

English 8  
8<sup>th</sup> Grade Theme:  
Identity, What do I stand for?

First Unit	Second Unit	Third Unit	Fourth Unit
<b>Guiding Question:</b> What responsibilities come with leadership?	<b>Guiding Question:</b> How do our cultural and/or geographical surroundings shape our character?	<b>Guiding Question:</b> How do my principles lead me to not only stand up for myself but also to stand up for others?	<b>Guiding Question:</b> How does my family shape my identity?
Literature:	Literature:	Literature:	Literature:
<a href="#">Summer Reading</a>  Excerpts from <i>The Odyssey</i> by Homer	Asian Thematic Book Clubs, texts to be chosen by the student. Possibilities include: <a href="#">Climbing the Stairs, by Padma Venkatraman</a> (India, girl protagonist) <a href="#">A Million Shades of Gray, by Cynthia Kadohata</a> (Vietnam, boy protagonist) <a href="#">The Breadwinner, by Deborah Ellis</a> (Afghanistan, girl protagonist) <a href="#">American Born Chinese, by Gene Luen Yang</a> (China, boy protagonist) (Connection to Asia study in World Geography)	<i>To Kill a Mockingbird</i> , by Harper Lee	<i>A Long Walk to Water</i> , by Linda Sue Park (Connection to Africa study in World Geography)
<b>Additional Literature:</b> One Independent Choice Book per trimester			
Writing Focus: Informational	Writing Focus: Literature Analysis	Writing Focus: Argumentative	Writing Focus: Narrative
Introduction to the research process - Greek mythology research project Response to literature: Dialectical Journal with <i>The Odyssey</i>	Literary Analysis and Argumentative Essay on unit theme and AP Lit prompt: “And, after all, our surroundings influence our lives and characters as much as fate, destiny or any supernatural agency.” -	Literary Analysis and Argumentative Essay on unit theme and AP Lang prompt: Analyzing opposing viewpoints in a controversy and proposing a solution/compromise (AP Lang Argument Prompt,	Personal narratives focused on: The way(s) in which various members of your own family help to guide you, even if they’re not with you at times The values your family has instilled in you and/or the qualities that you

	-Pauline Hopkins, <i>Contending Forces</i> (AP Lit Open-Ended Prompt, 2012)	2004)	most admire in your family members
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**Additional Instructional Resources:**

*Word Within a Word* by Michael Thompson: Word study using Latin and Greek Stems for cumulative quizzes