

# 7th Grade Reading & Writing Expository / Informational Text Unit

## Week 1

**Snapshot:** Intro to the unit and the genre; fact vs. opinion vs. commonplace assertions; annotating & close reading; text features & text structures

## Week 2

**Snapshot:** Thesis statements, various types of irony, writing summaries, reviewing simple, compound, complex sentence structures

## Week 3

**Snapshot:** Excerpts from Helen Keller “The Miracle Worker” play; accompanying expository articles about hearing loss; expository writing reflection activities; objective vs. subjective writing

## Week 4

**Snapshot:** Elements of autobiographies, biographies, memoirs; maintaining parallelism in writing (infinitive & participial phrases); writing concisely vs. descriptively (with purpose)

## Week 5

**Snapshot:** Reading and writing compare / contrast text structure; using text evidence to support understanding; revising and editing

## Week 6

**Snapshot:** Concept of online privacy and modern technology; expository passage writing responses; connection to real life issues involving online privacy and media usage

## Week 7

**Snapshot:** Credible vs. non-credible sources for reading & research purposes; finding a topic for research; using embedded quotes from good sources to support your ideas

## Week 8

**Snapshot:** Continuing with use of embedded quotes and how to write meaningful commentary; how to write an intro & conclusion for an essay; rough draft & final draft for research paper

## Week 9

**Snapshot:** End of unit: two days for review activities; two versions of a unit test; follow-up writing activities for engagement & extension



## 7th Grade Reading & Writing Narrative Text Unit

### Week 1

**Snapshot:** Author's point of view, create a heart map for future writing lessons, narrative hook, theme, close reading and annotating, narrative writing comparison analysis

### Week 2

**Snapshot:** Personal writing/storytelling, creating a setting, working with elements of plot in a narrative, realistic storytelling

### Week 3

**Snapshot:** Using simple, compound, complex, and compound-complex sentence styles to enhance the narrative writing experience. Narrative stories and articles for model writing and analysis

### Week 4

**Snapshot:** Using figurative language to enhance writing: similes, metaphors, personification, sound devices

### Week 5

**Snapshot:** Dangling / missing modifiers (sentence clarity); deep dive into figurative language analysis building upon last week's lessons; using text evidence to support analysis of literature

### Week 6

**Snapshot:** More dangling / missing modifiers (sentence clarity); commonly confused words; spiral back to previously taught concepts with deeper analysis of point of view, characterization, figurative language

### Week 7

**Snapshot:** Deeper analysis of plot elements with flashback and foreshadowing; begin two-week in-class writing project focusing on daily student writing activities related to concepts previously learned

### Week 8

**Snapshot:** Deeper analysis of plot elements with dialogue and theme; complete two-week in-class writing project focusing on daily student writing activities related to concepts previously learned

### Week 9

**Snapshot:** End-of-Unit review games and activities; unit test; closing activities related to the overall unit



## 7th Grade Reading & Writing Argument/Persuasion Text Unit

### Week 1

**Snapshot:** Persuasive speeches in movies (appropriate movie clips), introduction to argument/persuasion vocabulary and activities

### Week 2

**Snapshot:** Claims & arguments, persuasive role-playing, argument analysis, close-reading & annotating activities

### Week 3

**Snapshot:** Identifying / creating a thesis; understanding audience awareness; comparing text and video mediums of persuasive elements

### Week 4

**Snapshot:** Using evidence to support your claims, using hooks to “hook” your audience & transition words / phrases to clarify your message, parallelism, call-to-action

### Week 5

**Snapshot:** Capitalization, punctuation, double-sided journal responses, generalizations & stereotypes, debate challenge

### Week 6

**Snapshot:** Cyberbullying, faulty logic, task cards for discussion, types of testimonials in persuasive texts, writing prompts

### Week 7

**Snapshot:** Comparison of two authors’ viewpoints on the same issue (social media usage); annotations, analysis, questions & discussion; using direct quotes from text evidence; small group writing competition

### Week 8

**Snapshot:** This week is all about the meaning and analysis of television commercials. Students will analyze and evaluate the colors, sounds, images, and logos behind popular brands!

### Week 9

**Snapshot:** End-of-Unit review for test (two days) plus one day for the test (last two week days are for culminating activities and time for you to tie up loose ends in class because their’s just never enough time for everything!)



## 7th Grade Reading & Writing Descriptive Text Unit

### Week 1

**Snapshot:** The first four weeks of the descriptive reading and writing unit will focus on poetry. Each week looks at a particular theme within the poems, so this week's focus is on "hopes and dreams" in poetry! We'll also review figurative language, poetic elements, and strategies for analysis.

### Week 2

**Snapshot:** This week's focus is on "choices and decisions" in poetry! After reviewing some basics last week with figurative language and themes, we're moving into the TP-CASTT strategy of analysis this week. Not familiar with TP-CASTT? No worries. You can learn all about it right along with your students! No background prep work needed!

### Week 3

**Snapshot:** This week's poetry theme focus is on overcoming "challenges and setbacks". Students will engage in these highly-accessible poems, strengthening their close-reading and analytical skills by using TP-CASTT strategies. Reading, writing, high-level questioning, and critical thinking are all embedded throughout the unit.

### Week 4

**Snapshot:** This week's focus is on "types of love" in poetry! Students will look at relationships between parents and children, etc. and use DIDLS strategies throughout the week to focus their thinking and questioning around. DIDLS = Diction, Imagery, Details, Language, Syntax. This is the end of the poetry study within the descriptive reading & writing unit.

### Week 5

**Snapshot:** This week, students transition from the poetry aspect of the unit to the elements of fiction and short story portion of the descriptive reading & writing unit. Mini-lessons will focus on setting, plot, irony, etc. as students engage in a short story and all the supporting activities.

### Week 6

**Snapshot:** Elements of fiction and short stories, such as characterization (static / dynamic, direct / indirect) are the focus of lessons and activities this week. Students will look at what drives character motivations, and how different types of conflicts add new dynamics to plot and story outcome.

### Week 7

**Snapshot:** Literary devices— mood, tone, flashback, foreshadow, symbolism (These devices are the basis for this week's activities). Students will end the week with writing



a literary analysis paragraph about the story they read, using text evidence and one of the literary devices studied this week.

### Week 8

**Snapshot:** This week's short story is a sci-fi / futuristic one called "The Chaser." Students will use this story all throughout the week to draw thematic connections across genres (myth & song relations). In addition, this story will also serve as a means through which to review other elements of fiction & literary devices (characterization, foreshadowing, etc.).

### Week 9

**Snapshot:** We made it to the end! You have two options for a review, two options for a test, and then some lighter, creative writing activities for the last couple of days of this week. Those activities are pretty much student-directed so your class can work and you can get those tests graded!

