

English II - Unit II - Informational Texts (Non-Fiction and Rhetoric)

Content Area: **English**
Course(s):
Time Period: **Marking Period 1**
Length: **Yearlong**
Status: **Published**

State Mandated Topics Addressed in this Unit

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Climate Control	LGBTQIA+

NON-FICTION AND RHETORIC

Standards

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.A	Use parallel structure.
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.SS.9–10.1.C	Use a semicolon (and perhaps a conjunctive adverb) to link two or more closely related independent clauses.
ELA.L.SS.9–10.1.D	Use a colon to introduce a list or quotation.
ELA.L.SS.9–10.1.E	Recognize spelling conventions.
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.A	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.
ELA.L.KL.9–10.2.B	Vary word choice and sentence structure to demonstrate an understanding of the influence of language.
ELA.L.KL.9–10.2.C	Demonstrate independence in gathering vocabulary knowledge when considering a word or phrase important to comprehension or expression.
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.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.

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.VL.9–10.3.D	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.
ELA.L.VL.9–10.3.E	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).
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.RI.CR.9–10.1	Cite a range and thorough textual evidence and make clear and relevant connections, to strongly support an analysis of multiple aspects of what an informational text says explicitly and inferentially, as well as interpretations of the text.
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.RI.CI.9–10.2	Determine one or more central ideas of an informational text and analyze how it is developed and refined over the course of a 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.RI.IT.9–10.3	Analyze how an author unfolds ideas throughout the text, including the order in which the points are made, how they are introduced and developed, and the connections that are drawn between them.
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.RI.TS.9–10.4	Analyze in detail the author’s choices concerning the structure of ideas or claims of a text, and how they are developed and refined by particular sentences, paragraphs, or larger portions of a text (e.g., a section or chapter).
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.RI.PP.9–10.5	Determine an author’s purpose in a text (including cultural experience and knowledge reflected in text originating outside the United States) and analyze how an author uses rhetorical devices to advance that purpose.
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.RI.MF.9–10.6	Analyze, integrate, and evaluate multiple interpretations (e.g., charts, graphs, diagrams, videos) of a single text or text/s presented in different formats (visually, quantitatively) as well as in words in order to address a question or solve a problem.
ELA.RI.AA.9–10.7	Describe and evaluate the argument and specific claims in an informational text, assessing whether the reasoning is valid and the evidence is relevant and sufficient; identify false statements and reasoning.
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.RI.CT.9–10.8	Analyze and reflect on (e.g., practical knowledge, historical/cultural context, and background knowledge) seminal and informational text of historical and scientific significance, including how they relate in terms of themes and significant concepts.
ELA.W	Writing
ELA.W.AW.9–10.1	Write arguments to support claims in an analysis of substantive topics or texts, using valid reasoning and relevant and sufficient textual and non-textual evidence.
ELA.W.AW.9–10.1.A	Introduce precise claim(s), distinguish the claim(s) from alternate or opposing claims, and create an organization that establishes clear relationships among claim(s), counterclaims, reasons, and evidence.
ELA.W.AW.9–10.1.B	Develop claim(s) and counterclaims using sound reasoning, supplying data and evidence for each while pointing out the strengths and limitations of both claim(s) and counterclaims in a discipline-appropriate manner that anticipates the audience’s knowledge level and concerns.
ELA.W.AW.9–10.1.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.9–10.1.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.9–10.1.E	Provide a concluding paragraph or section that supports the argument presented.
ELA.W.IW.9–10.2	Write informative/explanatory texts (including the narration of historical events, scientific procedures/experiments, or technical processes) to examine and convey complex ideas, concepts, and information clearly and accurately through the effective selection, organization, and analysis of content.
ELA.W.IW.9–10.2.A	Introduce a topic; organize complex 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 in comprehension.
ELA.W.IW.9–10.2.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.
ELA.W.IW.9–10.2.C	Use appropriate and varied transitions to link the major sections of the text, create cohesion, and clarify the relationships among complex ideas and concepts.
ELA.W.IW.9–10.2.D	Use precise language and domain-specific vocabulary to manage the complexity of the topic.
ELA.W.IW.9–10.2.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.

ELA.W.IW.9–10.2.F	Provide a concluding paragraph or section that supports the information or explanation presented (e.g., articulating implications or the significance of the topic).
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.WR.9–10.5	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.
ELA.W.SE.9–10.6	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).
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.
ELA.SL.II.9–10.2	Integrate multiple sources of information presented in diverse media or formats (e.g., visually, quantitatively, qualitatively, orally) evaluating the credibility and accuracy of each source.

ELA.SL.ES.9–10.3	Evaluate a speaker’s point of view, reasoning, and use of evidence and rhetoric, identifying any false reasoning or distorted evidence.
ELA.SL.PI.9–10.4	Present information, findings, and supporting evidence clearly, concisely, and logically. The content, organization, development, and style are appropriate to task, purpose, and audience.
ELA.SL.UM.9–10.5	Make strategic use of digital media (e.g., textual, graphical, audio, visual, and interactive elements) in presentations to enhance findings, reasoning, and evidence and to add interest.
ELA.SL.AS.9–10.6	Adapt speech to a variety of contexts and tasks, demonstrating command of formal English.

Learning Objectives

- Eraser - Identifying key themes such as Coming of Age and the Lasting Effect of Early Romantic Relationships.
- 2025 - Analyze why vivid storytelling invites readers and watchers to confront their fears, transforming them into a source of inspiration that fuels the imagination and drives the narrative forward.
- 2025 - Engage in discussions to evaluate different interpretations of the text that highlight a central theme of art and culture in the world
- 2025 - Making inferences based on the text and supporting them with evidence.
- 2025 - Mini Horror Unit - Argue why King illustrates that fear is not merely a reaction to external threats but also a powerful catalyst for creativity, prompting individuals to explore uncharted territories in their minds.
- Benchmark - Analyze informational data from personal results and decipher skill self-needs for informational, literary, and vocabulary text.
- Critical textual annotation will be taught in addition to syntax variety, figurative language, and narrative structure.
- Developing well-organized textual evidence to support written and oral analysis of a given text.
- Eraser - Analyzing the use of symbolism, particularly the eraser tattoo, and its significance in the narrative.
- Eraser - Understanding the concept of textual evidence and its importance in supporting analysis.
- Respond to assigned secondary, informational readings and/or short videos.
- Respond to specific passages in the primary text to analyze literary elements and in response to narrative structure, the development of characters and themes, and figurative language.
- Scoff - Students will be able to cite a range of thorough textual evidence and make clear and relevant connections to strongly support an analysis of multiple aspects of what an informational text says explicitly and inferentially, as well as interpretations of the text.
- Scoff & Eraser - Engaging in discussions to evaluate different interpretations of the text.
- Scoff & Eraser - Making inferences based on the text and supporting them with evidence.

Essential Skills

Writing Skills

- Determine and address the audience appropriately (W.9-10.4)
- Develop and use appropriate planning templates (W.9-10.5)
- Identify and understand the writing purpose (W.9-10.4)
- Understand and utilize revision techniques (W.9-10.5)
- Use relevant and sufficient facts, definitions, details, and quotes (W.9-10.2)
- Use sources that are appropriate to task, audience, and purpose (W.9-10.2)
- Use technology proficiently for production, publication, and collaboration (W.9-10.6)

Language Skills

- Apply knowledge of language to make effective choices to shape the meaning and style (L.9-10.3)
- Identify and use various types of phrases and clauses (L.9-10.1)
- Understand concepts of parallelism (i.e.; repeated grammatical patterns, types of phrases, and types of clauses) and how to use effectively (L.9-10.1)
- Use a colon to introduce a list or quotation (L.9-10.2)
- Use a semicolon or conjunctive adverb to link two or more closely related independent clauses (L.9-10.2)
- Use context clues to derive word meaning (connotation, denotation, word function and position) (L.9-10.4)
- Vary sentence structure to convey specific meaning and interest in writing and presentation (L.9-10.1)

Reading Skills

- Analyze how the author presents the ideas or events and how the ideas are introduced, sequenced, and developed to contribute to the overall purpose of the text (RL.9-10.3; RI.9-10.3)
- Analyze relationship between implicit and explicit text evidence and how it contributes to the meaning of the text (RL.9-10.1; RI.9-10.1)
- Analyze the text for inferred and literal meanings (RL.9-10.1; RI.9-10.1)
- Determine a theme and central idea (RL.9-10.2; RI.9-10.2)
- Determine how the theme/central idea emerges and is refined or strengthened by key details (RL.9-10.2; RI.9-10.2)
- Identify explicit and implicit textual evidence (RL.9-10.1; RI.9-10.1)
- Identify rhetorical devices and text structures that may develop the purpose of piece (RI.9-10.6)
- Identify rhetorical devices and text structures that may develop the purpose of piece (RL.9-10.6; RI.9-10.6)
- Recognize and understand a particular point of view or cultural experience reflected in a text from outside the United States (RL.9-10.6)
- Understand how word choice impacts meaning (figurative, connotative, technical meaning) (RL.9-10.4; RI.9-10.4)

Instructional Tasks/Activities

- Academic Modeling / Note-taking and Analysis
- Academic Reading Purpose / Literary Elements, Conventions, and Critical Plot Points
- Academic Reading Skill / Highlight and Annotate text
- Class Discussion
- Collaborative Activity
- Constructing, writing, and editing drafts
- Essay / MLA Essay
- Powerful Task Design Concept (Antonetti)
- Reading Comprehension
- Research Process
- Short Quiz Assessment
- Short Written Response in response to reading(s) and viewing(s)
- Teacher Observation
- Test Assessment (Multiple Choice, Quotation Analysis, and Open-ended Response)
- Vocabulary Exercise (Content-related)

Assessment Procedure

- Classroom Total Participation Technique
- Classwork
- DBQ
- Essay
- Exit Ticket/Entrance Ticket/Do Now
- Journal / Student Reflection
- Kahoot
- Other named in lesson
- Peer Review
- Performance
- Problem Correction
- Project
- Quiz
- Rubric
- Teacher / Artist Conference (One-on-one)
- Teacher Collected Data
- Test
- Worksheet

Recommended Technology Activities

- Appropriate Content Specific Online Resource
- Chromebook
- Copy/Paste Content Specific Link Here
- Copy/Paste Content Specific Link Here
- Copy/Paste Content Specific Link Here
- Gimkit
- GoGuardian
- Google Classroom
- Google Docs
- Google Forms
- Google Slides
- Kahoot
- MagicSchool AI
- Other- Specified in Lesson
- Quiziz
- Screencastify

Accommodations & Modifications & Differentiation

Accommodations and Modifications should be used to meet individual needs. Their IEP and 504 plans should be used in addition to the following suggestions.

Gifted and Talented

- Compare & Contrast
- Conferencing
- Debates
- Jigsaw
- Peer Partner Learning
- Problem Solving
- Structured Controversy
- Think, Pair, Share
- Tutorial Groups

Instruction/Materials

- alter format of materials (type/highlight, etc.)
- color code materials
- eliminate answers
- extended time
- extended time
- large print
- modified quiz
- modified test
- Modify Assignments as Needed
- Modify/Repeat/Model directions
- necessary assignments only
- Other (specify in plans)
- other- named in lesson
- provide assistance and cues for transitions
- provide daily assignment list
- read class materials orally
- reduce work load
- shorten assignments
- study guide/outline
- utilize multi-sensory modes to reinforce instruction

Environment

- alter physical room environment
- assign peer tutors/work buddies/note takers
- assign preferential seating
- individualized instruction/small group
- modify student schedule (Describe)
- other- please specify in plans
- provide desktop list/formula

Honors Modifications

Resources

- “A Cheerleader’s Vulgar Message Prompts a First Amendment Showdown” by Adam Liptak (News)
- “Free Speech in High School” by the Foundation for Individual Rights in Education (Informational)

- “Godfather of Graffiti” by Philadelphia Weekly Staff (Feature Article)
- “Graffiti Artists Awarded \$6.7 Million for Destroyed 5Pointz Murals” by Alan Feuer (News Article)
- “He—y, Come on Ou—t!” by Shinichi Hoshi (translated by Stanleigh Jones) (Short Story)
- “High School Junior Sues School District For Free Speech Infringement, Wins Settlement” by The Free Speech Project (Informational)
- “Lee Sherman and the Toxic Louisiana Bayou” by Arlie Hochschild (Narrative Non-fiction)
- “Letter to Someone Living Fifty Years from Now” by Matthew Olzmann (Poem)
- “Make Memories & Leave No Trace” by United States National Park Service (Informational)
- “Overlooked No More: The Underground Graffiti Adventures of Dondi” by David Gonzalez (Feature Article)
- “Quiet Town” by Jason Gurley (Short Story)
- “Song for the Turtles in the Gulf” by Linda Hogan (Poem)
- “The Problem of Graffiti” by Deborah Lamm Weisel (Informational)
- “The Sea Also Rises” by Ron Cassie (Narrative Non-fiction)
- “Tinker v. Des Moines: Freedom of Speech for Students” by Law for Kids (Informational)
- “Trophic Cascade” by Camille T. Dungy (Poem)
- “What is Public Art?” by Penny Balkin Bach (Informational)
- “Wiping Out Graffiti in Houston” by City of Houston, Department of Neighborhoods (Informational)
- 2025 - CommonLit Paired Text (Literary vs Informational)
- 2025 - Eraser Tattoo, Jason Reynolds, 2018, 10th Grade, Lexile: 690
- 2025 - Informational Text - The Complexity of Fear, by Mary C. Lamia, Ph.D., 2011
- 2025 - Informational Text - Why is it fun to be frightened?, Margee Kerr, 2018
- 2025 - Response to Stephen King Essay and Argue Theme
- 2025 - Should we scoff at the idea of love at first sight?, James Kuzner, 2018, 10th Grade, Lexile: 990
- 2025 - STAR Benchmark (Literary, Informational, and Vocabulary Results)
- 2025 - TED Talk - "What Can Fear Teach Us?"
https://www.ted.com/talks/karen_thompson_walker_what_fear_can_teach_us
- 2025 Argumentative Essay - "Why We Crave Horror Movies" by Stephen King
- Argumentative Essay - Informational Text Prompt
- Common Lit Website
- Informational Text - Art and Perspective
- Informational Text - Free Speech and Social Media
- Informational Text and Beyond - Climate Change and Impacts
- Mahanoy Area School District v. B. L. Syllabus (Legal Decision)
- Musical Selections
- Selected Documentaries
- Selected YouTube videos and TED Talks
- Visual Art Selections

