

7th Grade ELA
PISD Curriculum: Year at a Glance

Bundle	<i>Title</i> Big Ideas/Enduring Understandings	Guiding Questions
1	<p><i>Establishing Communication Procedures and Review</i> Communication and life experiences are your connection to the world around you.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ What are effective communication skills, and why is it important to use them? ▪ Why is it important to consider the way information is presented? ▪ How can readers figure out the meaning of unknown words as they are reading? ▪ How do writers decide what information to include when writing about a personal memory?
2	<p><i>Personal Narrative and Organizing Ideas</i> What we read and write affects how we make sense of the world.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ How can a text change the way you think? ▪ What can you learn about yourself and the world around you through reading and writing? ▪ How can focusing on a problem or obstacle that gets in your way help to focus your writing? ▪ What details are necessary to include in a narrative to keep the reader's interest? ▪ How does adding prepositional phrases influence the rest of a sentence?
3	<p><i>Personal Narrative and Developing Ideas continued</i> How we make sense of the world affects what we read and write.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ How do people use writing to express themselves? ▪ How can adding clauses and phrases to sentences make them more effective? ▪ Why do writers use figurative language rather than just stating the facts and details? ▪ How could adding figurative language to my writing make it more effective?
4	<p><i>Literary Text and Finding Voice</i> Writers choose words/devices/techniques to elicit an intended response from the reader.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Which specific words/devices reveal the writer's personality to the reader? ▪ What impact does word choice have on the reading experience? ▪ What can you add to your writing to help keep you reader's attention or make it more authentic (real)? ▪ How can the use (or misuse) of commas change the meaning of your writing?
5	<p><i>Literary Text and Creating Voice</i> Writers choose words/devices/techniques to elicit an intended response from the reader.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ How can I use what I read and write to develop and support my own voice and enhance my own writing skills? ▪ What techniques do various media sources use to influence others? ▪ How is the point of view from which I am telling my story helping or limiting the impact of my writing? ▪ How can varying sentence types make writing more effective?

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6	<i>Expository Text and how it is Organized</i> Writers use techniques to elicit an intended response from the reader.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Why is it important to consider the way information is presented? ▪ What is the relationship between organization and meaning? ▪ How can context help me identify the meaning of an unknown word?
7	<i>Personal Narrative and How it is Organized</i> Prior knowledge and life experience shape how writers/ artists develop and present ideas.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ How do people use writing to express themselves? ▪ How does the organization of my ideas help me communicate better with the reader? ▪ How do writers connect their words, phrases and sentences to make their writing more effective?
8	<i>Considering Narrative and Expository Texts together</i> Narrative and expository texts contain different structures because they have different purposes.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ What do authors of both narrative and expository text do to produce coherence in their writing? ▪ How do writers express themes through their writing? ▪ How does a writer decide on an organizational structure?
9	<i>Reflective Writing: Narrative and Non Narrative forms</i> Writers share what they know from experience in narrative and non narrative forms	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ What kinds of information are better shared in narrative form? Non narrative? ▪ How does the form the writing takes shape the effect it has on the reader? ▪ How can a writer's use of conventions influence the effectiveness of the writing?
10	<i>Research and Development including Expository and Procedural Text</i> The legitimacy of an interpretation is grounded in the text.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ What makes a topic worthy of research? ▪ What makes a source legitimate? ▪ What print and electronic resources are best for finding accurate information on various topics? ▪ What kinds of information can I use to best support my claims? ▪ How does a researcher synthesize information from different sources, and what if the sources contradict each other?
11	<i>Research and Development of Expository Texts</i> Careful research leads to legitimate writing.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ What makes an interpretation legitimate? ▪ How does your understanding of the meaning of words affect communication? ▪ How does a good reader use details to determine the main idea of a text? ▪ How does a writer decide which details to include in an expository text? ▪ What makes a good summary?
12	<i>Literary Appreciation</i> The connections readers make with a text affects their appreciation of it.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ How do your personal and cultural experiences affect your interpretation of literary works? ▪ How can literary elements affect my appreciation of a text?