



# ALLEN ACADEMY

8<sup>th</sup> Grade English

Theme: Identity, What do I stand for?

2017-2018

First Unit	Second Unit	Third Unit	Fourth Unit
<p><b>Guiding Question:</b> How do my principles lead me to not only stand up for myself but also to stand up for others?</p>	<p><b>Guiding Question:</b> How do my experiences and choices play a part in shaping my identity?</p>	<p><b>Guiding Question:</b> How does my cultural and/or geographical surroundings shape my character?</p>	<p><b>Guiding Question:</b> How does my family shape my identity?</p>
<b>Literature:</b>	<b>Literature:</b>	<b>Literature:</b>	<b>Literature:</b>
<p><a href="#">Summer Reading</a></p> <p>To Kill a Mockingbird, by Harper Lee</p>	<p>A Christmas Carol, by Charles Dickens</p>	<p>Asian Thematic Book Clubs, texts to be chosen by the student. Possibilities include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <a href="#">Climbing the Stairs, by Padma Venkatraman</a> (India, girl protagonist)</li> <li>• <a href="#">A Million Shades of Gray, by Cynthia Kadohata</a> (Vietnam, boy protagonist)</li> <li>• <a href="#">The Breadwinner, by Deborah Ellis</a> (Afghanistan, girl protagonist)</li> <li>• <a href="#">American Born Chinese, by Gene Luen Yang</a> (China, boy protagonist)</li> </ul> <p>(Connection to Asia study in World Geography)</p>	<p>A Long Walk to Water, by Linda Sue Park (Connection to Africa study in World Geography)</p>

**Additional Literature:** One Independent Choice Book per trimester



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<b>Writing Focus: Argumentative</b>	<b>Writing Focus: Literature Analysis</b>	<b>Writing Focus: Literature Analysis</b>	<b>Writing Focus: Narrative</b>
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, 2004)	Practice with deeper literature analysis using excerpts from the novel.	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." -Pauline Hopkins, Contending Forces (AP Lit Open-Ended Prompt, 2012)	Personal narratives focused on: <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• The way(s) in which various members of your own family help to guide you, even if they're not with you at times</li><li>• The values your family has instilled in you and/or the qualities that you most admire in your family members</li></ul>
<b>Additional Instructional Resources:</b>			
Word Within a Word by Michael Thompson: Word study using Latin and Greek Stems for cumulative quizzes			