

# LMS ELA 8 Unit 4

Content Area: **ELA**  
Course(s):  
Time Period: **MP4**  
Length:  
Status: **Published**

## Unit Overview

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**Reading Genre Focus:** Informational

**Theme:** Who Am I?

**Anchor Text:** Informational Articles

**Writing Genre Focus:** Informative/Explanatory (Research)

**Pacing Guide:** Unit 4

**Pre-assessment:** Unit 4

**Benchmark:** Unit 4

## Targeted ELA Standards

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Add the appropriate **NJSLS ELA** standards with which this unit aligns. This is done by clicking "actions" and then "add standards".

ELA.L.SS.8.1	Demonstrate command of the system and structure of the English language when writing or speaking.
ELA.L.KL.8.2	Use knowledge of language and its conventions when writing, speaking, reading, or listening.
ELA.L.VL.8.3	Determine or clarify the meaning of unknown and multiple-meaning words or phrases based on grade 8 reading and content, including technical meanings, choosing flexibly from a range of strategies.
ELA.L.VI.8.4	Demonstrate understanding of figurative language, word relationships, and nuances in

word meanings.

ELA.RL.CR.8.1	Cite a range of textual evidence and make clear and relevant connections to strongly support an analysis of multiple aspects of what a literary text says explicitly as well as inferences drawn from the text.
ELA.RI.CR.8.1	Cite a range of textual evidence and make clear and relevant connections (including informational text features such as charts, graphs, and diagrams) that strongly support an analysis of multiple aspects of what an informational text says explicitly, as well as inferences drawn from the text.
ELA.RL.CI.8.2	Determine a theme of a literary text and how it is conveyed through particular details; provide a summary of the text distinct from personal opinions or judgments.
ELA.RI.CI.8.2	Determine a central idea of an informational text and how it is conveyed through particular details; provide a summary of the text distinct from personal opinions or judgments.
ELA.RL.IT.8.3	Analyze how particular elements of a text interact (e.g., how setting shapes the characters or plot, how ideas influence individuals or events, or how characters influence ideas or events) across multiple text types, including across literary and informational texts.
ELA.RI.IT.8.3	Analyze how particular elements of a text interact (e.g., how contexts influence individuals or events, or how individuals influence ideas or events) across multiple text types, including across literary and informational texts.
ELA.RI.PP.8.5	Analyze how an author conveys or develops their perspective or purpose in a text and by acknowledging and responding to conflicting evidence or viewpoints.
ELA.RI.MF.8.6	Evaluate the choices made (by the authors, directors, or actors) when presenting an idea in different mediums and the advantages and disadvantages of using different mediums or formats (e.g., visually, quantitatively) to address a question or solve a problem.
ELA.RI.AA.8.7	Delineate and evaluate the argument and specific claims in a text, assessing whether the reasoning is sound and the evidence is relevant and sufficient; recognize when irrelevant evidence is introduced.
ELA.RI.CT.8.8	Analyze and reflect on (e.g., practical knowledge, historical/cultural context, and background knowledge) two or more informational texts that provide conflicting information on the same topic and identify where the texts disagree on matters of fact or interpretation.
ELA.W.IW.8.2	Write informative/explanatory texts (including the narration of historical events, scientific procedures/experiments, or technical processes) to examine a topic and convey ideas, concepts, and information through the selection, organization, and analysis of relevant content.
ELA.W.WP.8.4	With some guidance and support from peers and adults, develop and strengthen writing as needed by planning, sustaining effort to complete complex writing tasks; seeking out assistance, models, sources or feedback to improve understanding or refine final products; focusing on how well purpose and audience have been addressed.
ELA.W.WR.8.5	Conduct short research projects to answer a question (including a self-generated question), drawing on several sources and generating additional related, focused questions that allow for multiple avenues of exploration.
ELA.W.SE.8.6	Gather relevant information from multiple print and digital sources, using search terms effectively; assess the credibility and accuracy of each source; and quote or paraphrase the data and conclusions of others while avoiding plagiarism and following a standard format for citation.
ELA.W.RW.8.7	Write routinely over extended time frames (time for research, reflection, metacognition/self-correction, and revision) and shorter time frames (a single sitting or a day or two) for a range of discipline-specific tasks, purposes, and audiences.
ELA.SL.PE.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.

ELA.SL.II.8.2

Analyze the purpose of information presented in diverse media and formats (e.g., visually, quantitatively, orally) and evaluate the motives (e.g., social, commercial, political) behind its presentation.

ELA.SL.PI.8.4

Present claims and findings, emphasizing salient points in a focused, coherent manner with relevant evidence, sound valid reasoning, and well-chosen details; use appropriate eye contact, adequate volume, and clear pronunciation.

ELA.SL.UM.8.5

Integrate multimedia and visual displays into presentations to clarify information, strengthen claims and evidence, and add interest.

ELA.SL.AS.8.6

Adapt speech to a variety of contexts and tasks, demonstrating command of formal English when indicated or appropriate.

## Weekly Structure

Day One		Day Two		Day Three		Day Four		Day Five
Reading Focus		Reading Focus		Reading Focus		Writing Focus		Writing Focus
Activity	Suggested Time	Activity	Suggested Time	Activity	Suggested Time	Activity	Suggested Time	Activity
Do Now	10 minutes	Do Now	10 minutes	Do Now	10 minutes	Do Now	10 minutes	Do Now
Reading Mini-Lesson	15 minutes	Reading Mini-Lesson	15 minutes	Reading Mini-Lesson	15 minutes	Writing Mini-Lesson	15 minutes	Writing Mini-Lesson
Small Group Instruction	30 minutes	Small Group Instruction	30 minutes	Small Group Instruction	30 minutes	Small Group Instruction/ Individual Conferences	30 minutes	Small Group Instruction/ Individual Conferences
Closure	5 minutes	Closure	5 minutes	Closure	5 minutes	Closure	5 minutes	Closure

\*Note: If a week is shortened, adjust this schedule to keep the 3:2 ratio (3 days of reading focus and 2 days of writing focus).

## Rationale

The theme of this unit revolves around Who Am I. Recommended texts include informational texts from district-approved materials. Through these texts, students will learn about exploring identity and allowing individuals to understand and articulate their unique attributes, experiences, and roles within society. By the end of this unit, students will understand that the Social Hierarchy of each society has been evident for centuries and attempts to force individuals to conform to the norms that are set.

Mastery of this unit will be demonstrated through a culminating project where students select a topic, conduct research, and collaborate with classmates. This project will include writing a research essay supported by reasons and evidence from credible sources. This research essay will evaluate students' ability to integrate information from multiple texts on the same topic and their ability to analyze and synthesize information in order to write about that topic. Additionally, mastery will be assessed through a benchmark test evaluating

students' ability to determine the structures of informational texts, cite textual evidence, draw conclusions, and analyze the central idea.

## **Enduring Understandings**

### **Overarching Understanding**

Exploring identity allows individuals to understand and articulate their unique attributes, experiences, and roles within society.

Social acceptance may sometimes require some sacrifice of personal honor.

Content Specific	Skills Specific
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Through our studies, we'll explore different parts of personal identity like culture, values, and roles in society, aiming to understand how these shape who we are.</li> <li>• The Social Hierarchy of each society has been evident for centuries and attempts to force individuals to conform to the norms of that are set.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Engaging in informative/explanatory writing, students will develop research skills to gather and synthesize information from multiple sources, articulate their own identity and perspectives, and communicate their findings effectively.</li> <li>• Good Readers can analyze how modern works of fiction take themes, patterns of events, character types etc.. from historical writings and make it new.</li> <li>• Good Readers are able to cite textual evidence to support their analysis about what the text says and infers.</li> </ul>

## **Essential Questions**

### **Overarching Understanding**

What factors contribute to individual identity?

Why might people hide their true selves?

What is more important individuality or social acceptance?

Content Specific	Skills Specific
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• How do various sources portray different</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• How can research and analysis of</li> </ul>

<p>aspects of identity, such as cultural background and societal influences?</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• What role do personal experiences and beliefs play in shaping individual identity?</li> <li>• How do Social influences force individuals to conform to the norms of that are set?</li> </ul>	<p>informational texts deepen our understanding of themes?</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• What strategies are effective in communicating identity and its complexities through informative/explanatory writing?</li> <li>• How can good readers analyze how modern works of fiction and non-fiction take themes, patterns of events, character types etc.. from historical writings and make it new?</li> <li>• How can good readers determine the theme or central idea, and analyze how it develops throughout the text?</li> </ul>
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**Key Resources**

**Newsela text:**

- [Black soldiers are honored, name by name, at a Civil War battlefield](#)

**Informational texts from district-approved resources.**

**Supplementary Resources**

[Additional district-approved secondary ELA instructional resource list](#)

[Warm-Up Activities to Engage Students Before They Read Nonfiction Texts](#)

**Skills, Content, Activity, Assessment**

<b>Month</b>	<b>Weeks</b>	<b>Standards</b>	<b>Suggested Learning Targets</b>	<b>Mini-Lesson Skills</b>	<b>Suggested Student Centered Activities</b>	<b>Resources</b>	<b>Assessment</b>
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April	2	SWBAT demonstrate their knowledge of reading an informational text by taking a pre-assessment.		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Reading Pre-assessment</li> <li>• Writing Pre-assessment</li> </ul>			<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• LinkIt! pre-assessment - reading</li> <li>• Research essay writing pre-assessment</li> </ul>
		SWBAT demonstrate their knowledge of research essay writing by taking a pre-assessment.					
	3-4			<p>Reading Mini-lessons:</p> <p>Writing Mini-lessons:</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <a href="#">Instructional Workshop Model Suggested Activities/Groups</a></li> </ul>		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <a href="#">LMS Suggested Formative Reading Assessments</a></li> </ul>
			<p>Reading Mini-lessons:</p> <p>Writing Mini-lessons:</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <a href="#">Instructional Workshop Model Suggested Activities/Groups</a></li> </ul>		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <a href="#">LMS Suggested Formative Reading Assessments</a></li> </ul>	
May	1-2		<p>Reading Mini-lessons:</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <a href="#">Instructional Workshop Model</a></li> </ul>		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <a href="#">LMS Suggested Formative</a></li> </ul>	

				Writing Mini-lessons:	<a href="#">Suggested Activities/Groups</a>		<a href="#">ve Reading Assessments</a>	
				Reading Mini-lessons:  Writing Mini-lessons:	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <a href="#">Instructional Workshop Model Suggested Activities/Groups</a></li> </ul>		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <a href="#">LMS Suggested Formative Reading Assessments</a></li> </ul>	
	3-4			Reading Mini-lessons:  Writing Mini-lessons:	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <a href="#">Instructional Workshop Model Suggested Activities/Groups</a></li> </ul>		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <a href="#">LMS Suggested Formative Reading Assessments</a></li> </ul>	
				Reading Mini-lessons:  Writing Mini-lessons:	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <a href="#">Instructional Workshop Model Suggested Activities/Groups</a></li> </ul>		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <a href="#">LMS Suggested Formative Reading Assessments</a></li> </ul>	
	June	1-2			Reading Mini-lessons:  Writing Mini-lessons:	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <a href="#">Instructional Workshop Model Suggested Activities/Groups</a></li> </ul>		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <a href="#">LMS Suggested Formative Reading Assessments</a></li> </ul>
				SWBAT to demonstr	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Reading bench</li> </ul>		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <a href="#">End of MP Reflecti</a></li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• LinkIt! Benchmark MP</li> </ul>

		<p>ate their knowledge of an informational text by taking a benchmark assessment.</p> <p>SWBAT reflect on their learning in reading and writing throughout marking period 4 by creating SMART goals.</p>	<p>mark MP 4</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Writing benchmark mark MP 4</li> <li>• End of MP reflection</li> </ul>		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <a href="#">on Research Essay Rubric</a></li> </ul>	<p>4</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• End of MP Reflection</li> </ul>
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### Spiraling for Mastery

Content or Skill for this Unit	Spiral Focus from Previous Unit
<p>Understanding and applying language conventions.</p> <p>Analyzing text structure, determining central ideas.</p> <p>Writing clear, focused informative texts.</p>	<p>Use of context to determine meaning and connotation of words.</p> <p>Analyzing how informational texts present and organize ideas.</p> <p>Conducting research, integrating information from multiple sources, and articulating identity through writing.</p>



## Career Readiness, Life Literacies, and Key Skills

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Please tag the appropriate **2020 NJSL-CLKS** standards that align with the grade band and content/skills of this unit. This is done by clicking "actions" and then "add standards".

CRP.K-12.CRP1.1	Career-ready individuals understand the obligations and responsibilities of being a member of a community, and they demonstrate this understanding every day through their interactions with others. They are conscientious of the impacts of their decisions on others and the environment around them. They think about the near-term and long-term consequences of their actions and seek to act in ways that contribute to the betterment of their teams, families, community and workplace. They are reliable and consistent in going beyond the minimum expectation and in participating in activities that serve the greater good.
CRP.K-12.CRP4.1	Career-ready individuals communicate thoughts, ideas, and action plans with clarity, whether using written, verbal, and/or visual methods. They communicate in the workplace with clarity and purpose to make maximum use of their own and others' time. They are excellent writers; they master conventions, word choice, and organization, and use effective tone and presentation skills to articulate ideas. They are skilled at interacting with others; they are active listeners and speak clearly and with purpose. Career-ready individuals think about the audience for their communication and prepare accordingly to ensure the desired outcome.
CRP.K-12.CRP7.1	Career-ready individuals are discerning in accepting and using new information to make decisions, change practices or inform strategies. They use reliable research process to search for new information. They evaluate the validity of sources when considering the use and adoption of external information or practices in their workplace situation.
CRP.K-12.CRP11.1	Career-ready individuals find and maximize the productive value of existing and new technology to accomplish workplace tasks and solve workplace problems. They are flexible and adaptive in acquiring new technology. They are proficient with ubiquitous technology applications. They understand the inherent risks-personal and organizational-of technology applications, and they take actions to prevent or mitigate these risks.

## Interdisciplinary Connections

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How does this unit connect to standards in other disciplines? Add the appropriate **NJ SLS** here, keeping grade bands in mind. This is done by clicking "actions" and then "add standards".

HE.6-8.2.1.8.EH.2	Analyze how personal attributes, resiliency, and protective factors support mental and emotional health.
SOC.6.3.8.CivicsDP.1	Identify an issue of inequality, develop multiple solutions, and communicate the best one to an appropriate government body.
SOC.6.3.8.CivicsPI.3	Use a variety of sources from multiple perspectives to examine the role of individuals, political parties, interest groups, and the media in a local or global issue and share this information with a governmental or nongovernmental organization as a way to gain support for addressing the issue.