Rogers Middle School
Department: ELA
Course: Grade 7 English

**Term 1**

**Topic: Realistic Fiction**

**Essential Questions:**
- What are the elements of realistic fiction?
- How does reading realistic fiction connect to our personal experiences and affect our interpretation of literature?
- How does a writer’s life impact his/her work?

**Topic: Character Development**

**Essential Questions:**
- What causes characters to change in a story?
- How are the lives of different characters from various texts impacted by their ability to overcome hardships?
- In what ways can we connect our personal experiences with a character’s experiences with hardship?

**Topic: Writing**

**Essential Questions:**
- What are the characteristics of summary writing?
- What effective techniques can be used to write a well-structured narrative?
- How can the use of a variety of transition words, relevant details, and sensory language help to strength our narrative writing?
- How can we use inferences and characterization to compare and contrast texts with similar theme?
- What strategies can we use that will enhance and strengthen our writing throughout the year?

**Term 2**

**Topic: Historical Fiction**

**Essential Questions:**
- What is historical fiction and how does reading it help us to understand the past?
- How does setting inform us about the hardships of the past?
- How do we analyze the ways an author’s experience impacts the purpose of the text they create?
### Term 3

**Topic: Literary Analysis**

**Essential Questions:**
- What does it mean to use instinct to survive in the wilderness?
- What can be learned about the central theme of survival in an author’s work of literature and how can these lessons be applied to our lives?

**Topic: Poetry**

**Essential Questions:**
- How and why do poets create mood in poetry?
- How can the central theme of a poem be connected and applied to a work of literature?
- How do poets develop or resist the conventional structure(s) of poetry?

### Term 4

**Topic: Literary Analysis**

**Essential Questions:**
- How does culture influence the idea of justice and healing?
- How are characters transformed through their relationships with others?
- What character traits and attitudes are necessary for survival?
- In what ways is survival of an individual compared and contrasted to survival as a group?
- How can learning about the past affect our present culture?

**Topic: Point of View**

**Essential Questions:**
- How does an individual’s point-of-view affect the way they live with conflict?
- How does an author develop and contrast the points-of-view of different characters or narrators in a text?

**Topic: Cause and Effect Writing**

**Essential Questions:**
- What are the elements of a strong cause and effect essay?
- How can we develop an informative essay with precise language and domain-specific transitions?
- How do we integrate research and knowledge of a topic into a well-structured informative essay?