

Energy

Content Area: **Language Arts**
Course(s): **Creative Writ 1**
Time Period: **Semester 1 & 2**
Length: **3 weeks**
Status: **Published**

Enduring Understandings

There are three principles (subjects, leaps, and words) with which writers work in order to increase the energy and interest level in all types of creative writing.

Choosing energetic subjects, setting up your writing so that it invites the reader to make his or her own connections, and paying close attention to every single word are the basic principles

that form the foundation for everything creative writers do.

Pace and point of view are tools for increasing and intentionally modulating energy in your work.

There is such a thing as too much energy-too many words, images, information; therefore writers should tell their stories and write their poems with simplicity and clarity.

Standards

ELA.L	Language
ELA.L.SS.9–10.1	Demonstrate command of the system and structure of the English language when writing or speaking.
ELA.L.SS.9–10.1.B	Use various types of phrases (noun, verb, adjectival, adverbial, participial, prepositional, absolute) and clauses (independent, dependent; noun, relative, adverbial) to convey specific meanings and add variety and interest to writing or presentations.
ELA.L.KL.9–10.2	Apply knowledge of language to make effective choices for meaning, or style, and to comprehend more fully when reading, writing, speaking or listening.
ELA.L.KL.9–10.2.B	Vary word choice and sentence structure to demonstrate an understanding of the influence of language.
ELA.L.VL.9–10.3	Determine or clarify the meaning of unknown and multiple-meaning words and phrases based on grades 9–10 reading and content, including technical meanings, choosing flexibly from a range of strategies.
ELA.L.VL.9–10.3.B	Identify and correctly use patterns of word changes that indicate different meanings or parts of speech (e.g., analyze, analysis, analytical; advocate, advocacy).
ELA.L.VL.9–10.3.C	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).
ELA.L.VI.9–10.4	Demonstrate understanding of figurative language, word relationships, and nuances in word meanings, including connotative meanings.
ELA.L.VI.9–10.4.A	Interpret figures of speech (e.g., euphemism, oxymoron) in context and analyze their role in the text.

ELA.L.VI.9–10.4.B	Analyze nuances in the meaning of words with similar denotations.
ELA.L.VI.9–10.4.C	Analyze the cumulative impact of specific word choices on meaning and tone (e.g., how the language evokes a sense of time and place; how it sets a formal or informal tone; how the language of a court opinion differs from that of a newspaper).
ELA.R	Reading
ELA.RL.CR.9–10.1	Cite a range of thorough textual evidence and make relevant connections to strongly support analysis of multiple aspects of what a literary text says explicitly and inferentially, as well as including determining where the text leaves matters uncertain.
ELA.RL.CI.9–10.2	Determine one or more themes of a literary text and analyze how it is developed and refined over the course of the text, including how it emerges and is shaped by specific details; provide an objective summary of the text.
ELA.RL.IT.9–10.3	Analyze how an author unfolds and develops ideas throughout a text, including how complex characters (e.g., those with multiple or conflicting motivations) develop, interact with other characters, and advance the plot or develop the theme.
ELA.RL.TS.9–10.4	Analyze how an author’s choices concerning the structure of a text, order of the events within it (e.g., parallel plots), and manipulation of time (e.g., pacing, flashbacks) create specific effects (e.g., mystery, tension, or surprise).
ELA.RL.PP.9–10.5	Determine an author’s lens in a text (including cultural experience reflected in a work of literature from outside the United States, drawing on a wide reading of world literature) and analyze how an author uses rhetorical devices to advance a point of view.
ELA.RL.MF.9–10.6	Analyze, integrate, and evaluate multiple interpretations (e.g., recorded or live production of a play or recorded novel or poetry) of a single text or text/s presented in different formats (visually, quantitatively).
ELA.RL.CT.9–10.8	Analyze and reflect on (e.g., practical knowledge, historical/cultural context, and background knowledge) how an author draws on, develops, or transforms source material historical and literary significance (e.g., how a modern author treats a theme or topic from mythology or a religious text) and how they relate in terms of themes and significant concepts.
ELA.W	Writing
ELA.W.NW.9–10.3	Write narratives to develop real or imagined experiences or events using effective technique, well-chosen details, and well-structured event sequences.
ELA.W.NW.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.
ELA.W.NW.9–10.3.B	Use narrative techniques, such as dialogue, pacing, description, reflection, and multiple plot lines, to develop experiences, events, and/or characters.
ELA.W.NW.9–10.3.C	Use a variety of techniques to sequence events so that they build on one another to create a coherent whole.
ELA.W.NW.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.
ELA.W.NW.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.
ELA.W.WP.9–10.4	Develop and strengthen writing as needed by planning, revising, editing, rewriting, trying a new approach; sustaining effort to complete complex writing tasks; seeking out feedback and reflecting on personal writing progress; consulting a style manual (such as MLA or APA Style), focusing on addressing what is most significant for a specific purpose and audience.
ELA.W.RW.9–10.7	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.

ELA.SL	Speaking and Listening
ELA.SL.PE.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.
ELA.SL.PE.9–10.1.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.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.
ELA.SL.PE.9–10.1.C	Propel conversations by posing and responding to questions that relate the current discussion to broader themes or larger ideas; actively incorporate others into the discussion; and clarify, verify, or challenge ideas and conclusions.
ELA.SL.PE.9–10.1.D	Respond thoughtfully to various perspectives, summarize points of agreement and disagreement, and justify own views. Make new connections in light of the evidence and reasoning presented.
CAEP.9.2.12.C.1	Review career goals and determine steps necessary for attainment.
CAEP.9.2.12.C.3	Identify transferable career skills and design alternate career plans.
TECH.8.1.12.D.1	Demonstrate appropriate application of copyright, fair use and/or Creative Commons to an original work.
TECH.8.1.12.E.CS3	Evaluate and select information sources and digital tools based on the appropriateness for specific tasks.

Essential Questions

What are the principles of energy and how can I apply them to my own writing?

What are the basic principles that form the foundation for everything creative writers do?

How can I manipulate energy to strengthen my own writing?

Is there such a thing as too much energy?

Knowledge and Skills

Students will learn the following:

A good writer can make any topic interesting.

Leaping is one of the most effective energizing techniques available and the simplest to master.

Simple, specific words will create more energy than vague abstract words.

Good writers keep their writing energized by varying the pace.

The two aspects of point of view are proximity and intimacy.

Students should remain consistent with point of view.

Students will be able to do the following:

Write energetic pieces about lively specific subjects they know intimately.

Identify an example of each of the principles of energy - subjects, leaps, and word choices.

Analyze how leaps energize different pieces of writing.

Identify a place in a piece where the pace changes throughout a paragraph or stanza.

Generate energy by avoiding word packages (cliche statements) and focus instead on creating interesting, unusual combinations.

Distinguish between concrete and abstract words.

Use strong, vivid, and clear verbs and avoid using filters (thinking words).

Identify point of a view in a variety of different works and discuss proximity and intimacy.

From *The Practice of Creative Writing* by Heather Sellers

Transfer Goals

Students will independently be able to understand how energy is sustained in a piece and apply that knowledge to their own writing by utilizing strong verbs, specific details, and leaps.

Students will independently be able to understand how to manipulate energy and apply that knowledge to their own writing by varying the pace and maintaining a consistent point of view.

Assessment

https://docs.google.com/document/d/1_w12qVbVV7OTThc9VW43HSpZm3Czh9kegRwYqjMm7fQ/edit?usp=sharing

Modifications

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

