

# Semester 2 Unit: Sports and Literature

Content Area: **Language Arts**  
Course(s): **English 4H**  
Time Period: **Semester 2**  
Length: **4 - 6 weeks**  
Status: **Published**

## Standards

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ELA.RI.CR.11–12.1	Accurately cite a range of thorough textual evidence and make relevant connections to strongly support a comprehensive analysis of multiple aspects of what an informational text says explicitly and inferentially, as well as interpretations of the text.
ELA.RI.CI.11–12.2	Determine two or more central ideas of an informational text and analyze how they are developed and refined over the course of a text, including how they interact and build on one another to provide a complex account or analysis; provide an objective summary of the text.
ELA.RI.IT.11–12.3	Analyze the impact of an author's choices as they develop ideas throughout the text regarding a complex set of ideas or sequence of events, and explain how specific individuals, ideas, or events interact and develop.
ELA.RI.TS.11–12.4	Evaluate the author's choices concerning structure and the effectiveness of the structure an author uses in his or her exposition or argument, including whether the structure makes points clear, convincing, and engaging.
ELA.RI.PP.11–12.5	Analyze an author's purpose in a text distinguishing what is directly stated in a text or through rhetoric, analyzing how style and content convey information and advance a point of view.
ELA.RI.MF.11–12.6	Synthesize complex information across multiple sources and formats to develop ideas, resolve conflicting information, or develop an interpretation that goes beyond explicit text information (e.g., express a personal point of view, new interpretation of the concept).
ELA.RI.CT.11–12.8	Analyze and reflect on (e.g., practical knowledge, historical/cultural context, and background knowledge) documents of historical and scientific significance for their purposes, including primary source documents relevant to U.S. and/or global history and texts proposing scientific or technical advancements.
ELA.W	Writing
ELA.W.AW.11–12.1	Write arguments to support claims in an analysis of substantive topics or texts, using valid reasoning and relevant and sufficient evidence.
ELA.W.AW.11–12.1.A	Introduce precise, knowledgeable claim(s), establish the significance of the claim(s), distinguish the claim(s) from alternate or opposing claims, and create an organization that logically sequences claim(s), counterclaims, reasons, and evidence.
ELA.W.AW.11–12.1.B	Develop claim(s) and counterclaims avoiding common logical fallacies and using sound reasoning and thoroughly, supplying the most relevant evidence for each while pointing out the strengths and limitations of both in a manner that anticipates the audience's knowledge level, concerns, values, and possible biases.
ELA.W.AW.11–12.1.C	Use transitions (e.g., words, phrases, clauses) to link the major sections of the text, create cohesion, and clarify the relationships between claim(s) and reasons, between reasons and evidence, and between claim(s) and counterclaims.
ELA.W.AW.11–12.1.D	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.
ELA.W.AW.11–12.1.E	Provide a concluding paragraph or section that supports the argument presented (e.g., articulating implications or the significance of the topic).

ELA.W.NW.11–12.3	Write narratives to develop real or imagined experiences or events using effective technique, well-chosen details, and well-structured event sequences.
ELA.W.NW.11–12.3.A	Engage and orient the reader by setting out a problem, situation, or observation and its significance, establishing one or multiple point(s) of view, and introducing a narrator and/or characters; create a smooth progression of experiences or events.
ELA.W.NW.11–12.3.B	Use narrative techniques, such as dialogue, pacing, description, reflection, and multiple plot lines, to develop experiences, events, and/or characters.
ELA.W.NW.11–12.3.C	Use a variety of techniques to sequence events so that they build on one another to create a coherent whole and build toward a particular tone and outcome (e.g., a sense of mystery, suspense, growth, or resolution).
ELA.W.NW.11–12.3.D	Use precise words and phrases, telling details, and sensory language to convey a vivid picture of the experiences, events, setting, and/or characters.
ELA.W.NW.11–12.3.E	Provide a conclusion that follows from and reflects on what is experienced, observed, or resolved over the course of the narrative.
ELA.W.WP.11–12.4	Develop and strengthen writing as needed by planning, revising, editing, rewriting, trying a new approach; sustaining effort to complete complex writing tasks; tracking and reflecting on personal writing progress (e.g., using portfolios, journals, conferencing); or consulting a style manual (such as MLA or APA Style), focusing on addressing what is most significant for a specific purpose and audience.
ELA.SL	Speaking and Listening
ELA.SL.PE.11–12.1	Initiate and participate effectively in a range of collaborative discussions (one-on-one, in groups, and teacher-led) with peers on grades 11–12 topics, texts, and issues, building on others’ ideas and expressing their own clearly and persuasively.
ELA.SL.PE.11–12.1.A	Come to discussions prepared, having read and researched material under study; explicitly draw on that preparation by referring to evidence from texts and other research on the topic or issue to stimulate a thoughtful, well-reasoned exchange of ideas.
ELA.SL.PE.11–12.1.B	Collaborate with peers to promote civil, democratic discussions and decision-making, set clear goals and assessments (e.g., student developed rubrics), and establish individual roles as needed.
ELA.SL.PE.11–12.1.C	Propel conversations by posing and responding to questions that probe reasoning and evidence; ensure a hearing for a full range of positions on a topic or issue; clarify, verify, or challenge ideas and conclusions; and promote divergent and creative perspectives.
ELA.SL.PE.11–12.1.D	Respond thoughtfully to diverse perspectives; synthesize comments, claims, and evidence made on all sides of an issue; resolve contradictions when possible; and determine what additional information or research is required to deepen the investigation or complete the task.
CAEP.9.2.12.C.3	Identify transferable career skills and design alternate career plans.
CAEP.9.2.12.C.4	Analyze how economic conditions and societal changes influence employment trends and future education.
CAEP.9.2.12.C.5	Research career opportunities in the United States and abroad that require knowledge of world languages and diverse cultures.

## **Enduring Understandings**

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Students will understand the following:

Sport is an essential component of human experience.

Sport reflects and influences our ideas regarding family, culture, and language.

Sport allows us to express our abilities and offers the opportunity to demonstrate our individuality, our ability to work collaboratively with others, and our mental and physical prowess.

## **Essential Questions**

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What are the functions of sport in society?

How do sport and physical feats express who we are?

How does our sense of fairness and spirit of competition reveal essential components of our identity?

What does it mean to play fair and to cheat?

What does our reaction to losing say about us? To winning?

How is the physical expression of human form an expression of human spirit?

## **Knowledge and Skills**

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Students will

-develop facility grappling with challenging texts.

-conduct close readings, and this kind of work with text requires engaged textual analysis that can help build independent and original claims.

-develop the habits of well-practiced readers of complex texts always do, such as reading with a pen or pencil in hand and making comments in the margins or on post-it notes.

-attend to how parts of an essay speak to one another, contradict one another, or complicate one another.

-explore the craft of sports writing and discover early examples of writing about sports.

-explore ways in which we convey physical movement and the acute mental endurance associated with athleticism.

-Examine and write about issues of fairness and inclusivity in sports and sports writing.

-Students will explore sex and gender roles in sports.

-Students will explore how sports influences and reflects cultural performance of gender.

(adapted from: Rutgers Almanac 2016)

Assessment:

Students will work in small groups to create a video in the style of an episode of ESPN's "Outside the Lines." In their video, they will spotlight and analyze a controversial story in the sports world today via a blend of panel discussion, interviews, and textual excerpts / video clips sources from the internet. In their analysis, they will bring ideas from course texts to bear on the story at hand.

### **Additional Resources**

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Core Texts:

Friday Night Lights

Shoeless Joe

The Natural

My Losing Season

“The Loneliness of the Long Distance Runner” - short story by Alan Sillitoe

“To An Athlete Dying Young” - poem A.E Houseman

“The Silent Season of a Hero” - Gay Talese

“An Innocent at Rinkside” - William Faulkner

“The Cruellest Sport” - Joyce Carol Oates

### **Transfer Goals**

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Students will be able to discuss the origins, traditions, and various implications sport has on individuals and society.

Students will be able to understand sport's place in society and the opportunity reading, writing, and thinking about sports offers.

## **Assessment**

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[https://docs.google.com/document/d/1\\_w12qVbVV7OTThe9VW43HSpZm3Czh9kegRwYqjMm7fQ/edit?usp=sharing](https://docs.google.com/document/d/1_w12qVbVV7OTThe9VW43HSpZm3Czh9kegRwYqjMm7fQ/edit?usp=sharing)

## **Modifications**

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<https://docs.google.com/document/d/17jJtNi1cFhRgM3667P67m3pGkj1sD-XarWejIWAANIg/edit?usp=sharing>