

# Unit 2: Writing a Narrative "A Printed Portrait"

Content Area: **Language Arts Literacy**  
Course(s): **English 10 Honors**  
Time Period: **Marking Period 1**  
Length: **10 Blocks**  
Status: **Published**

## Course Description

---

Credits: 5

Prerequisite: 85 in English 9 Honors OR 91 in English 9 CP with teacher recommendation

Grade: 10 This course is designed for the student who has developed an exceptional proficiency in critical reading and thinking as well as advanced writing skills. The literary content of this course is predominantly derived from American literature and connected non-fiction. Quantity and sophistication of selections surpasses that which is called for in the English 10 CP course. Students will study authors such as Benjamin Franklin, Nathaniel Hawthorne, Edgar Allan Poe, Kate Chopin, David Grann, and Herman Melville. Students will do a significant amount of reading independently; in addition, the writing is extensive and more sophisticated. Several research papers and/or problem-based research projects using The BIG6 information literacy model and MLA format is required.

## Unit Description

---

### Stage 1-- Desired Results

**Unit Purpose:** Students examine, analyze, and evaluate narrative writing in Unit 2: "A Printed Portrait" by exploring several mentor texts.. Additionally students will experiment with point-of-view, characterization, dialogue, conflict, setting, blocking, theme, and artistic license. Students will demonstrate knowledge and mastery of narrative techniques through individual conferencing, peer-editing, drafting and revision. Students will demonstrate application of NJLS by completing a narrative essay.

### Explicit:

W.9-10.3. Write narratives to develop real or imagined experiences or events using effective technique, well-chosen details, and well-structured event sequences.

A.Engage and orient the reader by setting out a problem, situation, or observation, establishing one or multiple point(s) of view, and introducing a narrator and/or characters; create a smooth progression of experiences or events.

B.Use narrative techniques, such as dialogue, pacing, description, reflection, and multiple plot lines, to develop experiences, events, and/or characters.

C.Use a variety of techniques to sequence events so that they build on one another to create a coherent whole.

D.Use precise words and phrases, telling details, and sensory language to convey a vivid picture of the experiences, events, setting, and/or characters.

E. Provide a conclusion that follows from and reflects on what is experienced, observed, or resolved over the course of the narrative.

W.9-10.4. Produce clear and coherent writing in which the development, organization, and style are appropriate to task, purpose, and audience. (Grade-specific expectations for writing types are defined in standards 1–3 above.)

W.9-10.5. Develop and strengthen writing as needed by planning, revising, editing, rewriting, trying a new approach, or consulting a style manual (such as MLA or APA Style), focusing on addressing what is most significant for a specific purpose and audience.

### **Implicit:**

W.9-10.6. Use technology, including the Internet, to produce, share, and update individual or shared writing products, taking advantage of technology's capacity to link to other information and to display information flexibly and dynamically.

W.9-10.10. Write routinely over extended time frames (time for research, reflection, and revision) and shorter time frames (a single sitting or a day or two) for a range of tasks, purposes, and audiences.

### **Understandings:**

#### **Students will understand that...**

-Employing narrative techniques invokes multiple senses.

-Effective writing creates intriguing, complex characters.

-Developed writing evokes strong emotions.

#### **Students will know...**

-Narrative techniques (point-of-view, conflict, setting, dialogue, theme, figurative language, etc.)

-The steps of the writing process.

-Good writers can use mentor texts and experiment to create vivid pieces.

### **Essential Questions:**

-How does artistic license develop narrative writing?

-What can be learned by reading personal narratives?

-How does the writing process foster well-developed pieces?

-How can a writer draw a conclusion or reflect upon an experience?

-How can a writer draw a conclusion or reflect upon an experience?

### **Students will be able to...**

-Recognize and model narrative techniques.

-Utilize each step of the writing process to develop their writing.

-Examine and evaluate mentor texts.

## **Stage 2 -- Assessment Evidence**

### **Summative Assessments:**

Narrative Essay

Writing On-Demand Skills Assessment

### **Formative Assessments:**

Quizzes (3 "Minor" Assessments)- Demonstration of explicitly-taught skills through quizzes

Writer's's Notebook (5 "Homework" student-selected

entries) - Five entries over the course of the unit in which writing skills are explored.

### **Stage 3 -- Learning Plan**

#### **Learning Activities:**

- Introduce the standards, essential questions, assessment evidence and corresponding rubrics, and calendar of lessons to students.
- Establish each student's prior understanding of narrative writing through individual conferences.
- Execute standards-based mini-lessons to develop skills and strategies.
- Collaborate with writing partner to share ideas throughout the unit.
- Engage in the writing process by maintaining a writer's notebook and writing routinely over extended periods of time in a workshop model.
- Read, discuss, and evaluate model narrative essays from established authors.
- Peer-edit with assigned partners.
- Experience activities where speaking and listening skills are used during mini-lessons.
- Confer individually with teacher and peers.
- Publish personal narrative.

#### **Mini-Lessons**

- Introduce narrative writing by providing mentor texts.
- Examine and compare different narrative techniques used in mentor texts.
- Model how to employ each step of the writing process.
- Identify and evaluate voice.

#### **Resources**

All student selected choices available through classroom library, school or public library, or bought by student.

#### **Works of Study:**

*In The Heart of the Sea* by Nathaniel Philbrick

#### **Potential Works of Study:**

"Starting Out" Tea Obreht

"By Any Other Name" Santha Rama Rau

"Is Everyone Hanging Out without Me (Or, How I Made My First Real Friend)" Mindy Kaling

"Yes, Chef" Marcus Samuelsson

"My Father's Previous Life" Monique Truong

"You, Me and the Sea" Steven Hall

from *American Pastoral* Philip Roth

"On Being a Cripple" Nancy Mairs

**SAT Connection:**

Command of Evidence, *The Official SAT Study Guide*, p. 55

Words in Context, *The Official SAT Study Guide*, p. 61

Reading Information, *The Official SAT Study Guide*, p. 73

Reading Synthesis, *The Official SAT Study Guide*, p. 87

Writing & Language, *The Official SAT Study Guide*, p. 135-154

**Vocabulary:**

\*Students will self-select vocabulary words, consulting narrative mentor texts and personal vocabulary entries in Writer's Notebook.

---

**CONSIDERATIONS FOR DIVERSE LEARNERS**

**Accommodations and Modifications:**

**Students with Disabilities, English Language Learners,**

**Students at Risk of Failure, Students with 504s, Gifted & Talented Students**

Strategies and Practices that Support Students with Disabilities:

- Use of visual and multisensory formats
- Use of assisted technology
- Use of prompts
- Modification of content and student products
- Testing accommodations
- Authentic assessments

- Small group/One to one
- Additional time
- Review of directions
- Student restates information
- Space for movement or breaks
- Extra visual and verbal cues and prompts
- Preferential seating
- Follow a routine/schedule
- Rest breaks
- Verbal and visual cues regarding directions and staying on task
- Checklists
- Immediate feedback

#### Strategies and Practices that Support Gifted & Talented Students:

- Adjusting the pace of lessons
- Curriculum compacting
- Inquiry-based instruction
- Independent study
- Higher-order thinking skills
- Interest-based content
- Student-driven instruction
- Real-world problems and scenarios
- Problem-based learning
- Interest-based research
- Authentic problem-solving

### Strategies and Practices that Support English Language Learners:

- Pre-teaching of vocabulary and concepts
- Personal vocabulary
- Text-to-speech
- Simplified instructions
- Visual learning, including graphic organizers
- Use of cognates to increase comprehension
- Teacher modeling
- Pairing students with beginning English language skills with students who have more advanced English language skills
- Scaffolding
- Word walls
- Sentence frames
- Think-pair-share
- Cooperative learning groups

### Strategies and Practices that Support At-Risk Students:

- Guided notes and/or scaffold outline for written assignments
- Guided reading
- Introduce key vocabulary before the lesson
- Work in a small group
- The lesson taught again using a differentiated approach
- Allow answers to be given orally or dictated
- Use visuals / Anchor Charts
- Leveled texts according to ability
- Choice Boards

- Literature circles
- Project-based learning
- Graphic organizers
- Choice books
- Mini-Workshops to reteach or extend
- Jigsaw
- Goal-setting with students
- Use of a reading buddy
- Exploration based on interest

#### Strategies and Practices that Support Students with 504 Plans:

- Follow all the 504 plan modifications
- Text-to-speech/audio-recorded selections
- Amplification system as needed
- Leveled texts according to ability
- Fine motor skill stations embedded in rotation as needed
- Modified or constrained spelling word lists
- Provide anchor charts with high-frequency words and phonemic patterns

## Standards

---

|              |  |
|--------------|--|
| LA.RI.9-10.2 | Determine a central idea of a text and analyze how it is developed and refined by specific details; provide an objective summary of the text.  |
| LA.RI.9-10.3 | Analyze how the author unfolds an analysis or series of ideas or events, including the order in which the points are made, how they are introduced and developed, and the connections that are drawn between them.   |
| LA.RI.9-10.4 | Determine the meaning of words and phrases as they are used in a text, including figurative, connotative, and technical meanings; analyze the cumulative impact of specific word choices on meaning and tone (e.g., how the language of a court opinion differs from that of a newspaper). |
| LA.RI.9-10.5 | Analyze in detail how an author's ideas or claims are developed and refined by particular sentences, paragraphs, or larger portions of a text (e.g., a section or chapter).  |
| LA.RI.9-10.6 | Determine an author's point of view or purpose in a text and analyze how an author uses  |

rhetorical devices to advance that point of view or purpose.

|                |  |
|----------------|--|
| LA.W.9-10.3    | Write narratives to develop real or imagined experiences or events using effective technique, well-chosen details, and well-structured event sequences.  |
| LA.W.9-10.3.A  | Engage and orient the reader by setting out a problem, situation, or observation, establishing one or multiple point(s) of view, and introducing a narrator and/or characters; create a smooth progression of experiences or events.   |
| LA.W.9-10.3.B  | Use narrative techniques, such as dialogue, pacing, description, reflection, and multiple plot lines, to develop experiences, events, and/or characters.   |
| LA.W.9-10.3.C  | Use a variety of techniques to sequence events so that they build on one another to create a coherent whole.   |
| LA.W.9-10.3.D  | Use precise words and phrases, telling details, and sensory language to convey a vivid picture of the experiences, events, setting, and/or characters.   |
| LA.W.9-10.3.E  | Provide a conclusion that follows from and reflects on what is experienced, observed, or resolved over the course of the narrative.  |
| LA.W.9-10.4    | Produce clear and coherent writing in which the development, organization, and style are appropriate to task, purpose, and audience. (Grade-specific expectations for writing types are defined in standards 1–3 above.)   |
| LA.W.9-10.5    | Develop and strengthen writing as needed by planning, revising, editing, rewriting, trying a new approach, or consulting a style manual (such as MLA or APA Style), focusing on addressing what is most significant for a specific purpose and audience.   |
| LA.W.9-10.6    | Use technology, including the Internet, to produce, share, and update individual or shared writing products, taking advantage of technology’s capacity to link to other information and to display information flexibly and dynamically.   |
| LA.W.9-10.8    | Gather relevant information from multiple authoritative print and digital sources, using advanced searches effectively; assess the usefulness of each source in answering the research question; integrate information into the text selectively to maintain the flow of ideas, avoiding plagiarism and following a standard format for citation (MLA or APA Style Manuals). |
| LA.W.9-10.9.B  | Apply grades 9–10 Reading standards to nonfiction informational (e.g., “Delineate and evaluate the argument and specific claims in a text, assessing whether the reasoning is valid and the evidence is relevant and sufficient; identify false statements and fallacious reasoning”).   |
| LA.W.9-10.10   | Write routinely over extended time frames (time for research, reflection, and revision) and shorter time frames (a single sitting or a day or two) for a range of tasks, purposes, and audiences.  |
| LA.SL.9-10.1   | Initiate and participate effectively in a range of collaborative discussions (one-on-one, in groups, and teacher-led) with peers on grades 9–10 topics, texts, and issues, building on others’ ideas and expressing their own clearly and persuasively.  |
| LA.SL.9-10.1.B | Collaborate with peers to set rules for discussions (e.g., informal consensus, taking votes on key issues, presentation of alternate views); develop clear goals and assessment criteria (e.g., student developed rubric) and assign individual roles as needed.   |
| LA.SL.9-10.3   | Evaluate a speaker’s point of view, reasoning, and use of evidence and rhetoric, identifying any false reasoning or distorted evidence.  |
| LA.L.9-10.4.A  | Use context (e.g., the overall meaning of a sentence, paragraph, or text; a word’s position or function in a sentence) as a clue to the meaning of a word or phrase.   |
| LA.L.9-10.4.B  | Identify and correctly use patterns of word changes that indicate different meanings or parts of speech (e.g., analyze, analysis, analytical; advocate, advocacy).   |
| LA.L.9-10.4.C  | Consult general and specialized reference materials (e.g., dictionaries, glossaries, thesauruses), both print and digital, to find the pronunciation of a word or determine or   |



|               |   |
|---------------|---|
|               | clarify its precise meaning, its part of speech, or its etymology.  |
| LA.L.9-10.4.D | 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).   |
| LA.L.9-10.5.A | Interpret figures of speech (e.g., euphemism, oxymoron) in context and analyze their role in the text.  |
| LA.L.9-10.5.B | Analyze nuances in the meaning of words with similar denotations.   |
| LA.L.9-10.6   | Acquire and use accurately general academic and domain-specific words and phrases, sufficient for reading, writing, speaking, and listening at the college and career readiness level; demonstrate independence in gathering vocabulary knowledge when considering a word or phrase important to comprehension or expression. |

## Anchor Standards

---

|                    |  |
|--------------------|--|
| LA.K-12.NJSLSA.R1  | Read closely to determine what the text says explicitly and to make logical inferences and relevant connections from it; cite specific textual evidence when writing or speaking to support conclusions drawn from the text. |
| LA.K-12.NJSLSA.R2  | Determine central ideas or themes of a text and analyze their development; summarize the key supporting details and ideas.   |
| LA.K-12.NJSLSA.R3  | Analyze how and why individuals, events, and ideas develop and interact over the course of a text.   |
| LA.K-12.NJSLSA.R4  | Interpret words and phrases as they are used in a text, including determining technical, connotative, and figurative meanings, and analyze how specific word choices shape meaning or tone.                                  |
| LA.K-12.NJSLSA.R5  | Analyze the structure of texts, including how specific sentences, paragraphs, and larger portions of the text (e.g., a section, chapter, scene, or stanza) relate to each other and the whole.                               |
| LA.K-12.NJSLSA.R6  | Assess how point of view or purpose shapes the content and style of a text.  |
| LA.K-12.NJSLSA.R7  | Integrate and evaluate content presented in diverse media and formats, including visually and quantitatively, as well as in words.   |
| LA.K-12.NJSLSA.R8  | Delineate and evaluate the argument and specific claims in a text, including the validity of the reasoning as well as the relevance and sufficiency of the evidence.   |
| LA.K-12.NJSLSA.R9  | Analyze and reflect on how two or more texts address similar themes or topics in order to build knowledge or to compare the approaches the authors take.   |
| LA.K-12.NJSLSA.R10 | Read and comprehend complex literary and informational texts independently and proficiently with scaffolding as needed.  |
| LA.K-12.NJSLSA.W1  | Write arguments to support claims in an analysis of substantive topics or texts, using valid reasoning and relevant and sufficient evidence.   |
| LA.K-12.NJSLSA.W2  | Write informative/explanatory texts to examine and convey complex ideas and information clearly and accurately through the effective selection, organization, and analysis of content.                                       |
| LA.K-12.NJSLSA.W3  | Write narratives to develop real or imagined experiences or events using effective technique, well-chosen details, and well-structured event sequences.  |
| LA.K-12.NJSLSA.W4  | Produce clear and coherent writing in which the development, organization, and style are appropriate to task, purpose, and audience.   |
| LA.K-12.NJSLSA.W5  | Develop and strengthen writing as needed by planning, revising, editing, rewriting, or trying a new approach.  |
| LA.K-12.NJSLSA.W6  | Use technology, including the Internet, to produce and publish writing and to interact and   |

|                    |   |
|--------------------|---|
|                    | collaborate with others.  |
| LA.K-12.NJSLSA.W7  | Conduct short as well as more sustained research projects, utilizing an inquiry-based research process, based on focused questions, demonstrating understanding of the subject under investigation. |
| LA.K-12.NJSLSA.W8  | Gather relevant information from multiple print and digital sources, assess the credibility and accuracy of each source, and integrate the information while avoiding plagiarism.                   |
| LA.K-12.NJSLSA.W9  | Draw evidence from literary or informational texts to support analysis, reflection, and research.   |
| LA.K-12.NJSLSA.W10 | Write routinely over extended time frames (time for research, reflection, and revision) and shorter time frames (a single sitting or a day or two) for a range of tasks, purposes, and audiences.   |

## **Interdisciplinary Standards**

---

WHST.9-10.2. Write informative/explanatory texts, including the narration of historical events, scientific procedures/ experiments, or technical processes.

- A. Introduce a topic and organize ideas, concepts, and information to make important connections and distinctions; include formatting (e.g., headings), graphics (e.g., figures, tables), and multimedia when useful to aid comprehension.
- B. Develop the topic with well-chosen, relevant, and sufficient facts, extended definitions, concrete details, quotations, or other information and examples appropriate to the audience's knowledge of the topic.
- C. Use varied transitions and sentence structures to link the major sections of the text, create cohesion, and clarify the relationships among ideas and concepts.
- D. Use precise language and domain-specific vocabulary to manage the complexity of the topic and convey a style appropriate to the discipline and context as well as to the expertise of likely readers.
- E. Establish and maintain a style and tone appropriate to the audience and purpose (e.g. formal and objective for academic writing) while attending to the norms and conventions of the discipline in which they are writing.
- F. Provide a concluding paragraph or section that supports the argument presented.

WHST.9-10.4. Produce clear and coherent writing in which the development, organization, and style are appropriate to task, purpose, and audience.

WHST.9-10.5. Develop and strengthen writing as needed by planning, revising, editing, rewriting, or trying a new approach, focusing on addressing what is most significant for a specific purpose and audience.

WHST.9-10.6. Use technology, including the Internet, to produce, share, and update writing products, taking advantage of technology's capacity to link to other information and to display information flexibly and dynamically.

## **Holocaust & Amistad Connections**

---

|                   |  |
|-------------------|--|
| SOC.6.1.12.A.3.h  | Examine multiple perspectives on slavery and evaluate the claims used to justify the arguments.  |
| SOC.6.1.12.A.5.b  | Analyze the effectiveness of governmental policies and of actions by groups and individuals to address discrimination against new immigrants, Native Americans, and African Americans. |
| SOC.6.1.12.A.11.e | Assess the responses of the United States and other nations to the violation of human rights that occurred during the Holocaust and other genocides.                                   |
| SOC.6.1.12.D.5.d  | Relate varying immigrants' experiences to gender, race, ethnicity, or occupation.  |
| SOC.6.3.12.D.1    | Analyze the impact of current governmental practices and laws affecting national security and/or individual civil rights/privacy.  |

---

### **Career Readiness, Life Literacies, & Key Skills (CLKS):**

9.4.12.CI.1: Demonstrate the ability to reflect, analyze, and use creative skills and ideas

9.4.12.CT.2: Explain the potential benefits of collaborating to enhance critical thinking and problem solving

9.4.12.CT.4: Participate in online strategy and planning sessions for course-based, school-based, or other projects and determine the strategies that contribute to effective outcomes.

9.4.12.IML.2: Evaluate digital sources for timeliness, accuracy, perspective, credibility of the source, and relevance of information, in media, data, or other resources.

---

### **Computer Science & Design Thinking (CS & DT):**

8.1.8.E.1 - Effectively use a variety of search tools and filters in professional public databases to find information to solve a real world problem.

8.1.8.D.4 - Assess the credibility and accuracy of digital content

---

### **LGBTQ & Persons With Disabilities**

"On Being a Cripple" Nancy Mairs

