

PCI Pacing Guide: 8th Grade English

Week	Materials/Selection	Full Text	Learning Targets	Writing Type	Prompt Options I. = CP / II. = Grade Level III. = Differentiated
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UNIT 3

CONTENT AREA SKILLS (tested on Benchmark Exam)

All must be supported with textual evidence

Make inferences about characters <i>Analyze how characters are revealed and developed</i> Determine vocabulary in context	Identify theme/universal theme <i>Determine and summarize author's point of view</i> Identify author's purpose	Analyze how two or more texts address similar themes or topics <i>Argumentative writing that draws on research sources/stimuli</i>
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Launch Week	MAP Test Work Samples		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> •Measure projected student growth •Student goal setting 	N/A	N/A
1	ERWC Module: "Robots in School" Activities 1-7		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> •Apply critical reading strategies to a video text 	N/A	N/A
2	ERWC Module: "Robots in School" Activities 8-16		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> •Evaluate evidence from different types of texts •Contrast spoken language with written language 	Quickwrite Reflection	N/A
3	ERWC Module: "Robots in School" Activities 17-22		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> •Make an argument and present evidence in the form of a memo to a specific audience 	Argumentative	Using Carey and Markoff's article "Students, Meet Your New Teacher, Mr. Robot" and the video "Will Small Step for Robots Lead to Giant Leap for Robotkind?" in addition to your own observations and experiences, write a memo to the principal/director of your school. In the memo, make an argument for whether or not your school should be part of an experiment to find out if social robots should be used to supplement

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					the instruction provided by your teachers (and/or parents) in middle school. Refer to both the video and the article for evidence to support your position.
Study Sync Unit 3: A Moral Compass					
4	“Abuela Invents the Zero”	Grade Level: A Christmas Carol Alternate: The Hunger Games	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> •Determine theme not directly stated •Analyze dialogue to make inferences about character traits, actions, and decisions •Vocabulary in context 	Informative/ Explanatory (Argumentative , Level III only)	<p>I. Use the details you have compiled from examining the conflict between the characters, as well as the characters’ thoughts, dialogue, feelings, and actions, to identify the theme of the story “Abuela Invents the Zero.” In other words, what lesson does the story suggest about how life experiences can shape our values?</p> <p>Explain how the theme/lesson is developed over the course of the text. Support your writing with evidence and inferences from the text.</p> <p>II. What lesson do you think Constancia has learned from this incident with her grandmother? Cite evidence from the text to support your explanation.</p> <p>III. How important is it to treat other people with respect? Write a paragraph in which you answer this question. Present at least two reasons to back up your claim, and support your reasons with evidence and/or examples from</p>

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					your own experience and/or from the story “Abuela Invents the Zero.”
5	“The Adventures of Tom Sawyer”	Grade Level: <u>A Christmas Carol</u> Alternate: <u>The Hunger Games</u>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> •Identify and analyze narrative point of view •Use point of view to understand characters and plot •Analyze how form of media can shape a story’s presentation •Analyze author’s use of dramatic irony to create humor •Vocabulary in context 	Informative/ Explanatory	<p>I. and II. See Study Sync</p> <p>III. How do Tom Sawyer’s actions and words in the whitewashing scene show that he is both clever and patient? Write a paragraph in which you answer this question. Present at least two reasons to back up your answer, and support your reasons with evidence (or examples) from the Tom Sawyer excerpt or film clip.</p>
6	“Born Worker”	Grade Level: <u>A Christmas Carol</u> Alternate: <u>The Hunger Games</u>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> •Support inferences about characters and motives with textual evidence •Recognize exposition, rising action, climax, resolution •Analyze story structure to discover author’s intentions •Uncover allusions in story that lead to the theme/message •Compare similar characters from different story settings •Vocabulary in context 	Informative/ Explanatory	<p>I. Re-read the excerpt from <i>The Adventures of Tom Sawyer</i> (the previous selection). Think about how both Tom Sawyer and Arnie Sanchez represent the trickster, a deceptive character who acts in a way that opposes conventional behavior. Write a short essay in which you compare and contrast Tom and Arnie. Why is Tom more likable than Arnie? Provide at least TWO points of comparison and cite evidence from both texts to support your response.</p> <p>II. and III. Re-read the excerpt from <i>The Adventures of Tom Sawyer</i> (the previous selection). Think about how both Tom Sawyer and Arnie Sanchez represent the trickster, a</p>

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					deceptive character who acts in a way that opposes “proper” behavior. Write a well-developed paragraph in which you explain how Tom and Arnie are similar but different. Provide at least TWO points of comparison and cite evidence from both texts to support your response.
7	Extended Writing Project	Grade Level: <u>A Christmas Carol</u> Alternate: <u>The Hunger Games</u>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> •Prewrite, Plan & Draft •Do (online) Skill Lessons to review/practice: Thesis Statement, Organize Argumentative Writing, Supporting Details, Conclusions 	Literary Analysis	<p>I. and II. The selections in this unit show how people are shaped by their individual life experiences. People make choices, some of which are mistakes, but they often learn and grow from their experiences. <u>Choose two selections from this unit (consider also the Full Text) and think about the main character or the narrator in each one. Write a literary analysis that shows how personal experience can change people for better or sometimes for worse.</u> Your essay should explore what the main character or narrator values most and how the characters’ experiences shape or even change their values.</p> <p>Your literary analysis should include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • an introduction that states a claim, or an opinion, about the theme of life experiences. • body paragraphs with relevant

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					<p>evidence from the selections/texts that support the claim or opinion.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • a conclusion paragraph that follows from the body of the essay and effectively wraps up your analysis. <p>III. The selections in this unit show how people are shaped by their individual life experiences. People make choices, some of which are mistakes, but they often learn and grow from their experiences.</p> <p><u>Choose one selection from this unit (consider also the Full Text) and think about the main character or the narrator. Write a literary analysis that shows how personal experience can change people for better or sometimes for worse. Your essay (or paragraph) should talk about what the main character or narrator values most and how the character’s experiences shape or even change his/her values.</u></p> <p>Your literary analysis should include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • an introduction that states an answer to the prompt. • A body with relevant evidence from a literary text that support the claim of the essay.

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					<ul style="list-style-type: none"> a conclusion that follows from the body of the essay and effectively wraps up your ideas.
8	Extended Writing Project	Extended/Challenge Reading: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> The Adventures of Tom Sawyer Feed (M.T. Anderson) My Sister's Keeper (Jodi Picoult) 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Revise & Publish Do (online) Skill Lessons to review/practice: Sources and Citations Grammar Practice (handout): Commas, Ellipses, and Dashes to Indicate a Pause or Break 	Literary Analysis	
9	Assessment <ol style="list-style-type: none"> Spring Benchmark (Illuminate) Unit 3 Performance Task (StudySync Online Assessment or request PDF) 	Challenge Reading: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> The Adventures of Tom Sawyer Feed (M.T. Anderson) My Sister's Keeper (Jodi Picoult) 		Argumentative Article	