units are laid out. Color Key: Black = Content, Blue = Research-based strategies from Concept Toolkit, Green = Writing/Reading/Speaking/Listening from HMH online, Orange = suggestions, Green = research-based strategies to be used/writing. We provide for 6 - 12th grade core English classes. Using Focus Standards and examples of test question types our Units are built backwards from the Performance Based Assessment (PBA). In addition, Concept English provides a model week of elements that need to be included in each teacher’s lesson plans. Teachers compact the curriculum and/or add to it based on the current data of her/his students. Our units have more than 600 attachments to help teachers facilitate the delivery of instruction. Teachers also receive professional development and a quick Tool Kit for instructional strategies. The body of the unit is written in black (do), green (research based strategies and writing connected to PBA), and orange (activities and ideas to build background knowledge and create interest). Each teacher needs a Teacher’s Manual and their online access codes from Houghton Mifflin Harcourt (HMH) Collections to be able to benefit from these marvelous resources. IF THERE ARE ANY PROBLEMS OR MISSING LINKS CONTACT: aflaherty@conceptschools.org

Standards

Essential Questions

Each unit indicates the Essential Question/Enduring Understanding. Essential questions are essential but can be modified to fit the classroom. These elements provide a focus for instruction. It is a way to chunk a unit of study and allows the teacher to select only aspects of instruction that impact the larger understanding you want students to have over time. There will be other questions, of course, but this is the one teachers return to throughout the unit. In addition, teachers may also develop smaller, more specific questions for individual readings.

For Example

Enduring Understanding: Fear affects the brain and the body. Essential Question: What role does fear play in shaping who I am and what I do?

Enduring Understanding: Change is part of who we are. Essential Question: What does my response to change say about who I am?

Content/Academic Vocabulary

Color Key: Black = content, Blue = Research-based strategies, Green = Writing/Speaking/Listening from HMH, Orange = Ideas/Suggestions

NOTE: Honors Classes read ALL content in Collections plus additional readings assigned by teachers, plus BOTH PBA’s at the end of the Unit.

Each unit has a brief, paragraph summary of the whole unit. This helps the teacher see the context for learning the individual readings and why the essential question/enduring understanding has been chosen. In addition, there will be academic vocabulary - Tier 2 - words teachers should model and repeat throughout the unit. Teachers add additional vocabulary from the readings and determine which strategies they believe will help their students.

Insert Concept English At-A-Glance (Chart will not print but is attached)

The following example (6th grade) demonstrates how the Content/Vocabulary section works for ALL 6-12 Units.
Unit Overview

Students explore how people experience fear and how fear affects the brain and body. Students analyze a variety of fiction, non-fiction, and poetry selections learning to cite textual evidence and describe the elements of a particular story, informational text, or poem. Students are expected to delve deeper into readings using Close Reading strategies and writing assignments to demonstrate what they have read.

FOCUS STANDARDS* (align these with tools like Measuring Up and AR 360)


Indiana Focus Standards: 6.RL.2.3, 6.RN.3.2, SL.2.1, 6.RV.2.1, 6.W.3.2.b


Ohio Focus Standards: RL.6.3, RI.6.2 & 5, SL.6.1, L.6.4.c, W.6.2

* Every state has a standard that asks students to cite textual evidence. No matter what standard is being tested students will be asked to prove it with evidence (Standard 1 in most states). Using evidence implies students can infer and analyze.

Academic Vocabulary

evident

factor

indicate

similar

specific

Sample Lesson Plan Activities

Facing Fear selections appear on Page 2d of the HMH Collections Teacher’s Manual. Teachers plan lessons using research-based strategies that allows them to deliver instructions and build the skills necessary to master the 2 Anchor Texts and Final Performance Task. This means that since the Units reference the FOCUS STANDARDS, teachers must add additional standards/skills to their Units that students may need. It is also suggested that teachers add readings from Newsela and ReadWorks to support group work. If schools have budgets we highly recommend Leveled Reader bundles from Scholastic.

Refer to the HMH online resources for support. On the dashboard are the Interactive Writing & Speaking Activites. Also, under the Teacher Resource Tab you will find a drop down: English Workshop, Grammar Notes, Graphic Organizers, History/A & E Videos, etc.

Insert Concept Middle School Weekly Model (Chart will not print but is attached)

Note: The elements listed in the model week are essential. Teachers may reach out for support at any time via email
and telephone. Teachers will need to "chunk" parts of the Anchor Texts and use the "Analyze Text" questions that follow the readings to created bell ringers and exit slips. Sample question stems aligned to Focus standards follow the readings.

**Daily Lesson Plan Design**

Teachers are expected to create a safe and curious environment for students that reflects a Balanced Literacy approach and employs the Gradual Release Model of instruction. If teachers need support with these models there is information on the Concept English website (http://english.conceptschools.org/resources/) and Webinars are offered as well.

Possible Activities to Get Into the Unit (orange means suggestions)

1. Students are presented a PP on Managing Emotions and take 2 column notes (attached)
2. Students review a PP on phobias (attached)
3. Students work on the etymologies of phobia words (attached)

**Sample Daily Lesson Plan**

**Content Readings Unit 3**

**Use these research-based strategies from the Concept English Toolkit for the Anchor Texts: Word Webs, QAR's, Dialectic Journals, It Says, I Think**

Close Reader short story "The Jumping Tree" - analyze how an author develops point of view through a characters feelings and actions to advance the plot (suggested pacing 2 days)

CCSS Standard: RL.6.1

Indiana Standard: 6.RL.2.1

Missouri Standard: 6.RL.1.A

Ohio Standard: RL.6.1

Pages 16b - 16f for Close Reading guidance

Students use evidence chart (graphic organizer) on page 16c

Complete short response (writing activity) on page 16f - teaching writing on demand is essential for test preparation and rigor. These activities can be included in journals to build fluency for the PBA as well.

**On-line Interactive White Board Lesson - Participating in Collaborative Discussions**

Close Reader magazine article "Face Your Fears..." - cite textual evidence to support main ideas (suggested pacing 2 days)
CCSS Standard: RI.6.2

Indiana Standard: 6.RN.2.1

Missouri Standard: 6.RI.1.A

Ohio Standard: RL.6.1

Pages 50b - 50e for Close Reading guidance

Students use evidence chart (graphic organizer) on page 50c

Complete short response (writing activity) on page 50e - practice writing on demand, summary writing, and restating (paraphrases)

Close Reader magazine article "Face Your Fears and Scare the Phobia Out Of Your Brain" - determine central idea and analyze how ideas and events impact each other (suggested pacing 2 days)

CCSS Standard: RI.6.2

Indiana Standard: 6.RN.2.2

Missouri Standard: 6.RI.1.D

Ohio Standard: RL.6.2

Pages 58b - 58e for Close Reading guidance

Students use central idea chart (graphic organizer) on page 58c

Complete short response (writing activity) on page 58e

On-line Interactive White Board Lesson - Writing as a process to get students involved in "thinking down the arm" and gathering ideas/notes in their folders for the PBA

Anchor Text short story "The Ravine" - describe characters and setting and make inferences in the context of a short story (suggested pacing one week)

CCSS Focus Standards: RL.6.1, RL.6.3, RL.6.5, SL.6.1

Indiana Focus Standards: 6.RL.2.1, 6.RL.2.3, 6.SL.2.1


Ohio Focus Standards: RL.6.1, RL.6.3, SL.6.1

Refer to the Teacher's Manual for a Close Reading, text dependent question approach.

Character and Setting, Page 13
Conflict Practice and Apply, Page 16a of Teacher's Manual (good information to be included in student notes)

Making Inferences, Page 13 - repeat of Close Reader above

Analyzing Text, Page 14 (preview these questions, break them up into small group discussions, and create bell ringers)

Performance Task, Writing Activity - Essay, Page 14

Vocabulary Strategy, Context Clues, Page 15 (keep in binder under Vocabulary tab)

Language Strategy, Recognize variations from standard English, Page 16

**SAMPLE QUESTION STEMS FROM END OF UNIT TEST MEASURING FOCUS STANDARDS RL.1 & 3**

1. The speaker of this essay/poem suggests that...

2. Why does this character act the way he/she does?

3. What is the purpose of this stanza or line or section?

Anchor Text online article "Fears and Phobias" - cite textual evidence to analyze text features and structure (suggested pacing 4 days)

CCSS Focus Standards: RL.6.1, RI.6.4, RI.6.6, SL.6.1

Indiana Focus Standards: 6.RN.2.1, 6.RN.3.2, 6.SL.6.1


Ohio Focus Standards: RI.6.1, RI.6.5, SL.6.1

Refer to the Teacher's Manual for a Close Reading, text dependent question approach.

Cite Textual Evidence, Page 47

Analyze Structure, Page 47 (good information for student notes, combined with teacher information)

Analyzing the Text, Page 48 (preview these questions, break them up into small group discussions, and create bell ringers)

Performance Task, Summary, Page 48 (Teach students summary writing. This skill is essential for test preparation as many answers on multiple choice tests are written either summaries or paraphrases)

Vocabulary Strategy, Prefixes, Page 49

Language Strategy, Subjective and Objective Pronouns, Page 50

**SAMPLE QUESTION STEMS FROM END OF UNIT TEST MEASURING FOCUS STANDARDS RI.1 & 4**
1. From the context in this paragraph, what does the technical term ______ mean?

2. Which paragraph could BEST be cited to support the idea that ______ thinks ______?

3. Which paragraph supports the idea that ______ does ___________?

**TEACHER'S ADD ADDITIONAL READINGS TO COMPLETE THE UNIT and PRACTICE THE FOCUS STANDARDS:**

Collections - "Fine?" short story, "Stuff That Scares Your Pants Off" information text, "Wired for Fear" online Science article

Newsela - "The Tree House," "The Office"

Other - Teacher Choice

**Student objectives (I can statements)**

I can statements reflect the deconstruction of the standards into "kid friendly" language. They also help students to connect content to their own lives and/or own personal way of thinking. They tend to be more engaging that formal education language. Teacher's may also deconstruct the language even further where necessary. I cans also reflect the teachers understanding of what is under each standard in terms of necessary skills.

Once teacher has selected the standards for the Unit, the options will appear for I cans in the drop down menu.

**For example**

1. If a teacher checks the standard - determine an author's point of view in a text and explain how it is conveyed in the text.

2. A teacher will have the option to check one of the two I cans below.

   I can determine an author's point of view or purpose in a text

   I can analyze how an author conveys his/her purpose in a text.

   **A teacher might also take this further and say**

   I can figure out what the writer is trying to suggest by...

   **The I Can should be posted on the board and repeated throughout the lesson.**

**Lesson Plan/Activities/Strategies**
August 18, 2017, Friday

BEFORE

Teachers indicate the way they will establish a tone or direction for the lesson. This may include bell ringers that activate prior knowledge, practice new skills, and introduce I can statements.

In addition to the Before, During, and After format teachers will be asked to select the standards being taught that day.

It is important that Concept teachers state the I can and post the I can repeating it throughout the lesson.

DURING

Teachers describe how they will engage students in the content. This should include the steps and focus on how students will master the standards.

Steps to the lesson and the strategies being used to deliver content instruction. This can also become the agenda for the day.

Remember that Concept English promotes a balanced literacy approach to instruction and expects teachers to use the gradual release model of modeling, practicing together, and then students working independently (I do, We do, You do).

AFTER

Teachers indicate how they will bring closer, wrap up, and/or summarize the learning. In addition, teachers describe how they will measure the learning. This may be an exit ticket, a summary paragraph, or a check quiz.

August 21, 2017, Monday

Accommodations/Differentiation

Differentiation is essential for our Concept students. We have a wide variety of learning styles and grade level abilities in addition to our special needs students. NWEA and other diagnostics will have an impact on accommodations, but we know that IEP's will populate this page and provided a handy reference for teachers. Teachers will also do learning style indicators and other personality surveys during the first week of school that will help them determine how to group and for what purpose. Information will also be gleaned from tools they use like AR 360. An attachment of differentiation strategies and ideas will be included in each Unit.

We expect teachers to use small group differentiation at least twice a week. Teachers should consider this chart.

Insert Group Differentiation Graphic (Chart will not print but is attached)

Assessments/Assignments

Concept students need multiple forms of assessments and feedback. In addition to NWEA and State tests, we expect our teachers to create authentic assessments and execute the Performance Based Task (PBA) at the end of each of the 6 units. Teachers are encouraged to review released State tests. In addition, writing rubrics for each State are attached. It is best practice to have students compare/contrast rubrics (PBA vs. State for similarities).

Depending on your situation, teachers may sense ability levels vary throughout the classroom. Schools/teachers may want to consider the Benchmark Assessment System (BAS) advocated by our Director of Upper Elementary Education. This diagnostic will help you with ability groupings and will also help facilitate an effective use of Leveled Classroom libraries.
During the Unit, it is helpful for teachers to use the Level Up tutorials from HMH to reteach

Example PBA for 6th Grade Unit 1 - Prepare 1 day a week throughout Unit and 2 days at the end

Teachers assign the PBA with the rubric at or near the beginning of the Unit and scaffold necessary sub-standards/skills that will lead to mastery. It is expected that teachers take students through the writing process throughout the Unit and provide formative feedback to help meet the needs of individual student writers.

Unit 1 for each grade level contains links to your state website assessments and rubrics.

PBA: Expository Essay (Rubric in book should be compared to State Rubrics attached)

CCSS Focus Standard: W.6.2

Indiana Focus Standard: 6.W.3.2.b (Note Indiana will have teacher created Quarterly assessments as well)

Indiana - [http://www.doe.in.gov/assessment](http://www.doe.in.gov/assessment)

Missouri Focus Standard: 6.W.2.A.b

Ohio Focus Standard: W.6.2

There are, also, many smaller tasks throughout the 6 Collections Units that address the smaller, sub-standards/skills. They have been indicated in green. Also, the HMH online resources have many options such as the Interactive Whiteboard Lessons. We do not suggest teachers give the whole end of unit test as it is very, very challenging. The best option is to use only test items that align with the focus standards and/or teacher’s create their own quizzes using the Focus Standards.

Schools have a number of different tools for teachers to chart student progress between the larger assessments. In addition to helping students individually, these tools have the ability to help our teachers group by ability and skill level. THIS YEAR WE EXPECT 2 DAYS A WEEK TO HAVE SMALL GROUP DIFFERENTIATION. We encourage teachers to have a system for tracking formative and summative assessments/behaviors as well as having students maintain a Data Folder.

Note: SIS Grade book allows you to track student work by standard.

If teachers are making their own tests, here is a handy link from Edutopia: [http://www.edutopia.org/assessment](http://www.edutopia.org/assessment).

We strongly encourage assessment of student public speaking and group work since we know that oral language proceeds the written word. Building skill orally will have a positive impact on student writing.

6-8th grade students complete a pre and post writing assessment. Teachers use the tools (AR 360/Measuring Up) in their buildings to practice skills between the three NWEA tests and implement reteaching.

9-12th grade students complete 3 EOC assessments - each of these have constructed response items as well as an essay and align with College Readiness (ACT/SAT). They align in large part to the Focus Standards. Based on the results of each EOC teachers create a re-teach plan by skill/standard.
**Resources**

Houghton Mifflin Harcourt (HMH) **Collections** is the chosen Concept English textbook for grades 6-12. Note: Teachers obtain their online pass codes from school administrators or directly from the HMH Rep for their region. See chart on Concept English website:

[http://english.conceptschools.org/resources/](http://english.conceptschools.org/resources/)

The Fountas & Pinnell BAS System tool recommended by our Director of Upper Elementary Education is strongly suggested.

Phyllis C. Hunter **Classroom Libraries** from Scholastic are strongly suggested, especially for 6-8th grade independent reading.

Units also include attached **Readings** that can be modified by Lexile for small group differentiation from **Newsela** and **ReadWorks**. (indicated in orange).

**Novels.** Teachers chose novels from the approved list on our website under Resources ([http://english.conceptschools.org/resources/](http://english.conceptschools.org/resources/)) or submit a request, following the guidelines provided indicating how it will be used in our Unit. Schools should discuss during common planning time which novels are being used and where to avoid duplications. NO MORE THAN 3 NOVELS PER YEAR.

**Other Favorite Resources**


[http://www.tolerance.org/classroom-resources](http://www.tolerance.org/classroom-resources)


[http://www.k12reader.com/](http://www.k12reader.com/)


[http://www.ted.com/](http://www.ted.com/)

[http://lesson-plans.theteachercorner.net/writing/](http://lesson-plans.theteachercorner.net/writing/)

**Reflections**

**On-going reflection** is essential for the Concept English Master Teachers. Teachers may want to try the Kolb's Model of Reflection (attached) or simply keep an open word document on their desk top. **Dedicating ten minutes a day to type in something that worked, something that didn't, and something she/he wants to try again can have positive results.**

**Attachments**
Establishing Rituals and Routines  [8/22/2017 to 9/1/2017]

Notes
Please refer to the first 20 day handout attached. Also, the Concept English At-A-Glance Document under Concept English Unit and Lesson Plan Requirements.

Standards

Essential Questions
How does knowing who you are and how you think help you be a better student?

Let students know that behind every essential question is an enduring understanding of something that you want them to know. For this question it is when you know who you are and how you think chances are you can be a better student.

This question helps you focus instruction to master the standards. A great website for many topics is http://www.thirteen.org/edonline/concept2class/standards/index.html and it gives some great information on what standards are. Students need to have understanding of what these standards are and why we want them to master them.

Content/Academic Vocabulary
Color Key: Black = Content, Blue = Research-based strategies, Green = Writing vis HMH, Orange = Ideas/Suggestions

Unit Overview

Teachers lay out his/her expectations for the year and build rapport with the students. This unit is the time to select activities to help students understand how they learn best and to build cooperative inter-dependence between students in the class. It is highly suggested that teachers employ learning style indicators, determine preliminary ability groupings, develop shared classroom rules, introduce journal and reading log procedures, set up portfolios, and implement diagnostics. All of these activities can help the teacher lay out the road map for the year ahead and help students master the standards. One area that CCSS and now Ohio ask us to consider as we create rigorous learning environments is Bloom and Webb’s Depth of Knowledge. Remember that the word "analysis" appears more than 70 times in our standards.

Schools/Teachers should also consider how to use their character education or PBIS approaches during this unit to strengthen policy/rules across the school, halls, and subject classrooms.

Layout of the Classroom

In/out box

Student Folders/Portfolios

Materials/Libraries

Anchor Charts - to be referred to throughout the year

Writing Process - stages of the writing process
Stations or Areas

Levels of Thinking (Chart does not print but attached)

Of no less importance is the establishment of daily rituals and routines that students become aware of and count on to be in place. Students should become familiar with the sections of the daily lesson (Bellringers, I cans, strategies, Exit slips, etc.), where materials are stored, the various work stations throughout the rooms, homework policy, and expectations that are outlined in the course syllabus (attached).

We strongly encourage the use of a Binder System that asks students to become responsible for their learning. It is checked monthly, first with students assessing their own work and then teachers using the same rubric to check for accuracy. The binder is organized around the systems introduced during the rituals and routines unit. Each day students put into their notes section, the agenda, learning standards and, as necessary classroom notes. Each quarter students first fill our their own rubric (attached).

Academic Vocabulary
Select key process words (20) that you plan to use throughout the year. Reward their use.

Things to include in this unit:

syllabus
learning style indicator or survey
binder systems - set up and have students self check with a binder rubric modified for grade level
scavenger hunt of text/text structures
portfolio set-up
a favorite exit-slip
a checklist for informational writing
setting a purpose and annotating/close reading
group work contracts
steps for enhancing discussions
text dependent questions
blooms question stems

Cover how and where you want these kept for handy reference in student binders!

Student objectives (I can statements)
I can statements reflect the teachers deconstruction of the standard to kid friendly language. While we have them here for you to select (after you have chosen the standards above) they may be further deconstructed in the classroom. To focus instruction, there should usually be one or two only, per period.

Lesson Plan/Activities/Strategies
**August 22, 2017, Tuesday**

**BEFORE**

**DURING**

**AFTER**

**August 23, 2017, Wednesday**

**BEFORE**

**DURING**

**AFTER**

**Accommodations/Differentiation**

Two handy references - ASCD Differentiation Notes and an Excel Spreadsheet of differentiation techniques with social media tools.

You will also be co-teaching with Special Education teachers. Attached is a great resource on co-teaching.

**Assessments/Assignments**

Teachers in 6, 7, and 8th grade use one of these days to do the pre-writing assessment. Focus is on how students read a passage and use this passage in their writing to answer a question/prompt.

Teachers/schools work with specialists/APA’s using NWEA and/or other data tools like Measuring Up Live and AR 360 to begin identifying those students in need of RTI or other forms of intervention.

**Resources**

These are indicated above in the Content/Academic Vocabulary section for this Unit.

**Reflections**

Reflection is the key to success. Try Kolb’s Model of Reflection.

**Attachments**

- Standards
  - StandardsWhatHowWhythirteen.org.pdf
- Content/Academic Vocabulary
  - BloomWebbDepthofKnowledge.pdf
  - AGuideToCreatingTextDependentQuestions.pdf
Unit/Collection 1 - Culture and Belonging  [9/8/2017 to 10/13/2017]

Notes
This unit utilizes the reading and writing activities included in the textbook, "Collections" for 8th grade, published by Houghton Mifflin Harcourt (2015). A curriculum map and Focus Standards overlay was provided to teachers April 2017 and was then posted on the Concept English website. Teachers follow the 6 unit scope and sequence but can make adaptations to fit their individual situations as informed by student data from NWEA, EOC’s, and other tools like Measuring Up and AR 360. Teachers change the dates (From/To) above to fit their school calendar and then the lesson plans will populate with the correct dates. Second, teachers read through the explanation/context of the unit under Content/Academic Vocabulary (use the scrollbar). Within each section (all headings created by SIS are orange) requirements appear in black, strong suggestions are in orange, and blue indicates the researched-based strategies to use and green indicates the writing/speaking/listening strategies from HMH. Once the teachers have an understanding of the unit he/she can begin compacting and/or adding to the unit (also informed as the receive data on student performance). Teachers must add standards, beyond the Focus Standards, depending on the necessary skills that must be taught to reach mastery of all standards by years end. Finally, it is important that lesson plans allow us to see what is happening in the classroom following the before, during, and after format. Teachers attach resources, activities, and other strategies that they are using if they do not already appear in SIS.

Standards (Only your State Standards will appear here - focus standards only)

L.8.1 - Demonstrate command of the conventions of standard English grammar and usage when writing or speaking
L.8.2a - Use punctuation (comma, ellipsis, dash) to indicate a pause or break
L.8.4 - Determine or clarify the meaning of unknown and multiple-meaning words or phrases based on grade 8 reading and content, choosing flexibly from a range of strategies
L.8.4a - Use context (e.g., the overall meaning of a sentence or paragraph; a word’s position or function in a sentence) as a clue to the meaning of a word or phrase
L.8.4b - Use common, grade-appropriate Greek or Latin affixes and roots as clues to the meaning of a word (e.g., precede, recede, secede)
L.8.4d - Verify the preliminary determination of the meaning of a word or phrase (e.g., by checking the inferred meaning in context or in a dictionary)
RI.8.1 - Cite the textual evidence that most strongly supports an analysis of what the text says explicitly as well as inferences drawn from the text
RI.8.2 - Determine a central idea of a text and analyze its development over the course of the text, including its relationship to supporting ideas; provide an objective summary of the text
RI.8.3 - Analyze how a text makes connections among and distinctions between individuals, ideas, or events (e.g., through comparisons, analogies, or categories)
RI.8.4 - Determine the meaning of words and phrases as they are used in a text, including figurative, connotative, and technical meanings; analyze the impact of specific word choices on meaning and tone, including analogies or allusions to other texts
RL.8.1 - Cite the textual evidence that most strongly supports an analysis of what the text says explicitly as well as inferences drawn from the text
RL.8.2 - Determine a theme or central idea of a text and analyze its development over the course of the text, including its relationship to the characters, setting, and plot; provide an objective summary of the text
RL.8.3 - Analyze how particular lines of dialogue or incidents in a story or drama propel the action, reveal aspects of a character, or provoke a decision
RL.8.4 - Determine the meaning of words and phrases as they are used in a text, including figurative and connotative meanings; analyze the impact of specific word choices on meaning and tone, including analogies or allusions to other texts
W.8.3a - Engage and orient the reader by establishing a context and point of view and introducing a narrator and/or characters; organize an event sequence that unfolds naturally and logically
W.8.3b - Use narrative techniques, such as dialogue, pacing, description, and reflection, to develop experiences, events, and/or characters
W.8.3c - Use a variety of transition words, phrases, and clauses to convey sequence, signal shifts from one time frame or setting to another, and show the relationships among experiences and events
W.8.3d - Use precise words and phrases, relevant descriptive details, and sensory language to capture the action and convey experiences and events
W.8.7 - Conduct short research projects to answer a question (including a self-generated question), drawing on several sources and generating additional related, focused questions that allow for multiple avenues of exploration
W.8.9 - Draw evidence from literary or informational texts to support analysis, reflection, and research

**Essential Questions**

Essential Question: How does the conflict I face shape who I am? (can be modified)

Enduring Understanding: Conflict is part of who we are.

**Content/Academic Vocabulary**

Color Key: **Black** = required, **Blue** = research-based strategies, **Green** = writing/speaking/listening via HMH, **Orange** = ideas/suggestions

NOTE: Honors Classes read ALL content in Collections plus additional readings assigned by teachers, plus BOTH PBA's at the end of the Unit.

**Unit Overview**

Students explore how people develop their own identity within a new culture. This includes what we bring, what we leave behind, what we adopt, and what we don't when we join a new group. Teachers help students inquire into types of conflicts (internal and external) and ways students might try handling conflict. A focus on creating safe space and how to trust each other with challenges. Students will analyze a variety of fiction, non-fiction, and poetry selections learning to cite textual evidence and describe the elements of a particular story, informational text, or poem. Students are expected to delve deeper into readings using close reading strategies and writing assignments to demonstrate what they have read. Attached under resources are specific, research based strategies for both informational and fictional reading in 8th grade. The unit culminates with students writing a Personal Narrative about some aspect of their own experience.

**FOCUS STANDARDS** (align these with tools like Measuring Up and AR 360)


Ohio Focus Standards: RL.8.2 & 8.3, RI.8.2 & 8.4, SL.8.1, L.8.4 & 5, W.8.3 8.7 & 8.8

**Academic Vocabulary**

contribute
immigrate
reaction
relocate
shifting

*Every state has a standard that asks students to cite textual evidence. No matter what standard is being tested students will be asked to prove it with evidence (Standard 1 in most states). Using evidence implies students can infer and analyze.
Lesson Plan Activities:
See full list for Culture and Belonging selections on Page 2d of Teacher's Manual. Teachers plan lessons using research-based strategies to deliver instruction and build the skills necessary to master the 2 Anchor Texts and final Performance Based Task (PBA). The Anchor Texts are challenging and require chunking and modeling to deconstruct texts. Teachers also select additional readings to practice the Focus Standards/skills modeled with the Anchor Texts. NOVELS may be used but must be a companion to the Unit (Read-Alouds and Independent Reading but no more than once a week to practice what is being taught in the Unit) but no more than 3 per year. Since the Units are tagged with the Focus Standards only, teachers must add the additional standards they determine are needed to reach mastery.

Refer to the HMH online resources for support. On the dashboard are the Interactive Writing & Speaking Activities. Also, under the Teacher Resources Tab you will find a drop down: English Workshop, Grammar Notes, Graphic Organizers, History/A & E Videos, etc.

Model Week Middle School (Chart will not print but is attached)

Note: The elements listed in the model week are essential. Teachers may reach out for support at any time via email and telephone. Teachers will need to "chunk" parts of the Anchor Texts and use the "Text Analyze" questions that follow the readings to create bell ringers and exit slips. Sample question stems aligned to the focus standards follow the readings.

Daily Lesson Plan Design

Teachers are expected to create a safe and curious environment for students that reflects a Balanced Literacy approach and employs the Gradual Release Model of instruction. If teachers need support with these models there is information on the Concept English website (http://english.conceptschools.org/resources/) and Webinars are offered as well.

Possible Activities to Get Into the Unit (orange means suggestions):

1. Students watch video and after answer questions from the discussion guide Racism Is Real. Attached under lessons

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=FTcSVQJ2h8g

2. Students might engage in lessons and handouts from Conflict and Cooperation. Attached under lessons

3. Another option for teaching conflict resolution and problem-solving. Attached under lessons

4. Perhaps use the PowerPoint "Respecting Differences." Attached under lessons

A great activity to use for 6-8 lessons dealing with conflict, rights, justice is Do I Have Rights? from iCivics. Teachers would need to get accounts. A PDF explanation is attached under lesson plans.

Content Readings Unit 1

Use these research-based strategies from the Concept Toolkit: Vocabulary Chains, Inferencing questions, Character Grids, Trailing the Text, Note Taking System
See Digital Overview on Page 2c (Teacher's Manual) for full list of Teacher eBook materials, interactive whiteboard lessons, etc.

Close Reader short story "Golden Glass" - Making inferences about characters and motivations (suggested pacing 3 days)

CCSS Standards: RL.8.1 2 & 3
Indiana Standards: 8.RI.2.1 2.2 & 3
Missouri Standards: 8.RL.1.A, 8.RL.2.D
Ohio Standards: RL.8.1, RL.8.3

Pages 30c - 30f for Close Reading notes... including background. This might be good for student notes.

Use evidence chart (graphic organizer) on 30c

Complete Short Response (writing activity) on 30f

Close Reader essay "What To Bring" - Comprehension through textual details (suggested pacing 2 days)

CCSS Standards: RI.8.1 & 8.3
Indiana Standards: 8.RN.2.1 & 2.3
Missouri Standards: 8.RL.1.A & RI.1.D
Ohio Standards: RI.8.1 & 8.3

Pages 52b -52e for Close Reading

Use evidence chart (graphic organizer) on 52c - using textual structures "subheads"

Complete Short Response (writing activity) on 52e

Close Reader memoir "Museum Indians" - Figurative Language and Author's Purpose (suggested pacing 2 days)

CCSS Standards: RI.8.4 & 6
Indiana Standards: 8.RN.3.3 (see vocabulary)
Missouri Standards: 8.RI.2.B
Ohio Standards: RL.8.4 & 6

Pages 70b - 70f for Close Reading

Use evidence chart (graphic organizer) on 70c - using figurative language
Complete Short Response (writing activity) on 70f

On-Line Interactive White Board lessons on writing process and participating in Collaborative Discussions

Anchor Text short story "My Favorite Chaperone" - Connecting characters and their conflicts (suggest pacing 5 - 7 days)

CCSS Focus Standards: RL.8.1 3 & 4

Indiana Focus Standards: 8.RL.2.1 & 2.2

Missouri Focus Standards: 8.RL.1.D & 2.D

Ohio Focus Standards: RL.8.1 8.2 & 8.3

A close reading, text dependent approach to reading is indicated in the margins of the Teacher’s Manual. See Teacher’s Manual for further explanation and suggestions on annotating text.

Story Elements: plot, Page 27

Summary Practice and Apply, Page 30a (Teacher’s Manual)

Analyzing Characters, Page 27

Analyzing Text Questions, Page 28

Performance Task, Writing Activity - Summary, Page 28

Vocabulary Strategy - Context Clues, Page 29

Language Strategy - Imperative Mood, Page 30

SAMPLE QUESTION STEMS FROM END OF UNIT TEST MEASURING FOCUS STANDARDS:

1. Using paragraph 2 and 3, what can you infer about the character ________?

2. What decision does ________ make at the climax of the story?

3. What does the character ________ say that makes you think he will ________?

4. From the character’s thoughts in paragraph 5, the reader can infer ________?

Anchor Text from "The Latehomecomer" A memoir - the impact of imagery and figurative language (suggested pacing 6 - 8 days)

CCSS Focus Standards: RI.8.2 & 3

Indiana Focus Standards: 8.RN.2.2 & 3.2

Missouri Focus Standards: 8.RI.2.C & 3.A
Ohio Focus Standards: RI.8.2 & 8.4

A close reading, text dependent approach to reading is indicated in the margins of the Teacher’s Manual. See Teacher's Manual for further explanation and annotating strategies.

Meaning of Words and Phrases, Page 67

Evaluating Sources/ Figurative Language Practice and Apply, Page 70a (Teacher’s Manual)

Memoir, Page 67

Analyzing Text Questions, Page 68

Performance Task, Writing Activity - Report, Page 68

Vocabulary Strategy - Latin Prefixes, Page 69

Language Strategy - Active and Passive Voice, Page 70

SAMPLE QUESTION STEMS FROM END OF UNIT TEST MEASURING FOCUS STANDARDS:

1. How does the word choice in paragraph 6 make you believe the writer is ________________?

2. Which of the following sentences from the essay makes you believe the author saw a connection between two events?

3. In paragraph two the writer compares __________ with ________ blank to emphasize?

TEACHERS ADD ADDITIONAL READINGS TO COMPLETE THE UNIT AND PRACTICE THE FOCUS STANDARDS:

Collection 1 - "Bonne Annee", "A Place To Call Home"

Specific activities are indicated in the text. However, teachers might also try the literature and informational strategies for this grade that are attached.

Other Readings - "A School's Peace Room Aims To End Fighting In The Halls", "Hands Of Peace Brings Israel and Palestine Teens Together", "Living In A Homeland She Barely Knows After Returning To Mexico", "Russia's Gergiev Conducts Music and Controversy Too", "Black Teen Says He Was Arrested For Buying An Expensive Belt", "Discrimination Lingers Especially For Dark Skinned Mexicans In Media"

Note: Assessments are referred to as Performance Tasks. Each unit/collection has a number of small performance tasks after each reading selection and two at the end that are summative at the end of each unit and one has been selected and listed under the assessment tab below. Teachers will also add their own quizzes, check tests, and alternative assessments as needed. See the reference from Edutopia about ideas for assessments.

Student objectives (I can statements)
Teachers select I can statements from the drop down menu that correspond to the standards selected in the master unit as well as those added by the teacher as she/he adapts the unit.

Lesson Plan/Activities/Strategies
Accommodations/Differentiation

Differentiation is essential for our Concept students. We have a wide variety of learning styles and grade level abilities in addition to our special needs students. NWEA and other diagnostics will have an impact on accommodations, but we know that IEP’s will populate this page and provided a handy reference for teachers. Teachers will also do learning style indicators and other personality surveys during the first week of school that will help them determine how to group and for what purpose. Information will also be gleaned from tools they use like AR 360. An attachment of differentiation strategies and ideas will be included in each Unit.

We expect teachers to use small group differentiation at least twice a week. Teachers should consider this chart.

Insert Group Differentiation Graphic (Chart will not print but is attached)

Each unit has built in suggestions for differentiation (see Teacher’s Manual) for RTI Tier 1. Additional ideas for Tier 2 and 3 have been provided to English Department Chairs. Please request information if you do not have it.

Assessments/Assignments

Concept students need multiple forms of assessments and feedback. In addition to NWEA and State tests, we expect our teachers to create authentic assessments and execute the Performance Based Task (PBA) at the end of each of the 6 units. Teachers are encouraged to review released State tests. In addition, writing rubrics for each State are attached. It is best practice to have students compare/contrast rubrics (PBA vs. State for similarities).

Depending on your situation, teachers may sense ability levels vary throughout the classroom. Schools/teachers may want to consider the Benchmark Assessment System (BAS) advocated by our Director of Upper Elementary Education. This diagnostic will help you with ability groupings and will also help facilitate an effective use of Leveled Classroom libraries.

During the Unit, it is helpful for teachers to use the Level Up tutorials from HMH to reteach

PBA for 8th Grade Unit 1 - Prepare 1 day a week throughout Unit and 2 days at the end

Teachers assign the PBA with the rubric at or near the beginning of the Unit and scaffold necessary sub-standards/skills that will lead to mastery. It is expected that teachers take students through the writing process (reach out to Director for writing ideas) throughout the Unit and provide formative feedback to help meet the needs of individual student writers.

Use Interactive White Board Lessons on writing narratives
PBA: Write a Personal Narrative (Rubric in book should be compared to state Rubrics)

CCSS Focus Standards: W.8.3 7 & 8

Illinois - https://www.isbe.net/Pages/Teachers.aspx

Michigan - http://www.michigan.gov/mde/0,4615,7-140-22709---,00.html

Minnesota - http://education.state.mn.us/MDE/fam/tests/index.htm

Wisconsin - https://dpi.wi.gov/assessment

Indiana Focus Standard: 8.W.3.3, 8.W.4 & 5 (Note Indiana will have teacher created Quarterly assessments as well)

Indiana - http://www.doe.in.gov/assessment

Missouri Focus Standard: 8.W.1 & 2

Missouri - https://dese.mo.gov/college-career-readiness/assessment

Ohio Focus Standard: W.8.3 7 & 8

Ohio - https://education.ohio.gov/Topics/Testing

There are, also, many smaller tasks throughout the 6 Collections Units that address the smaller, sub-standards/skills. They have been indicated in green. Also, the HMH online resources have many options such as the Interactive Whiteboard Lessons. We do not suggest teachers give the whole end of unit test as it is very, very challenging. The best option is to use only test items that align with the focus standards and/or teacher’s create their own quizzes using the Focus Standards.

Schools have a number of different tools for teachers to chart student progress between the larger assessments. In addition to helping students individually, these tools have the ability to help our teachers group by ability and skill level. THIS YEAR WE EXPECT 2 DAYS A WEEK TO HAVE SMALL GROUP DIFFERENTIATION. We encourage teachers to have a system for tracking formative and summative assessments/behaviors as well as having students maintain a Data Folder.

Note: SIS Grade book allows you to track student work by standard.

If teachers are making their own tests, here is a handy link from Edutopia: http://www.edutopia.org/assessment.

We strongly encourage assessment of student public speaking and group work since we know that oral language proceeds the written word. Building skill orally will have a positive impact on student writing.

6-8th grade students complete a pre and post writing assessment. Teachers use the tools (AR 360/Measuring Up) in their buildings to practice skills between the three NWEA tests and implement reteaching.

9-12th grade students complete 3 EOC assessments - each of these have constructed response items as well as an essay and align with College Readiness (ACT/SAT). They align in large part to the Focus Standards. Based on the results of each EOC teachers create a re-teach plan by skill/standard.
Resources
Houghton Mifflin Harcourt (HMH) Collections is the chosen Concept English textbook for grades 6-12. Note: Teachers obtain their online pass codes from school administrators or directly from the HMH Rep for their region. See chart on Concept English website:

http://english.conceptschools.org/resources/

The Fountas & Pinnell BAS System tool recommended by our Director of Upper Elementary Education is strongly suggested.

Phyllis C. Hunter Classroom Libraries from Scholastic are strongly suggested, especially for 6-8th grade independent reading.

Units also include attached Readings that can be modified by Lexile for small group differentiation from Newsela and ReadWorks. (indicated in orange).

Novels. Teachers chose novels from the approved list on our website under Resources (http://english.conceptschools.org/resources/) or submit a request, following the guidelines provided indicating how it will be used in our Unit. Schools should discuss during common planning time which novels are being used and where to avoid duplications. NO MORE THAN 3 NOVELS PER YEAR.

Other Favorite Resources

http://www.readwritethink.org/

http://www.tolerance.org/classroom-resources

http://www.facinghistory.org/

http://newsela.com/

http://www.readworks.org/

http://www.k12reader.com/


http://www.sharemylesson.com/middle-school-english-language-arts-teaching-resources/

http://www.ted.com/

http://lesson-plans.theteachercorner.net/writing/

Reflections
Think about what worked, what didn’t, and what should change. Check our Kolb’s Model of Reflection:

Attachments
Content/Academic Vocabulary