**Pacing Guide for 9th/10th Grade English and Language Arts Survey Course**

This pacing guide can be implemented in a 9th or 10th grade English classroom and is designed for a traditional 36-week school year where classes meet 5 days a week. We’ve included grammar, writing, and literature instruction.

* You can find every single grammar resource you need inside the English Teacher Vault membership, plus great back-to-school resources, and podcast units.
* We are adding more units each month. Some months these are added to the literature section, and some months they are added to the writing section. See details below about when each unit will be added to the English Teacher Vault.

If you follow this pacing guide and teach all these units with your 9th grade classes, and have the same students in 10th grade, stay tuned! We will be adding an updated pacing guide with new units in the summer of 2024 specifically for 10th grade students who have completed the material in this curriculum.

Our foundational grammar curriculum breaks down the grammar instruction even further, so check out the grammar pacing calendar as well.

**Week 1**

**Diagnostic Tests, Writing, and Intro To Class**

This week you’ll get to know your students and introduce them to grammar concepts that they’ll use throughout the year. Lessons you’ll use this week are all in the English Teacher Vault membership, and they include:

* First-day-of-school writing assignment
* Diagnostic grammar test
* Vivid verbs lesson
* Strong nouns lesson
* If you have 5 full class days this week, you may want to jump in to the grit and growth mindset unit

**Week 2:**

**Growth Mindset and Grit Mini Unit**

All the resources for this unit can be found in the back-to-school section of the vault. This is a 5 day unit.

**Week 3:**

**Narrative Writing Unit**

You can find all these lessons in the “Writing Units” section of the vault.

Lessons for this week include

* Elements of narrative writing
* Brainstorm your narrative and vivid verbs grammar lesson
* Incorporating characterization
* How to incorporate sensory details

**Week 4:**

**Narrative Writing Unit (week 2)**

Lessons this week include:

* Organizing the narrative
* Drafting and conferencing
* Using adjectives in your narrative (adjectives lesson from Foundational Grammar Curriculum)
* Revising with style in mind
* Presenting the narratives

**Week 5:**

**Unit: What makes a compelling story?**

You can find all these lessons in the “Literature Units” section of the vault.

Lessons this week include:

* Introduction to short stories
* Setting
* Characterization
* Point-of-view
* Conflict and theme

From Foundational Grammar curriculum:

* Well-placed adverbs
* Quiz: parts of speech

**Week 6:**

**Unit: What makes a compelling story? (week 2)**

Literary focus: a variety of short stories

Lessons you’ll teach this week include:

* Beginnings: foreshadowing, flashback, and exposition
* Mood and Tone
* Dialogue
* Resolutions and endings
* Suspense
* Review game and quiz for parts of speech

**Week 7:**

This week you have the option to extend the short-story unit one more week to include a writing element. All the no-prep lessons for this short-story writing assignment are included in the membership. If you choose not to extend the unit, skip on to the next week in the pacing guide.

**Week 8:**

**Hero’s Journey Unit: To what extent does a culture or society need heroes (EQ)?**

* You can find this 5-7 day unit in the “Literature Units” section of the vault.

**Week 9:**

**Hero’s Journey Unit (week 2)**

You can finish the hero’s journey unit and extend it by adding any readings you’d like to include or that your school requires, such as excerpts from *The Odyssey*.

In the hero’s journey unit in the vault, there is a suggestion to extend the hero’s journey by listening to the entire story of *Sundiata* in the “Myths and Legends” podcast.

From Foundational Grammar Curriculum, you’ll also teach this week: Subject and Predicates Lesson

**Week 10**

**Character Analysis Writing Unit**

You can find this 5-day unit in the “Writing Units” section of the vault. Students should choose a character they read about from the hero’s journey unit to focus on for their analysis.

Lessons from Foundational Grammar Curriculum:

* Subject/Verb Agreement Lesson

**Week 11 Option**

Option to extend character analysis unit

If you’d like to extend the character analysis writing assignment, you can use our additional resources that teach essay writing. Students will write a complete 5 paragraph essay on a character.

**Week 11**

**Unit: What is justice, and how is it achieved?**

* Literary focus for this unit: *Just Mercy* excerpts and movie

Lessons from Foundational Grammar Curriculum:

* Pronoun/Antecedent Agreement Lesson

**Week 12**

**Unit: What Is justice and How is It achieved? (week 2)**

From Foundational Grammar Curriculum:

* Agreement hands-on game
* Agreement quiz

**Week 13**

**Unit: What is justice and how is It achieved? (week 3)**

**Week 14**

**Theme Analysis Mini Writing Unit**

* This is an optional writing unit you can add on to the end of the Just Mercy unit, or use a short text to examine theme.
* You can find this unit in the “Writing Units” section in the vault.

**Week 15**

**Creative Nonfiction Unit: Why do individual’s stories matter?**

You can find this unit in the “Podcasts Units” section of the vault.

Literary Focus: *Imagined Life* podcast

Lessons for this week:

* Clues and guesses for *Imagined Life* episode “The Daydreamer”
* Characterization in *Imagined Life*
* Purpose, Audience, Style, and Tone
* What is creative nonfiction

**Week 16**

**Creative Nonfiction Unit: Why do individual’s stories matter?**

* Narrative hooks
* Turning quotes into stories

**Week 17**

Use this week to catch up if you need to or to allow your students extra time with any of the units or to catch up with grammar instruction if you need to. If you’re tracking with this pace, you could extend the *Imagined Life* unit plan and allow your students to actually produce their Imagined Life episodes by recording them. We include instructions for how to do this in the Imagined Life unit plan.

**Week 18**

Use this week to give students some “brain breaks,” review for midterms and take midterms. Our membership includes multiple review activities you can use this week.

* Fill-in-the-blank grammar review activities
* End-of-semester grammar and literature review with short films

**Semester Two**

**Week 19**

**Unit: Persuasive Writing With a Research Element (2 weeks)**

* Find this in the “writing resources” module in the English Teacher Vault

From Foundational Grammar Curriculum:

* Teach independent and subordinate clauses

**Week 20**

**Unit: Persuasive Writing With a Research Element (2 weeks)**

* Find this in the “writing resources” module in the English Teacher Vault

From Foundational Grammar Curriculum:

* Teach sentence types

**Week 21**

**Unit: Intro to Poetry (1 week unit)**

* You can find this in the vault in the “Writing Units” section

From Foundational Grammar Curriculum:

Do sentence types review game and quiz

**Week 22**

**Unit: How does judgment and prejudice affect individuals and a society? (Week 1 of 3 week unit)**

* An alternative essential question is: what is the danger of a single story?
* Literary focus: *Romeo and Juliet*

This unit will be added to the membership in early 2024

From Foundational Grammar Curriculum:

* Teach fragments lesson

**Week 23**

**Unit: How does judgment and prejudice affect individuals and a society? (week 2 of 3 week unit)**

* An alternative essential question is: what is the danger of a single story?
* Literary focus: *Romeo and Juliet*

This unit will be added to the membership in early 2024

From Foundational Grammar Curriculum: give fragments quick write and fragments quiz

**Week 24**

**Unit: How does judgment and prejudice affect individuals and a society? (week 3 of 3 week unit)**

* An alternative essential question is: what is the danger of a single story?
* Literary focus: *Romeo and Juliet*

This unit will be added to the membership in early 2024

**Week 25**

**Unit: What is the relationship between courage and grit? (Week 1 of 3 week unit)**

* Literary focus:This unit includes 4 different options for your anchor text
* This literature unit will be added to the membership in early 2024

**Week 26**

**Unit: What is the relationship between courage and grit? (continued)**

* Literary focus:This unit includes 4 different options for your anchor text

**Week 27**

**Unit: What is the relationship between courage and grit? (continued)**

* Literary focus:This unit includes 4 different options for your anchor text

From Foundational Grammar Curriculum:

* Give style-minded revision assignment

**Week 28**

**Writing Unit: Writing a Review**

* Use podcast as mentor text: *This Movie Changed Me*
* This unit will be added in 2024

From Foundational Grammar Curriculum:

* Give active and passive voice lesson

**Week 29**

**Writing Unit: Writing a Review**

* Use podcast as mentor text: *This Movie Changed Me*

From Foundational Grammar Curriculum:

* Give active and passive voice quiz

**Week 30**

**Unit: What are the effects of power, and does it always corrupt?**

* Literary focus: *Lord of the Flies*

This unit will be added to the membership in early 2024

**Week 31**

**Unit: What are the effects of power, and does it always corrupt? (week 2)**

* Literary focus: *Lord of the Flies*

From Foundational Grammar Curriculum:

* Do possession and apostrophes lesson

**Week 32**

**Unit: What are the effects of power, and does it always corrupt?**

* Literary focus: *Lord of the Flies*

From Foundational Grammar Curriculum:

* Give possession and apostrophes quiz

**Week 33**

**Unit: How are justice, heroism, power and prejudice connected?**

* Literary Focus: 12 Angry Men

This unit will be added to the membership in late early 2024

**Week 34**

**Finish unit: How are justice, heroism, power and prejudice connected?**

Assign synthesis project to showcase learning, and use the week for students to complete these projects

This project assignment will be added to the vault in winter of 2024

**Week 35**

Finish and present synthesis projects

**Week 36**

Review and exams