CORE BODY OF KNOWLEDGE

Literature I Grade 8

For each of the sections that follow, students may be required to analyze, recall, explain, interpret, apply, or evaluate the particular concepts being taught. Students will read two of the following novels in a 60-day period.

The Iron Ring

- Outline the elements of the fantasy genre
- Define five main conflicts and locate examples of conflicts from the novel
- Research a topic on India's culture and teach 8 key facts on their topic to a small group
- Analyze cause and effect relationships based on characters' decisions (law of karma)
- Discuss the influence conscience/code of conduct has on each character's choices
- Apply literary terms and key vocabulary within the novel
- Map the protagonist's journey and discuss the key plot events that occur in each place
- Compare/contrast the main character at the beginning and end of the novel.
- Answer higher-level comprehension questions on each chapter of the novel
- Analyze the author's style and use of cliffhangers

The Call of the Wild

- Summarize the individual chapters via a first person journal
- Chronicle the protagonist's journey throughout the novel
- Sequence the plot events into a graphic organizer
- Describe problem/solution relationships within the novel and the effects the outcome(s) have on the main character
- Apply literary terms and key vocabulary within the novel
- Define words based on context clues
- Discuss the significance of imagery
- Define dialect, slang, and coined words and Translate passages into Modern English
- Compare/contrast the character at the beginning and end of the novel
- Compare and contrast the novel to the movie

The Giver

- Outline the genre of science fiction; discuss the role of setting in a sci-fi novel
- Define theme and determine the messages in the novel
- Apply literary vocabulary within the novel (mood, allusion, hook, irony)
- Recognize cause and effect relationships
- Pull relevant vocabulary words from the chapters in the novel and define them using context clues

- Recognize cause and effect relationships
- Define the types of point of view and determine point of view for this novel
- Compare/contrast the main character at the beginning and end of the novel.
- Answer higher-level comprehension questions on each chapter of the novel
- Analyze the author's style and use of cliffhangers
- Evaluate and analyze the characters and their relationships
- Locate examples of symbolism with the novel and discuss what they symbolize

Dr. Jekyll and Mr. Hyde

- Determine how the main character approaches and manages a problem
- Answer higher-level comprehension questions on each chapter of the novel
- Infer meaning through role-playing activities and discussion
- Analyze the characteristics of both Dr. Jekyll and Mr. Hyde
- Analyze specific cause and effect relationships
- Discuss the roles of the minor characters
- Locate examples of symbolism with the novel and discuss what they symbolize
- Analyze the development of themes
- Sequence the plot events into a graphic organizer
- Describe problem/solution relationships within the novel
- Apply literary terms and key vocabulary within the novel.
- Analyze key quotes from each chapter in the novel.
- Define specific words related to the novel
- Compare and contrast the novel to the movie
- Summarize specific sections of the novel
- Locate examples of suspense from the novel and determine the impact it has on the plot

Protected Novels/Approved Texts

- The Giver
- The Call of the Wild
- The Iron Ring
- Dr. Jekyll and Mr. Hyde