

**New Paltz Central School District
English 11: Writing Focus
(One Semester Course)**

Time	Essential Questions/Content	Standards/Skills	Assessments
3-5 Weeks	<p><u>UNIT: Macbeth</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Which plays a greater role in determining the course of our lives: fate or free will? • Is ambition a desirable quality? • What should determine the choices of an honorable person? • How does guilt impact a person’s ability to live a peaceful life? • Which should take precedence in decision making – laws or personal morals? Why? • How can people distinguish between truth and lies? • Does each significant action have a consequence? • What are the consequences of over confidence? 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Analyze literary elements: allusion, symbolism, active setting, theme, conflict, foreshadowing, characterization, irony, tragic flaw, tragic hero, dynamic character, dramatic irony • Acquire new words through context clues, dictionary use, and analysis • Make personal connections, compare texts, use inquiry questions • Use informal writing to make connections 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Study guide questions • Class discussion • Quizzes and tests • In-class writing prompts • Essay test • Use text to address Critical Lens or Open Lit questions for standardized testing

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3-5 Weeks	<p><u>Unit: Of Mice and Men</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • How do social conditions impact personal choices and dreams? • How do people establish and maintain dignity? • How do people use power over others? 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Analyze literary elements: figurative language, symbolism, active setting, theme, conflict, foreshadowing, characterization, idiom • Acquire new words through context clues, dictionary use, and analysis • Make personal connections, compare texts, use inquiry questions • Use informal writing to make connections • Interpret and evaluate film adaptations 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Study guide questions • Class discussion • Quizzes and tests • In-class writing prompts • Essay test
2-4 Weeks	<p><u>UNIT: Brighton Beach Memoirs</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • What does a person need to experience in order to develop true maturity? • What is needed to create a strong family? • What responsibilities do parents have in raising their children? • What should be the basis for making choices in a family? • What role does forgiveness play in a family? • Which should determine a person’s choices and decisions – obligation to self or obligation to others? Why? 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Analyze literary elements: symbol, symbolism, active setting, theme, conflict, foreshadowing, characterization, irony, fourth wall, second person narration, reliable narrator, rhetorical question, comic relief, dramatic irony • Acquire new words through context clues, dictionary use, and analysis • Make personal connections, compare texts, use inquiry questions • Use informal writing to make connections 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Study guide questions • Class discussion • Quizzes and tests • In-class writing prompts • Essay test • Use text to address Critical Lens or Open Lit questions for standardized testing

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3-5 Weeks	<p><u>UNIT: <i>A Doll's House</i></u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • What does a person need to experience in order to develop true maturity? • What is needed to create a strong marriage or relationship? • What responsibilities do parents have in raising their children? • What should be the basis for making choices in a family? • Which should take precedence in decision making – laws or personal morals? Why? • Which should determine a person's choices and decisions – obligation to self or obligation to others? Why? • How do people manage to gain power in a restricted society? 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Analyze literacy elements: paradox, symbolism, active setting, theme, conflict, foreshadowing, characterization, irony, social commentary, well made play • Acquire new words through context clues, dictionary use, and analysis • Make personal connections, compare texts, use inquiry questions • Use informal writing to make connections 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Study guide questions • Class discussion • Quizzes and tests • In-class writing prompts • Essay test • Use text to address Critical Lens or Open Lit questions for standardized testing

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Time	Essential Questions/Content	Standards/Skills	Assessments
3 Weeks	<p><u>College Essay</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • What is the purpose of a college essay? • What qualities does an exemplar college essay exhibit? • How can a writer capture voice in an essay? • What is a thoughtful topic to examine in an essay of great importance? <hr style="border-top: 1px dashed black;"/> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Writing a college essay • Exemplar essays • Peer review 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Write arguments to support claims in an analysis of substantive topics or texts, using valid reasoning and relevant and sufficient evidence. Explore and inquire into areas of interest to formulate an argument. • Write informative/explanatory texts to examine and convey complex ideas, concepts, and information clearly and accurately through the effective selection, organization, and analysis of content. • Write narratives to develop real or imagined experiences or events using effective technique, well-chosen details, and well-structured event sequences. • Develop and strengthen writing as needed by planning, revising, editing, rewriting, or trying a new approach, focusing on addressing what is most significant for a specific purpose and audience. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Preparedness for peer review • Stages of the writing process • College essay