

# Unit 6: Ordinary Lives, Extraordinary Tales

Content Area: **ELA**  
Course(s): **ELA 3H**  
Time Period: **MayJun**  
Length: **28 Days, Grade 11**  
Status: **Published**

## **Title Section**

---

## **Department of Curriculum and Instruction**



**Belleville Public Schools**

**Curriculum Guide**

**English 3H, Grade 11**

**Unit 6: Ordinary Lives, Extraordinary Tales**

**Belleville Board of Education**

**102 Passaic Avenue**

**Belleville, NJ 07109**

**Prepared by:** Mrs. Danielle Santosusso

Dr. Richard Tomko, Ph.D., M.J., Superintendent of Schools

Ms. LucyAnn Demikoff, Director of Curriculum and Instruction K-12

Ms. Nicole Shanklin, Director of Elementary Education

Mr. George Droste, Director of Secondary Education

Board Approved: September 23, 2019

## **Unit Overview**

---

Throughout Unit 6: Ordinary Lives, Extraordinary Tales, you will read many examples about the human condition. Students will understand that the similarities between all human being far outnumber the differences and how individuals can make an impact on their community, through direct involvement and advocacy.

## **Enduring Understanding**

---

### **Reading**

By reading and evaluating narrative texts and short stories, students will better understand the various ways writers have for telling a story.

## **Writing and Research**

By knowing the elements of a narrative as a writing mode and writing their own narratives, students will write for a number of reasons including organizing and sharing ideas, reflecting on experiences, and gathering evidence by researching to clarify and explore ideas.

## **Language**

By developing a deeper understanding of style choices and practicing the elements of a story in their own writing, students will perfect narrative writing.

## **Speaking and Listening**

By working together to build on one another's ideas, develop a consensus, and communicate with their peers, students will learn how to incorporate audio, visuals, and text in presentations.

## **Essential Questions**

---

What do stories reveal about the human condition?

## **Exit Skills**

---

- Analyze text
- Review and clarify the meaning of text
- Present passages and discuss conclusions reached
- Determine meaning of unknown or multi-meaning words and phrases
- Analyze craft and structure of text
- Research, gather, and present information
- Write, present, and review evidence of a narrative
- Speaking and listening: informal talk amongst peers

## **New Jersey Student Learning Standards (NJSLS-S)**

---

LA.RL.11-12.1

Cite strong and thorough textual evidence and make relevant connections to support analysis of what the text says explicitly as well as inferences drawn from the text, including determining where the text leaves matters uncertain.

LA.RL.11-12.2	Determine two or more themes or central ideas of a text and analyze their development over the course of the text, including how they interact and build on one another to produce a complex account; provide an objective summary of the text.
LA.RL.11-12.3	Analyze the impact of the author's choices regarding how to develop and relate elements of a story or drama (e.g., where a story is set, how the action is ordered, how the characters are introduced and developed).
LA.RL.11-12.4	Determine the meaning of words and phrases as they are used in the text, including figurative and connotative meanings; analyze the impact of specific word choices on meaning and tone, including words with multiple meanings or language that is particularly fresh, engaging, or beautiful. (e.g., Shakespeare as well as other authors.)
LA.RL.11-12.5	Analyze how an author's choices concerning how to structure specific parts of a text (e.g., the choice of where to begin or end a story, the choice to provide a comedic or tragic resolution) contribute to its overall structure and meaning as well as its aesthetic impact.
LA.RL.11-12.6	Analyze a case in which grasping a point of view requires distinguishing what is directly stated in a text from what is really meant (e.g., satire, sarcasm, irony, or understatement).
LA.RI.11-12.1	Accurately cite strong and thorough textual evidence, (e.g., via discussion, written response, etc.), to support analysis of what the text says explicitly as well as inferentially, including determining where the text leaves matters uncertain.
LA.RI.11-12.2	Determine two or more central ideas of a text, and analyze their development and how they interact to provide a complex analysis; provide an objective summary of the text.
LA.RI.11-12.3	Analyze a complex set of ideas or sequence of events and explain how specific individuals, ideas, or events interact and develop over the course of the text.
LA.RI.11-12.4	Determine the meaning of words and phrases as they are used in a text, including figurative, connotative, and technical meanings; analyze how an author uses and refines the meaning of a key term or terms over the course of a text (e.g., how Madison defines faction in Federalist No. 10).
LA.RI.11-12.5	Analyze and evaluate 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.
LA.RI.11-12.6	Determine an author's point of view or purpose in a text in which the rhetoric is particularly effective, analyzing how style and content contribute to the power, persuasiveness or beauty of the text.
LA.W.11-12.1	Write arguments to support claims in an analysis of substantive topics or texts, using valid reasoning and relevant and sufficient evidence.
LA.W.11-12.2	Write informative/explanatory texts to examine and convey complex ideas, concepts, and information clearly and accurately through the effective selection, organization, and analysis of content.
LA.W.11-12.3	Write narratives to develop real or imagined experiences or events using effective technique, well-chosen details, and well-structured event sequences.
LA.W.11-12.4	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.11-12.5	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.11-12.6	Use technology, including the Internet, to produce, share, and update individual or shared writing products in response to ongoing feedback, including new arguments or information.
LA.W.11-12.7	Conduct short as well as more sustained research projects to answer a question (including a self-generated question) or solve a problem; narrow or broaden the inquiry when

	appropriate; synthesize multiple sources on the subject, demonstrating understanding of the subject under investigation.
LA.W.11-12.8	Gather relevant information from multiple authoritative print and digital sources, using advanced searches effectively; assess the strengths and limitations of each source in terms of the task, purpose, and audience; integrate information into the text selectively to maintain the flow of ideas, avoiding plagiarism and overreliance on any one source and following a standard format for citation. (MLA or APA Style Manuals).
LA.W.11-12.9	Draw evidence from literary or informational texts to support analysis, reflection, and research.
LA.W.11-12.10	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.
LA.SL.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.
LA.L.11-12.1	Demonstrate command of the conventions of standard English grammar and usage when writing or speaking.
LA.L.11-12.2	Demonstrate command of the conventions of standard English capitalization, punctuation, and spelling when writing.
LA.11-12.SL.11-12.2	Integrate multiple sources of information presented in diverse formats and media (e.g., visually, quantitatively, orally) in order to make informed decisions and solve problems, evaluating the credibility and accuracy of each source and noting any discrepancies among the data.

## **Interdisciplinary Connections**

---

- Read Primary British documents to enhance literary discussion
- Research British colonies
- Read Primary American documents
- Analyze and compare contrast government goals

## **Learning Objectives**

---

- Analyze Syntax
- Identify Mood
- Analyze Craft and Structure
- Identify changes in Conventions and style
- Evaluate a speaker's voice
- Analyze an author's viewpoint
- Identify words that relate to physical actions and behavior
- Compare and contrast words that suggest extremes
- Categorize examples of repeated words
- Write a narrative

**Action Verbs:** Below are examples of action verbs associated with each level of the Revised Bloom's Taxonomy.

Remember	Understand	Apply	Analyze	Evaluate	Create
Choose Describe Define Label List Locate Match Memorize Name Omit Recite Select State Count Draw Outline Point Quote Recall Recognize Repeat Reproduce	Classify Defend Demonstrate Distinguish Explain Express Extend Give Examples Illustrate Indicate Interrelate Interpret Infer Match Paraphrase Represent Restate Rewrite Select Show Summarize Tell Translate Associate Compute Convert Discuss Estimate Extrapolate Generalize Predict	Choose Dramatize Explain Generalize Judge Organize Paint Prepare Produce Select Show Sketch Solve Use Add Calculate Change Classify Complete Compute Discover Divide Examine Graph Interpolate Manipulate Modify Operate Subtract	Categorize Classify Compare Differentiate Distinguish Identify Infer Point out Select Subdivide Survey Arrange Breakdown Combine Detect Diagram Discriminate Illustrate Outline Point out Separate	Appraise Judge Criticize Defend Compare Assess Conclude Contrast Critique Determine Grade Justify Measure Rank Rate Support Test	Combine Compose Construct Design Develop Formulate Hypothesize Invent Make Originate Organize Plan Produce Role Play Drive Devise Generate Integrate Prescribe Propose Reconstruct Revise Rewrite Transform



### **Suggested Activities & Best Practices**

---

- Supplement the unit: Form literature circles and have the students read one of the trade books throughout the course of the unit as a supplement to the selections and activities.
- Substitute for unit selections: If you replace unit selections with a trade book, review the standards taught with those selections. Teacher Resources that provide practice with all standards are available.
- Extend Independent Learning: Extend the unit by replacing independent reading selections with one of these trade books: *The Help*, *The Glass Castle*, or *Of Mice and Men*.
- Pacing: However you choose to integrate trade books, the Pacing Guide offers suggestions for aligning the trade books with this unit.

### **Assessment Evidence - Checking for Understanding (CFU)**

---

Blog responses to Essential Question: What do stories reveal about the human condition? - formative assessment

Peer comments after the unit on Essential Questions Blogs. - alternative assessment

Socratic Seminars - formative assessment

Narrative Writing: How does a fictional character(s) respond to life changing news? - summative assessment

- Admit Tickets
- Anticipation Guide
- Common Benchmarks
- Compare & Contrast
- Create a Multimedia Poster
- DBQ's
- Define
- Describe
- Evaluate
- Evaluation rubrics
- Exit Tickets
- Explaining
- Fist- to-Five or Thumb-Ometer
- Illustration
- Journals
- KWL Chart
- Learning Center Activities
- Multimedia Reports
- Newspaper Headline
- Outline
- Question Stems
- Quickwrite
- Quizzes
- Red Light, Green Light
- Self- assessments
- Socratic Seminar
- Study Guide
- Surveys
- Teacher Observation Checklist
- Think, Pair, Share
- Think, Write, Pair, Share
- Top 10 List
- Unit review/Test prep



- Unit tests
- Web-Based Assessments
- Written Reports

## **Primary Resources & Materials**

---

Textbook: myPerspectives

Anchor Text: Everyday Use by Alice Walker (with media connection)

Anchor Text: Everything Stuck to Him by Raymond Carver

Anchor Text: The Leap by Louise Erdrich

Literary History: A Brief History of the Short Story by D. F. McCourt

Short Story: An Occurrence at Owl Creek Bridge by Ambrose Bierce

Short Story: The Jilting of Granny Weatherall by Katherine Anne Porter

Other materials used at the teacher's discretion.

## **Ancillary Resources**

---

- Short Story: The Tell Tale Heart by Edgar Allan Poe
- Short Story: The Man to Send Rain Clouds by Leslie Marmon Slika
- Short Story: Ambush by Tim O'Brien
- Short Story: Housepointing by Lan Sanantha Chang

Supplemental Novels

- The Help by Kathryn Stockett
- The Glass Castle by Jeanette Walls
- Of Mice and Men by John Steinbeck

Other materials used at the teacher's discretion.

## **Technology Infusion**

---

- <https://www.pearsonrealize.com>
- Subscription videos/Current events

- Online supplemental reading/Tradebooks/Leveled books/Leveled informational texts
- Interactive Student Edition textbook
- Digital Courseware
- Audio summaries
- EL Support Lesson
- Online assessments
- SafeAssign Plagiarism Checker
- Online Discussion boards
- Essay scorer
- PowerPoint Presentations
- Google Classroom
- Google Drive

Originally taken from <http://www.coetail.com/vzimmer/files/2013/02/IPadagogy-Wheel.001.jpg>  
And adapted for Windows 8.1 devices by Charlotte Beckhurst @CharBeckhurst

Wikipedia  
Skydrive  
Lync  
SkyMap  
Skype  
Office 365  
Puzzle Touch  
Easy QR  
Memorylage  
Life Moments  
Word Cloud Maker

Ted Talks  
Record Voice Pen



## **Alignment to 21st Century Skills & Technology**

---

### 21st Century Skills & Technology:

- English Language Arts;
- Social Studies, including American History, World History, Geography, Government and Civics, and Economics;
- World languages;
- Technology;
- Visual and Performing Arts.

CRP.K-12.CRP1	Act as a responsible and contributing citizen and employee.
CRP.K-12.CRP2	Apply appropriate academic and technical skills.
CRP.K-12.CRP4	Communicate clearly and effectively and with reason.
CRP.K-12.CRP6	Demonstrate creativity and innovation.
CRP.K-12.CRP7	Employ valid and reliable research strategies.
CRP.K-12.CRP8	Utilize critical thinking to make sense of problems and persevere in solving them.
CRP.K-12.CRP9	Model integrity, ethical leadership and effective management.
CRP.K-12.CRP11	Use technology to enhance productivity.
TECH.8.1.12	Educational Technology: All students will use digital tools to access, manage, evaluate, and synthesize information in order to solve problems individually and collaborate and to create and communicate knowledge.
TECH.8.1.12.B	Creativity and Innovation: Students demonstrate creative thinking, construct knowledge and develop innovative products and process using technology.

## **21st Century Skills/Interdisciplinary Themes**

---

- Communication and Collaboration
- Creativity and Innovation
- Critical thinking and Problem Solving
- ICT (Information, Communications and Technology) Literacy
- Information Literacy
- Life and Career Skills
- Media Literacy

## **21st Century Skills**

---

- Civic Literacy
- Environmental Literacy
- Financial, Economic, Business and Entrepreneurial Literacy
- Global Awareness
- Health Literacy

## **Differentiation**

---

Differentiations:

- Extra time to complete assignments
- Repeat directions in class and on teacher website
- Preview material on teacher website

Hi-Prep Differentiations:

- Leveled rubric (student made)
- Literature Circles/Socratic Seminar

Lo-Prep Differentiations

- Flexible grouping/seating among classmates
- Think-Pair-Share Online Blog entries

## **Special Education Learning (IEP's & 504's)**

---

- Provide modifications in workload and extended time as specified in the student's IEP/504 plan
  - Allow extra time for online blog submissions
  - Allow student to preview the material via teacher website
- Use of computer or electronic device during class to follow lesson, take notes, refer to HW for discussion
- Modeled AP essays and multiple choice questions with discussions for student retention.

- printed copy of board work/notes provided
- additional time for skill mastery
- assistive technology
- behavior management plan
- Center-Based Instruction
- check work frequently for understanding
- computer or electronic device utilizes
- extended time on tests/ quizzes
- have student repeat directions to check for understanding
- highlighted text visual presentation
- modified assignment format
- modified test content
- modified test format
- modified test length
- multi-sensory presentation
- multiple test sessions
- preferential seating
- preview of content, concepts, and vocabulary
- Provide modifications as dictated in the student's IEP/504 plan
- reduced/shortened reading assignments
- Reduced/shortened written assignments
- secure attention before giving instruction/directions
- shortened assignments
- student working with an assigned partner
- teacher initiated weekly assignment sheet
- Use open book, study guides, test prototypes

## **English Language Learning (ELL)**

---

-Allow for shorter blog and homework responses

-Use of Youtube videos and Screencasts of lessons for student retention and clarification of material located on teacher's website.

- teaching key aspects of a topic. Eliminate nonessential information
- using videos, illustrations, pictures, and drawings to explain or clarify
- allowing products (projects, timelines, demonstrations, models, drawings, dioramas, poster boards,

charts, graphs, slide shows, videos, etc.) to demonstrate student's learning;

- allowing students to correct errors (looking for understanding)
- allowing the use of note cards or open-book during testing
- decreasing the amount of work presented or required
- having peers take notes or providing a copy of the teacher's notes
- modifying tests to reflect selected objectives
- providing study guides
- reducing or omitting lengthy outside reading assignments
- reducing the number of answer choices on a multiple choice test
- tutoring by peers
- using computer word processing spell check and grammar check features
- using true/false, matching, or fill in the blank tests in lieu of essay tests

## **At Risk**

---

-Reduce multiple choice options and build the options back into the lessons as the year progresses

-Provide a copy of the teacher's notes on the class website

-Screencast a lesson/discussion.

- allowing students to correct errors (looking for understanding)
- teaching key aspects of a topic. Eliminate nonessential information
- allowing products (projects, timelines, demonstrations, models, drawings, dioramas, poster boards, charts, graphs, slide shows, videos, etc.) to demonstrate student's learning
- allowing students to select from given choices
- allowing the use of note cards or open-book during testing
- collaborating (general education teacher and specialist) to modify vocabulary, omit or modify items to reflect objectives for the student, eliminate sections of the test, and determine how the grade will be determined prior to giving the test.
- decreasing the amount of work presented or required
- having peers take notes or providing a copy of the teacher's notes
- marking students' correct and acceptable work, not the mistakes
- modifying tests to reflect selected objectives
- providing study guides
- reducing or omitting lengthy outside reading assignments
- reducing the number of answer choices on a multiple choice test
- tutoring by peers
- using authentic assessments with real-life problem-solving
- using true/false, matching, or fill in the blank tests in lieu of essay tests
- using videos, illustrations, pictures, and drawings to explain or clarify

## **Talented and Gifted Learning (T&G)**

---

-Create two blogs about the unit (before and after)

-Allow students to work at a faster pace by having material assessable two weeks prior

- Above grade level placement option for qualified students
- Advanced problem-solving
- Allow students to work at a faster pace
- Cluster grouping
- Complete activities aligned with above grade level text using Benchmark results
- Create a blog or social media page about their unit
- Create a plan to solve an issue presented in the class or in a text
- Debate issues with research to support arguments
- Flexible skill grouping within a class or across grade level for rigor
- Higher order, critical & creative thinking skills, and discovery
- Multi-disciplinary unit and/or project
- Teacher-selected instructional strategies that are focused to provide challenge, engagement, and growth opportunities
- Utilize exploratory connections to higher-grade concepts
- Utilize project-based learning for greater depth of knowledge

## **Sample Lesson**

---

Sample lesson is located in Unit 1.