

Language Arts 8 Curriculum

Unit 1: Parts of Speech

Biblical Worldview Essential Questions

All language comes from God. How can we honor God through our language?

How can the study of English benefit humanity?

What purpose should Christians see in the proper use of English?

Why does God care about our use of the English language?

3 weeks

LA8.5, LA8.6

Objectives	Methods	Resources	Assessment
The students will: <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Identify and classify nouns, verbs, adjectives, adverbs, pronouns, prepositions, conjunctions, and interjections.• Identify the function of each part of speech in a sentence	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Lecture• Class discussion• Practice exercises and worksheets from ch. 14-18 individually and in groups	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Textbook: Prentice Hall <i>Writing and Grammar (Silver Level)</i> ch. 14-18	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Teacher-made quizzes over ch. 14-18• Completion of worksheets• Teacher-made test over unit• Participation in class discussion

Unit 2: Basic Sentence Parts

2 weeks

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LA8.5, LA8.6

Objectives	Methods	Resources	Assessment
The students will: <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Locate the subject and verb in sentences (regular, compound, hard to find)• Recognize and correct sentence fragments• Identify subject and verb complements (direct and indirect objects; predicate nominatives and adjectives)	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Lecture• Class discussion• Practice exercises and worksheets from ch. 19 individually and in groups	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Textbook: Prentice Hall <i>Writing and Grammar (Silver Level)</i> ch. 19	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Teacher-made quizzes over ch. 19• Completion of worksheets• Teacher-made test over unit• Participation in class discussion

Unit 3: Phrases and Clauses

3 weeks

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LA8.5, LA8.6

Objectives	Methods	Resources	Assessment
The students will: <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Identify prepositional phrases• Identify appositives and appositive phrases• Identify verbals: participles, gerunds, and infinitives and their phrases• Identify adjective and adverb prepositional phrases• Distinguish between independent and subordinate clauses• Identify 4 types of sentence structure	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Lecture• Class discussion• Practice exercises and worksheets from ch. 20 individually and in groups	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Textbook: Prentice Hall <i>Writing and Grammar (Silver Level)</i> ch. 20	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Teacher-made quizzes over ch. 20• Completion of worksheets• Teacher-made test over unit• Participation in class discussion

Unit 4: Verbs

2 weeks

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LA8.5, LA8.6

Objectives	Methods	Resources	Assessment
The students will: <ul style="list-style-type: none">Identify and produce the 6 verb tenses and 6 formsIdentify and correct errors in verb usage as it relates to tense and form	<ul style="list-style-type: none">LectureClass discussionPractice exercises and worksheets from ch. 22 individually and in groups	<ul style="list-style-type: none">Textbook: Prentice Hall <i>Writing and Grammar (Silver Level)</i> ch. 22	<ul style="list-style-type: none">Teacher-made quizzes over ch. 22Completion of worksheetsTeacher-made test over unitParticipation in class discussion

Unit 5: Agreement

1 ½-2 weeks

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Why does God care about our use of the English language?

LA8.5, LA8.6

Objectives	Methods	Resources	Assessment
The students will: <ul style="list-style-type: none">Identify and correct problems with subject/verb agreementIdentify and correct problems with pronoun/antecedent agreement	<ul style="list-style-type: none">LectureClass discussionPractice exercises and worksheets from ch. 24 individually and in groups	<ul style="list-style-type: none">Textbook: Prentice Hall <i>Writing and Grammar (Silver Level)</i> ch. 24	<ul style="list-style-type: none">Teacher-made quizzes over ch. 24Completion of worksheetsTeacher-made test over unitParticipation in class discussionVarious writing assignments throughout the year

Unit 6: Capitalization and Punctuation

1-2 weeks

Biblical Worldview Essential Questions

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How can the study of English benefit humanity?

What purpose should Christians see in the proper use of English?

Why does God care about our use of the English language?

LA8.5, LA8.6

Objectives	Methods	Resources	Assessment
The student will: <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Learn capitalization and punctuation rules• Identify and correct errors in capitalization and punctuation• Produce sentences and paragraphs with correct capitalization and punctuation	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Lecture• Class discussion• Practice exercises and worksheets from ch. 26-27 individually and in groups	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Textbook: Prentice Hall <i>Writing and Grammar (Silver Level)</i> ch. 26-27	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Teacher-made quizzes over ch. 26-27• Completion of worksheets• Teacher-made test over unit• Participation in class discussion• Various writing assignments throughout the year

Unit 7: Drama

2-3 weeks

Biblical Worldview Essential Questions

How can we see Christian elements in the plays we analyze?

How can we honor God through this performance?

What character traits are evident in the main characters and are they pleasing to God?

LA8.1, LA8.2, LA8.3, LA8.4, LA8.5, LA8.7, LA8.10, LA8.11

Objectives	Methods	Resources	Assessment
<p>The student will:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">Learn basic biographical information about authors in the unitDiscover the characteristics of dramaDiscuss the differences between inner and outer beauty as demonstrated in <i>The Ugly Duckling</i>Learn the timing and piece of reading through a dramatic piece out loud with their classmates	<ul style="list-style-type: none">LectureClass discussionReading aloudAnswering the questions in the textbook about each dramatic piece	<ul style="list-style-type: none">Textbook: <i>Themes in Literature, 3rd ed.</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none">Completion of textbook comprehension questionsTeacher-made test over unitClass participation in reading aloud

Unit 8: Poetry

2 weeks

Biblical Worldview Essential Questions

- How can we see Christian elements in the poems we analyze?
- What aspects can we, as Christians, gain from reading these selections?
- What are some of the human characteristics that are portrayed in this selection and how does God view them?
- What moral aspects are part of this poem?

LA8.1, LA8.2, LA8.3, LA8.4, LA8.5, LA8.7, LA8.10, LA8.11

Objectives	Methods	Resources	Assessment
<p>The students will:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Become familiar with analyzing poetry for meaning, themes, symbols, etc.• Learn basic biographical information about the authors of the unit• Define key poetry terms• Memorize "Faith" by John Greenleaf Whittier for extra credit• Attempt writing their own poetry in small groups	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Lecture• Class discussion• Reading aloud in groups and individually• Group poetry writing	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Textbook: <i>Themes in Literature, 3rd ed.</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Completion of textbook comprehension questions• Completion of poetry terms worksheet• Teacher-made test over unit• Class participation in reading aloud

Unit 9: Research Project

4 weeks

Biblical integration

All writing honors God.

How can the study of English benefit humanity?

What purpose should Christians see in the proper use of research?

Why does God care about our use of the English language when we write?

LA8.5, LA8.6, LA8.8, LA8.9

Objectives	Methods	Resources	Assessment
<p>The students will:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Learn the process of writing a research paper in MLA format• Demonstrate their ability to find good sources and create note cards• Develop skills in gleaning information from their sources• Differentiate between paraphrasing and plagiarism• Learn to organize their information into a sentence outline complete with citations in MLA format• Demonstrate their ability to edit their own writing• Use good grammar and spelling skills in their writing	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Lecture• Class discussion• One-on-one meetings with the teacher to discuss progress	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Textbook: Prentice Hall <i>Writing and Grammar (Silver Level)</i> ch. 11• Teacher-made handouts• Library	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Individual assessment of bibliography page, note cards, and sentence outline• Teacher-made rubrics for each portion of the assignment

Unit 10: Short Stories

2-3 weeks

Biblical Worldview Essential Questions

- What tones and themes in the selections we read show Christ?
- What aspects can we, as Christians, gain from reading this short story?
- What are some of the human characteristics that are portrayed in this story and how does God view them?
- What moral aspects are part of each short story?

LA8.1, LA8.2, LA8.3, LA8.4, LA8.5, LA8.7, LA8.10, LA8.11

Objectives	Methods	Resources	Assessment
The students will: <ul style="list-style-type: none">Identify and define terms associated with short storiesKnow basic information about authors from this unitKnow the basic plot of each short storyConduct character analysis of the main characters of each short story	<ul style="list-style-type: none">LectureClass discussionReading aloud and silentlyAnswering questions about each story	<ul style="list-style-type: none">Textbook: <i>Themes in Literature</i>, 3rd ed.	<ul style="list-style-type: none">Participation in class discussionCompletion of comprehension questions about each storyTeacher-made test over unitIn-class journal assignments about themes presented in short stories

Unit 11: Novels

7 weeks

Biblical Worldview Essential Questions

How does conflict play a part in a Christian's life?

God is the provider for all of our needs.

How does one deal with division/conflict?

LA8.1, LA8.2, LA8.3, LA8.4, LA8.5, LA8.7, LA8.10, LA8.11

Objectives	Methods	Resources	Assessment
<p>The students will:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Learn basic biographical information about Jack London, Charles Dickens, and Lois Lowry • Read and examine <i>The Call of the Wild</i> and <i>A Christmas Carol</i> • Analyze and discuss classic selections of literature and what makes them withstand time • Read and discuss theme, symbols, etc. • Watch the movie versions of the selections • Define new vocabulary words in each selection 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Lecture • Class discussion • Reading aloud and silently • Small group discussions • Answering comprehension questions about each story or chapter 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>The Call of the Wild</i> by Jack London • <i>A Christmas Carol</i> by Charles Dickens • <i>The Giver</i> by Lois Lowry 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Completion of teacher-made worksheets • Teacher-made quizzes • Teacher-made test over unit

Unit 12: Book Reports

1st and 2nd Quarter (approx. 9 weeks each)

Biblical Worldview Essential Questions

All reading and writing should honor God

Why is Literature important in a Christian's development?

How is the main character developed in this book and what is their view on spiritual things if any?

What is the current spiritual temperature of the nation during the writing of this book?

LA8.1, LA8.4, LA8.6, LA8.8, LA8.10, LA8.12

Objectives	Methods	Resources	Assessment
<p>The students will:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Choose a book from a teacher-made list• Examine the setting, characters, and plot of the book• <u>1st report:</u> Answer teacher-made questions about the book• <u>2nd report:</u> Answer teacher-made questions and give an oral presentation using a visual aid• Use good grammar and spelling skills	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Individual reading time in class• Teacher explanation and handouts	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Library• Teacher-made handouts and book list	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Evaluation of book reports based on teacher-made rubrics• Presentation of a poster , character WEB, and synopsis of the book to the class

Unit 13: Vocabulary

August-March (approx. 27 weeks)

Biblical Worldview Essential Questions

How can God be honored through our use of words and language?

Why is the study of vocabulary important to Christians?

How can we use vocabulary to enrich conversation?

Is vocabulary important in a believer's everyday walk?

LA8.5, LA8.10

Objectives	Methods	Resources	Assessment
<p>The students will:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Memorize the definitions of 300 words (15 units of 20 words each)• Recognize the meanings of new words through context clues• Choose the correct word for use in new words• Choose synonyms and antonyms for new words• Use a dictionary to find other forms of the new words	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Individual weekly work in vocabulary workbooks	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Sadler-Oxford Inc. <i>Vocabulary Workshop, Level C</i>• Dictionaries	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Completion of workbook assignments• Weekly quizzes• Periodic cumulative review quizzes• Final Mastery Test