

7th Grade ELA Syllabus - 2026-2027

Time	Units of Study LearnZillion Guidebooks 7th Grade Curriculum	Focus Standards	Major Assignments/Assessments
August-November Note: Specific dates and details will be provided at the start of each unit. Some adjustments may be made to accommodate unforeseen scheduling changes and the instructional needs of students as we move through the semester.	The Giver Students read dystopian literature and related informational texts to understand how individual perspectives are shaped by knowledge and memory and to determine whether perfection is worth the sacrifice. Other texts: Maze Runner, James Dashner The Hunger Games, Suzanne Collins Unwind, Neal Shusterman Uglies, Scott Westerfeld Daily Bell Work on basic grammar and vocabulary concepts	RL- 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, 9, 10 RI-1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 8, 9, 10 W-1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, 8, 9, 10 SL -1, 1a, 1b, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6 L- 1, 2, 2b, 3, 4, 5, 5a, 6	Multiparagraph essay in response to the question: How does Jonas’ unique point of view reveal a theme of The Giver? CASE Assessment 1 Students will show mastery of the standards learned through a formal assessment. Formative Assessments
November-January	Christmas Carol Students read literary and informational texts about the meaning and redemption found through selflessness and valuing people over material possessions. Students understand how writers use stories to teach us these lessons and how characters’ choices affect the plot and build the theme of a story. Other Texts: “Do Experiences or Material Goods Make Us Happier?” ScienceDaily	RL 1, 2, 4, 5, 6, 7, 10 RI 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 8, 9, 10 W 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, 8, 9, 10 SL 1, 2, 4, 5, 6 L 1, 2, 3, 4	Multiparagraph essay in response to the question: What does Dickens want us to understand about the “business” of being human? CASE Assessment 2 Formative Assessments

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	“Study: Experiences Make Us Happier Than Possessions,” Elizabeth Landau (CNNHealth.com) Tuesdays with Morrie, Mitch Albom — “The Eighth Tuesday: We Talk About Money” “Charles Dickens: Six Things He Gave the Modern World,” Alex Hudson (BBC News) Daily Bell Work on basic grammar and vocabulary concepts		
January-March	Written in Bone: Buried Lives of Jamestown and Colonial Maryland, Sally M. Walker Students read literary and informational texts about the stories of our past to understand how different texts offer unique historical perspectives and how authors sometimes alter details of history to serve a purpose. Other Texts: Blood on the River: James Town, 1607, Elisa Carbone “Ode to the Virginian Voyage,” Michael Drayton “Pocahontas,” William Makepeace Thackeray Daily Bell Work on basic grammar and vocabulary concepts	RL 1, 2, 3, 4, 6, 9, 10 RI 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, 8, 9, 10 W 1, 2 SL 1, 1a, 5 L 1, 2, 2b, 3, 4, 4b, 5	Multiparagraph Essay identifying a central idea of the text Students will show mastery of the standards learned through a formal assessment. Formative Assessments CASE Assessment 3 Formative Assessments
March-May	Memoir Students read various memoirs and texts about a writer’s craft to	RL 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 10 RI 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 8, 9, 10	Multiparagraph essay in response to the question: Does the memoir you read support

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	understand the importance of memoirs and “coming of age” literature. Students express their understanding by exploring their own voice and style as a writer, observing the firsthand connection between reading and writing, as they write their own memoir. Other Texts: A Summer Life, Gary Soto Bad Boy: A Memoir, Walter Dean Myers The Circuit, Francisco Jimenez Guts, Gary Paulsen Soul Surfer, Bethany Hamilton and Rick Bundschuh Boy: Tales of Childhood, Roald Dahl Daily Bell Work on basic grammar and vocabulary concepts	W 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 9, 10 SL 1, 2, 4, 5 L 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6	and/or contradict Zinsser’s advice for writing a memoir in “How to Write a Memoir”? TN Ready Formative Assessments