

6th Grade ELA
PISD Curriculum: Year at a Glance

Bundle	Title & Big Ideas Enduring Understandings	Guiding Questions
1	<p><i>Literary Fiction-Frameworks of Literature</i> A good story has a pattern or a plan.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ How can I tell what type of text is this? ▪ What are the characteristics of different literary structures? ▪ What are the similarities and differences between fiction and nonfiction ▪ What do speakers do to help their listeners understand what they are saying?
2	<p><i>Personal Narrative</i> Life shapes narrative and narrative shapes life.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ How does writing a personal narrative help me express myself? ▪ How does nonfiction reveal universal truths about life? ▪ How do you account for the many genres in memoirs, e.g., songs, graphic novels, letters, comedy, journals, diaries, etc.? ▪ How do writers use technology to more effectively communicate their thoughts?
3	<p><i>Deepening Personal Narrative</i> Life shapes narrative and narrative shapes life.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ What techniques do writers use to paint word pictures? ▪ What strategies do efficient readers use to figure out unknown words while they are reading? ▪ In your writing, what conventions of language help make your communication clear? ▪ How do good writers transition from one thought to the next?
4	<p><i>Literary Nonfiction Tools</i> Nonfiction writing exposes facts and details as the writer understands them.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ What strategies do good readers use to help them make inferences and draw conclusions? ▪ What features of the text help readers understand nonfiction literature? ▪ How do I decide what information to include in a summary? ▪ How can I tell if a clause is a sentence or not?
5	<p><i>Literary Fiction Analysis</i> Stories begin and end, but their lessons continue after the story ends.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ How does a reader infer an author's purpose from the text? ▪ How does the reader discover the theme and/or other meanings in a text? ▪ What makes a story a classic? ▪ How do setting and point of view influence a story?
6	<p><i>Peeling Back the Layers in Poetry</i> Any poem will yield its treasure when students look carefully at each layer, and then connect that layer to</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ How do poets paint pictures using few words? ▪ How can the layers of a poem be peeled away to discover the meaning? ▪ What are some different ways to write poems? ▪ How do poets use sound to make poetry musical?

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	meaning.	
7	<i>Procedural and Informational Text Study</i> Prior knowledge and reading experience shape how readers read and respond to text.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ When do good readers slow down and speed up while reading? ▪ How do readers' cultural backgrounds help them connect to what they read? ▪ How do I know my sources are valid? ▪ How can I give proper credit to my sources?
8	<i>Procedural/Informational Text Study</i> Informed people form valid ideas and opinions through research.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ How do researchers gather and critique information from different sources? ▪ How do researchers synthesize information to formulate their own thoughts in an essay? ▪ How does knowing how to gather reliable information help me understand the world? ▪ How can technology make conducting research more efficient? ▪ What rules help keep abbreviations, initials, acronyms, and titles consistent in written works?
9	<i>Literature and Cultural Connection</i> Literature reveals the values of a given culture or time period.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ How does literature reveal the values of a culture or time period? ▪ What are the universal themes found in literature? ▪ What common elements are necessary to create a well developed plot?
10	<i>Literature and Cultural Connection Continued</i> The ability to communicate effectively is important in all cultures.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ How are regional or cultural language differences reflected in literature? ▪ What relationship should exist between speaker and audience? ▪ What are the responsibilities of an effective speaker and listener?
11	<i>Understanding Persuasive Techniques</i> Writers use various techniques to persuade.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ What are the techniques authors use to persuade? ▪ How do readers and/ or consumers recognize persuasive techniques being used on them? ▪ How do the organization and/or structure of a text make it more or less effective?
12	<i>Using Persuasive Techniques</i> Persuasive techniques are used in all forms of media.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ How does a speaker or writer choose effective persuasive techniques? ▪ How can primary documents be used to make my research more effective? ▪ How and where can I publish my persuasive writing?