

Lake Forest English Curriculum Ninth Grade

The 9th grade English curriculum helps students attain the reading, writing, research and presentation skills that are necessary for high school. Students will read fiction and nonfiction texts, as well write essays that address all three writing types (argument, informational and narrative). There are five instructional units that include formative and summative assessments aligned to the Common Core State Standards. These units build in intensity, help students become critical thinkers, better writers, and proficient readers.

Short Story Unit 1 (Marking Period 1)

During this unit your child will:

- Learn and use close reading strategies (RL.9-10.1)
- Cite strong textual evidence to support analysis of text. (RL.9-10.1)
- Explain how complex characters change over the course of a text (RL.9-10.3)
- Determine the connotative and denotative meanings of words and phrases (RL.9-10.4).
- Analyze how the structure of a text affects the plot (RI.9-10.5)
- Complete informational writing that develops a topic and uses details or quotes from a literary text (W.9-10.2)
- Participate in the writing process to write or recreate a short story/narrative text (W.9-10.3 & W.9-10.5).

Epic Poetry Unit 2 (Marking Period 2)

During this unit your child will:

- Use close reading strategies to improve reading (RL.9-10.1)
- Continue to cite strong textual evidence to support analysis of what a text says directly and symbolically (RL.9-10.1).
- Determine and analyze the development of a theme (RL.9-10.2).
- Provide objective summaries of text (RL.9-10.2)
- Explain how complex characters help to develop plot (RL.9-10.3)
- Analyze how point of view and cultural background are reflected in literature (RL.9-10.6).
- Use context clues to determine the connotative and denotative meaning of words in nonfiction text (RI.9-10.4 & L.9-10.4).
- Understand why different representations of the same subject are presented differently in various mediums (i.e. print, video, art) (RI.9-10.7).
- Write arguments by using precise claims (W.9-10.1).
- Research and write about information that pertain to the text (W.9-10.7 & W.9.10.9).

Nonfiction/Research Unit 3 (Marking Period 2→3)

During this unit your child will:

- Use close reading strategies to cite evidence that supports claims (RI.9-10.1 & W.9-10.1).
- Write an argument essay (W.9-10.1).
- Learn how to use databases to locate multiple sources that support a claim (W.9-10.8).
- Use information gathered from research when writing argument essays (W.9-10.8).
- Determine the central idea of informational text and provide an objective summary (RI.9-10.2).
- Analyze how an author unfolds a series of events (RI.9-10.3).
- Understand that texts are structured in a purposeful way (RI.9-10.6).
- Explain if the reasoning of an argument is valid (RI.9-10.8).
- Use multiple print and nonprint sources during a presentations (SL.9-10.2, SL.9-10.4 & SL.9-10.5).

Novel Study Unit 4 (Marking Period 3)

During this unit your child will:

- Explain how theme is shaped by specific details (RL.9-10.2).
- Analyze how complex characters develop theme (RL.9-10.3).
- Determine the impact of specific word choices on tone (RL.9-10.4).
- Explain how the use of flashbacks creates tension and surprise (RL.9-10.5).
- Continue to read informational text and use close reading strategies to enhance understanding of central ideas (RI.9-10.2).
- Analyze the connections between details in informational text (RI.9-10.3).
- Write an informational essay (W.9-10.2).

Drama Unit 5 (Marking Period 4)

During this unit your child will:

- Explain how theme changes through the course of dramatic text (RL.9-10.2).
- Summarize lines, stanzas, and acts of dramatic text (RL.9-10.2).
- Consider how complex characters in plays advance plot (RL.9-10.3).
- Define vocabulary in context and interpret figures of speech (RL.9-10.4, L.9-10.4 & L.9-10.5).
- Explain how the written version of a play differs from the performed version (RL.9-10.7).
- Research historical background information as it relates to a drama (RI.9-10.2 & W.9-10.7).
- Recreate a scene from a play for a different audience. (SL.9-10.6 & W.9-10.3).