Unit 1

Content Area: **Language Arts Literacy**
Course(s): **Dystopian Novels**
Time Period: **September**
Length: **4 weeks**
Status: **Published**

Transfer

Enduring Understandings

A dystopia is a futuristic (and often post-apocalyptic) world in which citizens are oppressed/controlled by a higher authority. A dystopia may be a world that has been ravaged (i.e. by disease/war) or that is very advanced/ regulated (i.e. by technology).

A utopia is an imaginary place in which the government, laws, and social conditions are perfect.

There are times when it is necessary to conform to the rules and times when it is necessary to challenge authority.

There are similarities and differences between our world and worlds in dystopian literature.

Literary analysis can enrich our understanding of a text (i.e. themes, characters, author's purpose, writing style, historical context)

Essential Questions

What constitutes a dystopia?

What constitutes a utopia?

When is it necessary to conform to the rules? When is it necessary to challenge authority?

What similarities/differences exist between dystopia societies and our world?

How can literary analysis enrich our understanding of a text?

Content

Vocabulary

Vocabulary

Dystopia

Utopia

Literary Analysis

Post-apocalyptic

Oppressed

Learning Objectives

Understand the concept of dystopia.

Read and analyze a novel about a dystopian world.

Identify and discuss common themes of dystopias.

Analyze dystopian literature, considering the problems inherent in fashioning a perfect person or society.

Explain how dystopias criticize contemporary trends, societal norms, or political systems.

Explore how character, as an admirable human trait, is valued despite the passage of time.

Build knowledge of a historical time period by analyzing character perspectives while comparing and contrasting expository and fictional text to determine how authors alter history.

Formalize a process for determining word meanings.

Understand writers' craft/literary elements and devices.

Explore literary techniques (characterization, imagery, diction/style, mood, etc.)

Create a web log to write research questions and observations about their chosen fictional work and read and comment (by posting) on classmates' blogs.

Analyze how two or more texts address similar themes and how authors take varying approaches to a specific topic.

Cite textual evidence when interpreting a text to display comprehension and meta cognition.

Determine and analyze literary elements (theme, characterization, passages, point of view, word choice/figurative language, tone/mood, etc.) to build knowledge and comprehension.

Compare and contrast various texts to build knowledge and develop authentic point of view on a given topic.

Analyze how modern fiction draws on themes/events/characters from history/current events to make the connections between society and the text.

Navigate complex texts successfully through use of acquired reading skills and strategies.

Develop and strengthen writing by exercising complete writing process.

Analyze literature through various modes of writing to better comprehend the text.

Write interpretive and response journals.

Engage in a range of collaborative discussions to display comprehension of text.

Integrate visual displays into presentations to become comfortable with public speaking.

Adhere to grammar and usage conventions to display knowledge of language.

Resources

Legend- Marie Lu or *The Maze Runner*- James Dashner

Standards

CCSS.ELA-Literacy.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.
CCSS.ELA-Literacy.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.
CCSS.ELA-Literacy.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.
CCSS.ELA-Literacy.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.
CCSS.ELA-Literacy.RL.8.6	Analyze how differences in the points of view of the characters and the audience or reader (e.g., created through the use of dramatic irony) create such effects as suspense or humor.
CCSS.ELA-Literacy.RL.8.9	Analyze how a modern work of fiction draws on themes, patterns of events, or character types from myths, traditional stories, or religious works such as the Bible, including describing how the material is rendered new.
CCSS.ELA-Literacy.RL.8.10	By the end of the year, read and comprehend literature, including stories, dramas, and poems, at the high end of grades 6–8 text complexity band independently and proficiently.
CCSS.ELA-Literacy.RI.8.5	Analyze in detail the structure of a specific paragraph in a text, including the role of particular sentences in developing and refining a key concept.
CCSS.ELA-Literacy.W.8.4	Produce clear and coherent writing in which the development, organization, and style are appropriate to task, purpose, and audience.
CCSS.ELA-Literacy.W.8.6	Use technology, including the Internet, to produce and publish writing and present the

	relationships between information and ideas efficiently as well as to interact and collaborate with others.
CCSS.ELA-Literacy.W.8.9	Draw evidence from literary or informational texts to support analysis, reflection, and research.
CCSS.ELA-Literacy.W.8.9.a	Apply grade 8 Reading standards to literature (e.g., “Analyze how a modern work of fiction draws on themes, patterns of events, or character types from myths, traditional stories, or religious works such as the Bible, including describing how the material is rendered new”).
CCSS.ELA-Literacy.W.8.10	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 discipline-specific tasks, purposes, and audiences.
CCSS.ELA-Literacy.SL.8.1	Engage effectively in a range of collaborative discussions (one-on-one, in groups, and teacher-led) with diverse partners on grade 8 topics, texts, and issues, building on others’ ideas and expressing their own clearly.
CCSS.ELA-Literacy.SL.8.1.a	Come to discussions prepared, having read or researched material under study; explicitly draw on that preparation by referring to evidence on the topic, text, or issue to probe and reflect on ideas under discussion.
CCSS.ELA-Literacy.SL.8.1.b	Follow rules for collegial discussions and decision-making, track progress toward specific goals and deadlines, and define individual roles as needed.
CCSS.ELA-Literacy.SL.8.1.c	Pose questions that connect the ideas of several speakers and respond to others’ questions and comments with relevant evidence, observations, and ideas.
CCSS.ELA-Literacy.SL.8.1.d	Acknowledge new information expressed by others, and, when warranted, qualify or justify their own views in light of the evidence presented.
CCSS.ELA-Literacy.SL.8.5	Integrate multimedia and visual displays into presentations to clarify information, strengthen claims and evidence, and add interest.
CCSS.ELA-Literacy.SL.8.6	Adapt speech to a variety of contexts and tasks, demonstrating command of formal English when indicated or appropriate.
CCSS.ELA-Literacy.L.8.1	Demonstrate command of the conventions of standard English grammar and usage when writing or speaking.
CCSS.ELA-Literacy.L.8.1.a	Explain the function of verbals (gerunds, participles, infinitives) in general and their function in particular sentences.
CCSS.ELA-Literacy.L.8.1.b	Form and use verbs in the active and passive voice.
CCSS.ELA-Literacy.L.8.1.c	Form and use verbs in the indicative, imperative, interrogative, conditional, and subjunctive mood.
CCSS.ELA-Literacy.L.8.1.d	Recognize and correct inappropriate shifts in verb voice and mood.
CCSS.ELA-Literacy.L.8.2	Demonstrate command of the conventions of standard English capitalization, punctuation, and spelling when writing.
CCSS.ELA-Literacy.L.8.2.a	Use punctuation (comma, ellipsis, dash) to indicate a pause or break.
CCSS.ELA-Literacy.L.8.2.b	Use an ellipsis to indicate an omission.
CCSS.ELA-Literacy.L.8.2.c	Spell correctly.
CCSS.ELA-Literacy.L.8.3	Use knowledge of language and its conventions when writing, speaking, reading, or listening.
CCSS.ELA-Literacy.L.8.3.a	Use verbs in the active and passive voice and in the conditional and subjunctive mood to achieve particular effects (e.g., emphasizing the actor or the action; expressing uncertainty or describing a state contrary to fact).
CCSS.ELA-Literacy.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.
CCSS.ELA-Literacy.L.8.4.a	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.
CCSS.ELA-Literacy.L.8.4.b	Use common, grade-appropriate Greek or Latin affixes and roots as clues to the meaning of a word (e.g., precede, recede, secede).
CCSS.ELA-Literacy.L.8.4.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 or its part of speech.
CCSS.ELA-Literacy.L.8.4.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).
CCSS.ELA-Literacy.L.8.5	Demonstrate understanding of figurative language, word relationships, and nuances in word meanings.
CCSS.ELA-Literacy.L.8.5.a	Interpret figures of speech (e.g., verbal irony, puns) in context.
CCSS.ELA-Literacy.L.8.5.b	Use the relationship between particular words to better understand each of the words.
CCSS.ELA-Literacy.L.8.5.c	Distinguish among the connotations (associations) of words with similar denotations (definitions) (e.g., bullheaded, willful, firm, persistent, resolute).
CCSS.ELA-Literacy.L.8.6	Acquire and use accurately grade-appropriate general academic and domain-specific words and phrases; gather vocabulary knowledge when considering a word or phrase important to comprehension or expression.