

Unit Title: The American Dream

INSTRUCTIONAL UNIT AUTHORS

Wray School District

BASED ON A CURRICULUM OVERVIEW SAMPLE AUTHORED BY

Clear Creek School District

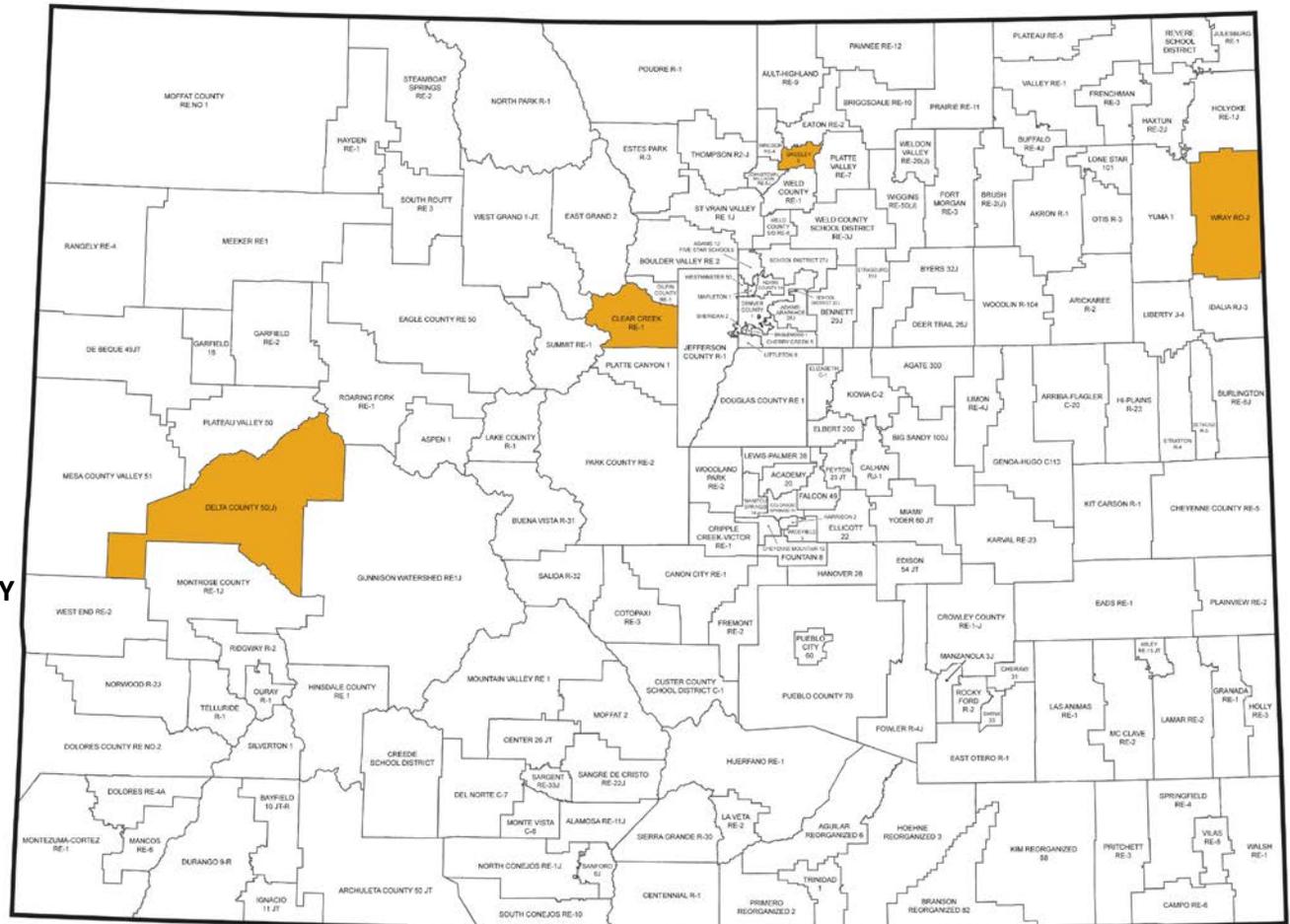
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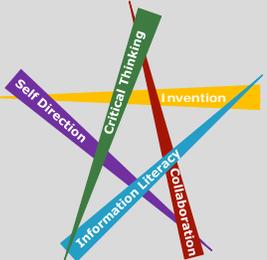


This unit was authored by a team of Colorado educators. The template provided one example of unit design that enabled teacher-authors to organize possible learning experiences, resources, differentiation, and assessments. The unit is intended to support teachers, schools, and districts as they make their own local decisions around the best instructional plans and practices for all students.

**Curriculum Development Course at a Glance
Planning For 8th Grade Reading, Writing, and Communicating**

Content Area	Reading, Writing, and Communicating	Grade Level	8 th Grade
Course Name/Course Code			
Standard	Grade Level Expectations (GLE)	GLE Code	
1. Oral Expression and Listening	1. Communication skills and interviewing techniques are required to gather information and to develop and deliver oral presentations	RWC10-GR.8-S.1-GLE.1	
	2. A variety of response strategies clarifies meaning or messages	RWC10-GR.8-S.1-GLE.2	
2. Reading for All Purposes	1. Quality comprehension and interpretation of literary texts demand self-monitoring and self-assessment	RWC10-GR.8-S.2-GLE.1	
	2. Quality comprehension and interpretation of informational and persuasive texts demand monitoring and self-assessment	RWC10-GR.8-S.2-GLE.2	
	3. Context, grammar, and word choice influence the understanding of literary, persuasive, and informational texts	RWC10-GR.8-S.2-GLE.3	
3. Writing and Composition	1. Stylistic devices and descriptive details in literary and narrative texts are organized for a variety of audiences and purposes and evaluated for quality	RWC10-GR.8-S.3-GLE.1	
	2. Ideas and supporting details in informational and persuasive texts are organized for a variety of audiences and purposes and evaluated for quality	RWC10-GR.8-S.3-GLE.2	
	3. Editing writing for grammar, usage, mechanics, and clarity is an essential trait of a well-written document	RWC10-GR.8-S.3-GLE.3	
4. Research and Reasoning	1. Individual research projects begin with information obtained from a variety of sources, and is organized, documented, and presented using logical procedures	RWC10-GR.8-S.4-GLE.1	
	2. Common fallacies and errors occur in reasoning	RWC10-GR.8-S.4-GLE.2	
	3. Quality reasoning relies on supporting evidence in media	RWC10-GR.8-S.4-GLE.3	

Colorado 21st Century Skills



Critical Thinking and Reasoning: *Thinking Deeply, Thinking Differently*

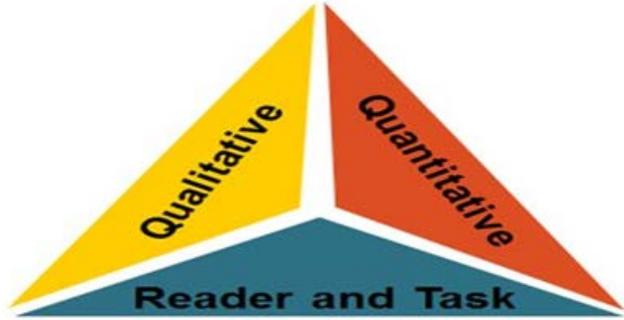
Information Literacy: *Untangling the Web*

Collaboration: *Working Together, Learning Together*

Self-Direction: *Own Your Learning*

Invention: *Creating Solutions*

Text Complexity



Unit Titles	Length of Unit/Contact Hours	Unit Number/Sequence
The American Dream (Relationships)	9 weeks	2

Curriculum Development Unit Overview
Unit Planning For 8th Grade Reading, Writing, and Communicating

Unit Title	The American Dream		Length of Unit	9 weeks
Focusing Lens(es)	Relationship	Standards and Grade Level Expectations Addressed in this Unit	RWC10-GR.8-S.1-GLE.2 RWC10-GR.8-S.2-GLE.1 RWC10-GR.8-S.2-GLE.2 RWC10-GR.8-S.2-GLE.3	RWC10-GR.8-S.3-GLE.2 RWC10-GR.8-S.3-GLE.3 RWC10-GR.8-S.4-GLE.2 RWC10-GR.8-S.4-GLE.3
Inquiry Questions (Engaging-Debatable):	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> How does a reader develop perspective (RWC10-GR.8-S.2-GLE.1-N.1)? How do you recognize bias in your everyday lives (RWC10-GR.8-S.4-GLE.2-IQ.3)? 			
Unit Strands	Oral Expression and Listening, Reading for all Purposes, Writing and Composition, Research and Reasoning			
Concepts	In content:	In reading:	In writing:	
	identity, citizenship, sacrifice, greed, perspective, fairness, justice, innovation, influence, system, diversity, conflict, values, beliefs, evidence	Summary, inference, figurative language, theme, characterization, author's purpose, fallacy, interpretation, audience, context, point of view	conventions, organization, topic, transitions, language, support, reasoning, synthesis, thesis, point of view, context, audience	

Generalizations My students will Understand that...	Guiding Questions	
	Factual	Conceptual
Authors create characters and relationships that cross time periods and places in order to represent timeless themes or universal messages (RWC10-GR.8-S2-GLE.1-EO.c.iv).	What is Westward expansion? What were the "roaring 20s"? What was the Great Depression? What is the "American Dream"? *all are background knowledge for (RWC10-GR.8-S.2-GLE.2-EO.a.iii)	How do you connect prior knowledge with new information (RWC10-GR.8-S.3-GLE.2-N.1)? How can bias influence the reader (RWC10-GR.8-S.2-GLE.2-IQ.3)? How do themes transcend time and place?
To demonstrate deep understanding of a topic, writers construct informative or explanatory texts based on a synthesis of diverse and varied information/perspectives (RWC10-GR.8-S.3-GLE.2-EO.b.i-ii).	What does it mean to synthesize? (RWC10-GR.8-S.2-GLE.3-EO.a.vi-vii). When must you use facts, definitions, details, quotations, and examples to develop a topic? (RWC10-GR.8-S.3-GLE.2-EO.b.ii) What is the structure of informative/ explanatory writing? (RWC10-GR.8-S.3-GLE.3-EO.d)	How do you select a topic for writing (RWC10-GR.8-S.3-GLE.2-EO.b.i)? How does the use of correct grammar, usage, and mechanics add clarity to writing (RWC10-GR.8-S.3-GLE.3-IQ.1)? How do you construct a thesis statement? (RWC10-GR.8-S.3-GLE.2-EO.b.i)

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<p>Figurative language and word choice influences a reader's relationship to the text (RWC10-GR.8-S.2-GLE.3-EO.b.i-iii)</p>	<p>What is a words' connotation? (RWC10-GR.8-S.2-GLE.3-EO.a.vi-vii) What is a word's denotation? What is figurative language (idioms, metaphors, similes, etc.)?</p>	<p>How does the author use language to influence the readers? (RWC10-GR.8-S.2-GLE.3-EO.a.iii) How does the author's use of language inspire change? (RWC10-GR.8-S.2-GLE.3-EO.b.ii-iii) How does the reader's understanding of language affect his or her interpretation of the text? (RWC10-GR.8-S.3-GLE.3-IQ.3)</p>
<p>Societal norms and systems may influence personal beliefs and values that inform the understanding and appreciation of a given text (RWC10-GR.8-S.2-GLE.2-IQ.3)</p>	<p>What is meant by the term "societal norms" (RWC10-GR.8-S.2-GLE.3-EO.a.vi-vii) What are personal beliefs and values? What does it mean to be biased?</p>	<p>When students are reading text, how do they monitor clarity and bias in reading? (RWC10-GR.8-S.4-GLE.2-IQ.3) Why do listeners need to recognize the contributions and backgrounds of others? (RWC10-GR.8-S.1-GLE.2-N.1)</p>

<p>Critical Content: My students will Know...</p>	<p>Key Skills: My students will be able to (Do)...</p>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The significance of evidence in the support of claims/assertions (RWC10-GR.8-S.2-GLE.2-EO.a.i) and (RWC10-GR.8-S.2-GLE.2-EO.a.i) • Key words that identify/suggest bias (RWC10-GR.8-S.2-GLE.2-RA.2) • The relationship between personal perspectives and the understanding/interpretation of a text (RWC10-GR.8-S.2-GLE.3-N.1) • Precise meanings and underlying meanings of words in context (RWC10-GR.8-S.2-GLE.2-EO.b.i). • Multiple and differing points of view on a given topic (RWC10-GR.8-S.2-GLE.2-EO.b.iii) • Text structure and organization for informative/explanatory writing (RWC10-GR.8-S.3-GLE.2-EO.b.i-vii) • Details and information about varying time periods based on research and good, relevant evidence (RWC10-GR.8-S.4-GLE.1) • The definition of reasoning (RWC10-GR.8-S.4-GLE.3) • The importance of using standard grammar when writing and speaking (RWC10-GR.8-S.3-GLE.3-EO.a) 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Present claims and findings (RWC10-GR.8-S.1-GLE.2-EO.a). • Read for credibility and bias in authors (RWC10-GR.8-S.2-GLE.2-RA.2). • Analyze how a text makes connections among and distinctions between individuals (RWC10-GR.8-S.2-GLE.1-EO.a.iii). • Determine the connotation and denotation of words as they are used in a text (RWC10-GR.8-S.2-GLE.2-EO.b.i) • Recognize that there are multiple points of view on the same topic (RWC10-GR.8-S.2-GLE.3-N.1). • Explore a variety of authors and literature to develop a relationship with literature for personal interest selection (RWC10-GR.8-S.2-GLE.1-RA.2) • Write informative/explanatory texts to examine a topic and convey ideas, concepts, and information through synthesis of content (RWC10-GR.8-S.3-GLE.2-EO.b.i-vii). • Connect prior knowledge to new information (RWC10-GR.8-S.3-GLE.2-N.1). • Practice and review reasoning to determine if it is reliable (RWC10-GR.8-S.3-GLE.3-RA.3). • Determine strengths and weaknesses of their thinking and thinking of others (RWC10-GR.8-S.4-GLE.2-EO.b) • Compare / contrast the structure of two or more texts and analyze how the differing structure of each text contributes to its meaning and style (RWC10-GR.8-S.2-GLE.1-EO.b.ii) • Develop and share interpretations of literary works (RWC10-GR.8-S.2-GLE.1-EO.c) • Read and comprehend grade level texts of various genres (RWC10-GR.8-S.2-GLE.1-EO.d.)

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<p>Critical Language: includes the Academic and Technical vocabulary, semantics, and discourse which are particular to and necessary for accessing a given discipline. EXAMPLE: A student in Language Arts can demonstrate the ability to apply and comprehend critical language through the following statement: <i>“Mark Twain exposes the hypocrisy of slavery through the use of satire.”</i></p>	
<p>A student in _____ can demonstrate the ability to apply and comprehend critical language through the following statement(s):</p>	<p><i>“After reading and synthesizing texts on the ‘American Dream,’ there is evidence to support that the American Dream has not changed since the foundation of the country.”</i></p>
<p>Academic Vocabulary:</p>	<p>Interpretation, connection, perspective, relationship, synthesis, analyze, values, beliefs, support, context, construct, justice, evidence</p>
<p>Technical Vocabulary:</p>	<p>Audience, transitions, conventions, tone, mood, Greek/Latin roots</p>

Instructional Unit Development
Unit Planning For 8th Grade Reading, Writing, and Communicating

Unit Description:	In this 9-week unit, students will examine the concept of the American dream. Students will read a variety of texts (informational and literary) to develop an understanding of how the concept of “the American dream” has changed and/or endured over time. The texts read will span many decades – from our country’s foundational documents up to contemporary times -- and classroom discussions will explore how text qualities such as perspective, language use, and imagery shape our perceptions and understanding. The students will synthesize the texts presented in this unit to develop a personal definition of the American dream. The unit culminates in a multi-genre project that expresses this definition of the American dream.
Unit Generalizations	
Key Generalization:	To demonstrate deep understanding of a topic, writers construct informative or explanatory texts based on a synthesis of diverse and varied information/perspectives
Supporting Generalizations:	Authors create characters and relationships that cross time periods and places in order to represent timeless themes or universal messages
	Figurative language and word choice influences a reader’s relationship to the text
	Societal norms and systems may influence personal beliefs and values that inform the understanding and appreciation of a given text
Considerations:	This unit traces a concept – The American Dream – by looking at American Literature over time to see how the idea of “the American Dream” was expressed through the literature of distinct time periods. In this unit, students will explore literature written about or at the time of the Civil War, the European Immigration, the Roaring 20’s, the Great Depression, the Civil Rights era, and in contemporary times. Teachers could certainly consider other time periods. The unit includes literary works, political speeches, a variety of nonfiction texts, and images. The intent of providing a variety of texts is to show students a wide range of perceptions and expressions of the American Dream over time. Teachers may want to assign a novel from one of the time periods covered as a whole-class read or have students participate in literature circles covering the novel of their choice.

Performance Assessment: <i>The capstone/summative assessment for this unit.</i>	
Claims: (Key generalization(s) to be mastered and demonstrated through the capstone assessment.)	To demonstrate deep understanding of a topic, writers construct informative or explanatory texts based on a synthesis of diverse and varied information/perspectives
Stimulus Material: (Engaging scenario that includes role, audience, goal/outcome and explicitly connects the key generalization)	You and a classmate are a documentary team that has been hired to develop a project revealing modern day perspectives on the American Dream. Your project should be a multi-genre representation that relies on words, photographs, and images to express your understanding of the American Dream. Role: a photographer/artist or a writer Audience: PBS viewers Format: a multi-genre representation of their definition of the American dream Topic: the American Dream
Product/Evidence: (Expected product from students)	Students will complete a multi-genre project that represents their definition of the American dream. They will have explored definitions, visual representations, stories, and nonfiction writings throughout the unit, so their representation may include a variety of those sorts of texts and images. This could be a partner project or done individually. Teachers may choose to hold students accountable for a certain number of words or length of their multi-genre project. As Tom Romano describes it: “A

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	multigenre paper arises from research, experience, and imagination. It is not an uninterrupted, expository monolog nor a seamless narrative nor a collection of poems. A multigenre paper is composed of many genres and subgenres, each piece self-contained, making a point of its own, yet connected by theme or topic and sometimes by language, images and content. In addition to many genres, a multigenre paper may also contain many voices, not just the author's. The trick is to make such a paper hang together” from <i>Blending Genre, Altering Style: Writing Multigenre Papers</i> (2000) (x-xi).
Differentiation: (Multiple modes for student expression)	The multigenre representation could be visual, video, digital or modified for length

Texts for independent reading or for class read aloud to support the content	
Informational/Non-Fiction	Fiction
http://www.loc.gov/teachers/classroommaterials/lessons/american-dream/students/thedream.html (background on the American Dream) http://america.day-dreamer.de/dream.htm (“What is the American Dream?”)	<i>The Red Badge of Courage</i> by Stephen Crane http://americanliterature.com/author/stephen-crane/book/the-red-badge-of-courage/summary (<i>The Red Badge of Courage</i> by Stephen Crane) <i>Out of the Dust</i> by Karen Hess <i>The Watsons Go to Birmingham – 1963</i> by Christopher Paul Curtis http://www.shortstoryguide.com/short-stories-about-the-american-dream/ (short story collection about the American Dream)

Ongoing Discipline-Specific Learning Experiences				
1.	Description:	Students will be able to cite textual evidence to support their analysis.	Teacher Resources:	https://www.teachingchannel.org/videos/teaching-about-textual-evidence (teaching about using textual evidence) http://commoncore.scholastic.com/sites/default/files/ACT-090213-CommonCore.pdf (lesson plan for citing textual evidence) http://www.readwritethink.org/classroom-resources/lesson-plans/prove-citation-scavenger-hunt-30899.html?tab=4 (lesson plan from readwritethink.org on citing textual evidence)
			Student Resources:	http://www.readingquest.org/edis771/column_notes.html (two-column notes) http://www.readwritethink.org/classroom-resources/printouts/chart-30225.html (t-chart for citing evidence)
	Skills:	Using textual evidence, identifying themes and main ideas	Assessment:	Students will cite textual evidence using two-column notes and in their response to literature exit tickets.
2.	Description:	Students will be able to consider that multiple viewpoints exist.	Teacher Resources:	http://www.mmanea.org/wp-content/uploads/2014/08/different-perspectives.jpg (perspective cartoon) http://www.readwritethink.org/classroom-resources/lesson-plans/multiple-perspectives-

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				building-critical-30629.html?tab=4 (lesson plan ideas for multiple perspective) https://www.teachingchannel.org/videos/inquiry-based-teaching-facilitation (Inquiry Based instruction) http://www.adlit.org/article/23052/ (from AdLit: “Multiple Texts: Multiple Opportunities for Teaching and Learning”)
			Student Resources:	http://www.readwritethink.org/files/resources/printouts/T-Chart.pdf (t-chart template)
	Skills:	Understanding different perspectives	Assessment:	http://www.readwritethink.org/files/resources/printouts/T-Chart.pdf (t-chart template)
3.	Description:		Teacher Resources:	
			Student Resources:	
	Skills:		Assessment:	

Prior Knowledge and Experiences	
Students should understand point of view, audience, theme, perspective, research, citation, informative/explanatory writing skills, and have a 7 th grade knowledge of U.S. history	

Learning Experience # 1	
Task Description: <i>The teacher may... so that students can...</i>	The teacher may brainstorm the question “What is the American Dream?” so that students can begin exploring their own perspectives on the concept.
Generalization Connection(s):	Authors create characters and relationships that cross time periods and places in order to represent timeless themes or universal messages Societal norms and systems may influence personal beliefs and values that inform the understanding and appreciation of a given text
Teacher Resources:	http://www.pbs.org/wnet/americannovel/ideas/american_article.html (The American Dream in literature) https://www.ego4u.com/en/read-on/countries/usa/american-dream (questions for discussion on the American Dream) http://static.dpsk12.org/gems/montbello/FullUnitStudent.pdf (resources for The American Dream) http://www.readwritethink.org/resources/resource-print.html?id=30925 (“Chasing the Dream: Researching the Meaning of the American Dream” – a lesson plan from readwritethink.org)
Student Resources:	Students, as a class, will create a word wall / poster board that captures their ideas.
Assessment:	The class will create a poster or word wall of their collective understanding of the American Dream

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Differentiation: (Multiple means for students to access content and multiple modes for student to express understanding.)	Access (Resources and/or Process)	Expression (Products and/or Performance)
	The teacher may provide example definitions of the American dream for others to prompt reflection.	The student may use other definitions of the American dream to spark their own interpretation.
Extensions for depth and complexity:	Access (Resources and/or Process)	Expression (Products and/or Performance)
	N/A	N/A
Critical Content:	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The significance of evidence in the support of claims/assertions • Precise meanings and underlying meanings of words in context • Multiple and differing points of view on a given topic 	
Key Skills:	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Present claims and findings • Recognize that there are multiple points of view on the same topic • Connect prior knowledge to new information • Determine strengths and weaknesses of their thinking and thinking of others 	
Critical Language:	American dream, theme	

Learning Experience # 2	
Task Description: <i>The teacher may... so that students can...</i>	The teacher may present various quotes and informational texts (e.g. infographics) related to the American dream so that students can begin to consider multiple perspectives around the American dream.
Generalization Connection(s):	Figurative language and word choice influences a reader's relationship to the text To demonstrate deep understanding of a topic, writers construct informative or explanatory texts based on a synthesis of diverse and varied information/perspectives
Teacher Resources:	http://static.dpsk12.org/gems/montbello/FullUnitStudent.pdf (presidential quotes) http://www.businessinsider.com/best-inspirational-quotes-from-us-presidents-2014-7?op=1 (presidential quotes) http://www.brighthubeducation.com/middle-school-english-lessons/99499-teaching-denotation-and-connotation-through-usage-of-words/ (teaching denotation & connotation) http://izquotes.com/quote/21620 (quotes) http://www.alltupacquotes.com/american-dream-wasnt-meant-cause-lady-libertys-hypocrite/ (quotes) http://1.bp.blogspot.com/-Z61dlgeHKB4/T7HsA2ILXI/AAAAAAAAAuc/5R_aKLEHoA8/s1600/american_dream.jpg (quotes) http://www.buzzquotes.com/carlin-quotes-on-america (quotes) https://www.newdream.org/resources/poll-2014 (Infographic on the American Dream) http://www.npr.org/2012/05/30/153942166/sizing-up-the-american-dream (Infographic on the American Dream from NPR) https://www.aei.org/multimedia/american-dream/ (Infographic on the American Dream)

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Student Resources:	http://static.dpsk12.org/gems/montbello/FullUnitStudent.pdf (presidential quotes) http://www.businessinsider.com/best-inspirational-quotes-from-us-presidents-2014-7?op=1 (presidential quotes) http://izquotes.com/quote/21620 (quotes) http://www.alltupacquotes.com/american-dream-wasnt-meant-cause-lady-libertys-hypocrite/ (quotes) http://1.bp.blogspot.com/-Z61dlgeHKB4/T7HsA2lJXI/AAAAAAAAAuc/5R_aKLEHoA8/s1600/american_dream.jpg (quotes) http://www.buzzquotes.com/carlin-quotes-on-america (quotes) https://www.newdream.org/resources/poll-2014 (Infographic on the American Dream) http://www.npr.org/2012/05/30/153942166/sizing-up-the-american-dream (Infographic on the American Dream from NPR) https://www.aei.org/multimedia/american-dream/ (Infographic on the American Dream)	
Assessment:	Students will choose one quote or other representation to interpret and explain why they agree or disagree with its message as it relates to their personal view of the American dream to be presented to the class.	
Differentiation: (Multiple means for students to access content and multiple modes for student to express understanding.)	Access (Resources and/or Process)	Expression (Products and/or Performance)
	The teacher may pair students with a partner.	The student may work with a partner.
Extensions for depth and complexity:	Access (Resources and/or Process)	Expression (Products and/or Performance)
	The teacher may require more detailed or insightful interpretation of the quote.	The student may offer comparisons between different quotes or representations.
Critical Content:	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The significance of evidence in the support of claims/assertions • The relationship between personal perspectives and the understanding/interpretation of a text • Precise meanings and underlying meanings of words in context • The importance of using standard grammar when writing and speaking 	
Key Skills:	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Present claims and findings • Analyze how a text makes connections among and distinctions between individuals • Determine the connotation and denotation of words as they are used in a text • Explore a variety of authors and literature to develop a relationship with literature for personal interest selection • Connect prior knowledge to new information • Compare / contrast the structure of two or more texts and analyze how the differing structure of each text contributes to its meaning and style • Read and comprehend grade level texts of various genres 	
Critical Language:	Connotation, denotation, American dream, interpretation,	

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Learning Experience # 3		
Task Description: <i>The teacher may... so that students can...</i>	The teacher may present founding documents (e.g. the U.S. Constitution, Declaration of Independence) so that students can analyze the language and ideas in those texts as they relate to the American Dream. [<i>Understanding text, responding to text</i>]	
Generalization Connection(s):	Figurative language and word choice influences a reader's relationship to the text Societal norms and systems may influence personal beliefs and values that inform the understanding and appreciation of a given text	
Teacher Resources:	http://constitutioncenter.org (the U.S. Constitution) http://www.constitution.org/us_doi.pdf (the Declaration of Independence)	
Student Resources:	http://constitutioncenter.org (the U.S. Constitution) http://www.constitution.org/us_doi.pdf (the Declaration of Independence)	
Assessment:	The student will engage in close reading of founding documents, particularly annotation and highlighting, to analyze the language that the founding father's used to create a vision for America.	
Differentiation: (Multiple means for students to access content and multiple modes for student to express understanding.)	Access (Resources and/or Process)	Expression (Products and/or Performance)
	The teacher may assign smaller portions of the text to be analyzed or allow students to work in pairs.	The student may complete the assignment with guidance.
Extensions for depth and complexity:	Access (Resources and/or Process)	Expression (Products and/or Performance)
	N/A	N/A
Critical Content:	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The significance of evidence in the support of claims/assertions • The relationship between personal perspectives and the understanding/interpretation of a text • Precise meanings and underlying meanings of words in context 	
Key Skills:	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Present claims and findings • Analyze how a text makes connections among and distinctions between individuals • Determine the connotation and denotation of words as they are used in a text • Connect prior knowledge to new information • Compare / contrast the structure of two or more texts and analyze how the differing structure of each text contributes to its meaning and style 	
Critical Language:	Close reading, primary document	

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Learning Experience # 4		
Task Description: <i>The teacher may... so that students can...</i>	The teacher may use literary and nonfiction texts related to or written at the time of the American Civil War (e.g. Walt Whitman’s “I Hear America Singing”) so that students can understand that authors intentionally use language and images to convey ideas related to concepts or themes (i.e. the American Dream). [<i>Understanding text, responding to text</i>]	
Generalization Connection(s):	Figurative language and word choice influences a reader’s relationship to the text Societal norms and systems may influence personal beliefs and values that inform the understanding and appreciation of a given text	
Teacher Resources:	http://edsitement.neh.gov/feature/literature-civil-war (edsitement’s resources entitled “Literature of the Civil War”) http://www.abrahamlincolnonline.org/lincoln/speeches/gettysburg.htm (Lincoln’s Gettysburg Address) http://www.gutenberg.org/cache/epub/375/pg375.txt (“An Occurrence at Owl Creek Bridge”) https://www.gutenberg.org/files/23/23-h/23-h.htm (<i>Narrative of the Life of Frederick Douglass An American Slave</i>) https://archive.org/stream/lifeandtimesfre00douggoog/lifeandtimesfre00douggoog_djvu.txt (<i>Life and Times of Frederick Douglass</i>) http://www.civilwarhome.com/ocaptain.html (“Oh Captain! My Captain!” by Walt Whitman) http://www.poets.org/poetsorg/poem/i-hear-america-singing (Walt Whitman “I Hear America Singing”) http://www.readwritethink.org/professional-development/strategy-guides/close-reading-literary-texts-31012.html (PD on close reading)	
Student Resources:	http://www.abrahamlincolnonline.org/lincoln/speeches/gettysburg.htm (Lincoln’s Gettysburg Address) http://www.gutenberg.org/cache/epub/375/pg375.txt (“An Occurrence at Owl Creek Bridge”) https://www.gutenberg.org/files/23/23-h/23-h.htm (<i>Narrative of the Life of Frederick Douglass An American Slave</i>) https://archive.org/stream/lifeandtimesfre00douggoog/lifeandtimesfre00douggoog_djvu.txt (<i>Life and Times of Frederick Douglass</i>) http://www.civilwarhome.com/ocaptain.html (“Oh Captain! My Captain!” by Walt Whitman) http://www.poets.org/poetsorg/poem/i-hear-america-singing (Walt Whitman “I Hear America Singing”)	
Assessment:	The student will engage in close reading annotation to highlight the language of literature from and about the Civil War era and how it illustrates elements of the American Dream	
Differentiation: (Multiple means for students to access content and multiple modes for student to express understanding.)	Access (Resources and/or Process)	Expression (Products and/or Performance)
	The teacher may assign smaller portions of the text to be analyzed or allow students to work in pairs.	The student may complete the assignment according to teacher instruction.
Extensions for depth and complexity:	Access (Resources and/or Process)	Expression (Products and/or Performance)
	N/A	N/A
Critical Content:	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The significance of evidence in the support of claims/assertions • The relationship between personal perspectives and the understanding/interpretation of a text) • Precise meanings and underlying meanings of words in context 	

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Key Skills:	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Present claims and findings • Analyze how a text makes connections among and distinctions between individuals • Determine the connotation and denotation of words as they are used in a text • Connect prior knowledge to new information • Compare / contrast the structure of two or more texts and analyze how the differing structure of each text contributes to its meaning and style
Critical Language:	Close reading, primary document

Learning Experience #5		
Task Description: <i>The teacher may... so that students can...</i>	The teacher may use literary and nonfiction texts related to or written during the period of European Immigration (e.g., “America and I” by Anzia Yeziarska) so that students can understand that authors intentionally use language and images to convey ideas related to concepts or themes (i.e. the American Dream). [<i>Understanding text, responding to text</i>]	
Generalization Connection(s):	Figurative language and word choice influences a reader’s relationship to the text Societal norms and systems may influence personal beliefs and values that inform the understanding and appreciation of a given text	
Teacher Resources:	http://tinyurl.com/mkkvouy (background on the immigrant experience and the American Dream) http://www.pbs.org/wnet/americanovel/ideas/melting_article.html (PBS American Masters documentary on “The Melting Pot”) http://oedb.org/ilibrarian/coming-to-america-50-greatest-works-of-immigration-literature/ (Coming to America: 50 Greatest Works of Immigration Literature) http://www.nps.gov/stli/learn/historyculture/the-immigrants-statue.htm (“The Immigrant’s Statue”) https://natickenglish.wikispaces.com/file/view/America+and+I.pdf (“America and I” by Anzia Yeziarska)	
Student Resources:	http://www.nps.gov/stli/learn/historyculture/the-immigrants-statue.htm (“The Immigrant’s Statue”) https://natickenglish.wikispaces.com/file/view/America+and+I.pdf (“America and I” by Anzia Yeziarska)	
Assessment:	Students will explore how the immigrant experience is influenced by the promise of the American Dream in a short response exit ticket.	
Differentiation: (Multiple means for students to access content and multiple modes for student to express understanding.)	Access (Resources and/or Process)	Expression (Products and/or Performance)
	The teacher may assign smaller portions of the text to be analyzed or allow students to work in pairs.	The student may complete the assignment according to teacher instruction.
Extensions for depth and complexity:	Access (Resources and/or Process)	Expression (Products and/or Performance)
	N/A	N/A
Critical Content:	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The significance of evidence in the support of claims/assertions 	

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	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The relationship between personal perspectives and the understanding/interpretation of a text • Precise meanings and underlying meanings of words in context
Key Skills:	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Present claims and findings • Analyze how a text makes connections among and distinctions between individuals • Determine the connotation and denotation of words as they are used in a text • Connect prior knowledge to new information • Compare / contrast the structure of two or more texts and analyze how the differing structure of each text contributes to its meaning and style
Critical Language:	Close reading, primary document

Learning Experience #6		
Task Description: <i>The teacher may... so that students can...</i>	The teacher may use literary and nonfiction texts related to or written during the Roaring 20's (e.g. "America") so that students can understand that authors intentionally use language and images to convey ideas related to concepts or themes (i.e. the American Dream).	
Generalization Connection(s):	Figurative language and word choice influences a reader's relationship to the text Societal norms and systems may influence personal beliefs and values that inform the understanding and appreciation of a given text	
Teacher Resources:	http://study.com/academy/lesson/american-art-pop-culture-literature-of-the-1920s.html ("American Art, Pop Culture, & Literature of the 1920s" http://www.history.com/topics/roaring-twenties (background for Roaring 20's from history.com) https://kidskonnnect.com/history/roaring-twenties/ (background on the Roaring 20's) http://www.poetryfoundation.org/poem/173957 ("America" by Claude McKay) http://www.poets.org/poetsorg/poem/dreams ("Dreams" by Langston Hughes)	
Student Resources:	http://www.poetryfoundation.org/poem/173957 ("America" by Claude McKay) http://www.poets.org/poetsorg/poem/dreams ("Dreams" by Langston Hughes)	
Assessment:	The student will engage in close reading annotation to highlight the language of the literature during or about the Roaring 20's that express the American dream.	
Differentiation: (Multiple means for students to access content and multiple modes for student to express understanding.)	Access (Resources and/or Process)	Expression (Products and/or Performance)
	The teacher may assign smaller portions of the text to be analyzed or allow students to work in pairs.	The student may complete the assignment according to teacher instruction.
Extensions for depth and complexity:	Access (Resources and/or Process)	Expression (Products and/or Performance)

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	N/A	N/A
Critical Content:	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The significance of evidence in the support of claims/assertions • The relationship between personal perspectives and the understanding/interpretation of a text • Precise meanings and underlying meanings of words in context 	
Key Skills:	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Present claims and findings • Analyze how a text makes connections among and distinctions between individuals • Determine the connotation and denotation of words as they are used in a text • Connect prior knowledge to new information • Compare / contrast the structure of two or more texts and analyze how the differing structure of each text contributes to its meaning and style 	
Critical Language:	Close reading, primary document	

Learning Experience #7	
Task Description: <i>The teacher may... so that students can...</i>	The teacher may use literary and nonfiction texts related to or written during the period of the Great Depression (e.g. “The Egg” by Sherwood Anderson) so that students can understand that authors intentionally use language and images to convey ideas related to concepts or themes (i.e. the American Dream). [<i>Understanding text, responding to text</i>]
Generalization Connection(s):	Figurative language and word choice influences a reader’s relationship to the text Societal norms and systems may influence personal beliefs and values that inform the understanding and appreciation of a given text
Teacher Resources:	http://www.english.illinois.edu/maps/depression/depression.htm (resources from Modern American Poetry on the Great Depression) http://www.loc.gov/teachers/classroommaterials/lessons/poetry/ (resource from the Library of Congress: “Found Poetry with Primary Sources: The Great Depression”) http://www.educationworld.com/a_tech/techlp/techlp022.shtml (Poetry from Photos: A Great Depression Activity) http://www.npr.org/templates/story/story.php?storyId=97468008 (NPR story: “Survivors of the Great Depression Tell Their Stories”) http://www.poetryfoundation.org/poetrymagazine/browse/189/3#!20607644 (“Great Depression Story” by Claudia Emerson) http://www.poetryfoundation.org/poem/250278 (“Pantoum of the Great Depression” by Donald Justice) http://www.poetryfoundation.org/poetrymagazine/browse/58/2#!20582538 (“Dust Bowl” by Langston Hughes) http://www.pbs.org/kenburns/dustbowl/educators/lesson-plans/ (the “Dust Bowl” lesson plans; scroll down for Woody Guthrie songs) http://eldritchpress.org/tales/egg.html (“The Egg” by Sherwood Anderson)
Student Resources:	http://www.npr.org/templates/story/story.php?storyId=97468008 (NPR story: “Survivors of the Great Depression Tell Their Stories”) http://www.poetryfoundation.org/poetrymagazine/browse/189/3#!20607644 (“Great Depression Story” by Claudia Emerson)

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	http://www.poetryfoundation.org/poem/250278 (“Pantoum of the Great Depression” by Donald Justice) http://www.poetryfoundation.org/poetrymagazine/browse/58/2#!/20582538 (“Dust Bowl” by Langston Hughes) http://www.pbs.org/kenburns/dustbowl/educators/lesson-plans/ (the “Dust Bowl” lesson plans; scroll down for Woody Guthrie songs) http://eldritchpress.org/tales/egg.html (“The Egg” by Sherwood Anderson)	
Assessment:	Students will identify the language and images of the Great Depression and respond to how those may convey the American Dream in an exit ticket. They may write a response to a question such as “What language and images do authors use to portray America at the time of the Great Depression? How do those impact our perception of the American Dream?”	
Differentiation: (Multiple means for students to access content and multiple modes for student to express understanding.)	Access (Resources and/or Process)	Expression (Products and/or Performance)
	The teacher may assign smaller portions of the text to be analyzed or allow students to work in pairs.	The student may complete the assignment with teacher guidance.
Extensions for depth and complexity:	Access (Resources and/or Process)	Expression (Products and/or Performance)
	N/A	N/A
Critical Content:	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The significance of evidence in the support of claims/assertions • The relationship between personal perspectives and the understanding/interpretation of a text • Precise meanings and underlying meanings of words in context 	
Key Skills:	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Present claims and findings • Analyze how a text makes connections among and distinctions between individuals • Determine the connotation and denotation of words as they are used in a text • Connect prior knowledge to new information • Compare / contrast the structure of two or more texts and analyze how the differing structure of each text contributes to its meaning and style 	
Critical Language:	Close reading, primary document	

Learning Experience #8	
Task Description: <i>The teacher may... so that students can...</i>	The teacher may use literary and nonfiction texts related to or written at the time of the Civil Rights era (e.g. “I, Too, Sing America”) so that students can understand that authors intentionally use language and images to convey ideas related to concepts or themes (i.e. the American Dream). [<i>Understanding text, responding to text</i>]
Generalization Connection(s):	Figurative language and word choice influences a reader’s relationship to the text (RWC10-GR.8-S.2-GLE.3-EO.b.i-iii)

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	Societal norms and systems may influence personal beliefs and values that inform the understanding and appreciation of a given text (RWC10-GR.8-S.2-GLE.2-IQ.3)	
Teacher Resources:	http://www.ifklibrary.org/~media/assets/Education%20and%20Public%20Programs/Education/materials/Civil%20Rights%20Era%20Bibliography.pdf (annotated bibliography of literature on the Civil Rights Era for Young Readers) http://www.yalsa.ala.org/thehub/2014/01/20/teens-behaving-historically-the-civil-rights-movement-in-ya-literature/ (Teen Behaving Historically: the Civil Rights Movement in YA Literature) http://www.crmvet.org/poetry/fhughes.htm (poems by Langston Hughes) https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=oiCWngPt-L4 ("I, too, Sing America" reading by Langston Hughes) http://www.poets.org/poetsorg/poem/i-too ("I, Too, Sing America" by Langston Hughes) http://www.crmvet.org/poetry/arandal.htm (poems by Dudley Randall)	
Student Resources:	http://www.crmvet.org/poetry/fhughes.htm (poems by Langston Hughes) https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=oiCWngPt-L4 ("I, too, Sing America" reading by Langston Hughes) http://www.poets.org/poetsorg/poem/i-too ("I, Too, Sing America" by Langston Hughes) http://www.crmvet.org/poetry/arandal.htm (poems by Dudley Randall)	
Assessment:	Students may engage in close reading annotation to highlight the language of the literature during or about the Roaring 20's that express the American dream. Students may compare Hughes' "I, Too, Sing America" with Whitman's "I Hear America Singing"	
Differentiation: (Multiple means for students to access content and multiple modes for student to express understanding.)	Access (Resources and/or Process)	Expression (Products and/or Performance)
	The teacher may assign smaller portions of the text to be analyzed or allow students to work in pairs.	The student may complete the assignment according to teacher instruction.
Extensions for depth and complexity:	Access (Resources and/or Process)	Expression (Products and/or Performance)
	N/A	N/A
Critical Content:	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The significance of evidence in the support of claims/assertions • The relationship between personal perspectives and the understanding/interpretation of a text • Precise meanings and underlying meanings of words in context 	
Key Skills:	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Present claims and findings • Analyze how a text makes connections among and distinctions between individuals • Determine the connotation and denotation of words as they are used in a text • Connect prior knowledge to new information • Compare / contrast the structure of two or more texts and analyze how the differing structure of each text contributes to its meaning and style 	

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Critical Language:	Close reading, primary document
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Learning Experience # 9		
Task Description: <i>The teacher may... so that students can...</i>	The teacher may present contrasting speeches (e.g. Lincoln’s “Gettysburg Address,” Martin Luther King’s “I Have a Dream Speech,” and JFK’s inaugural address”) so that students can understand that authors intentionally use language and images to convey ideas related to concepts or themes (i.e. the American Dream). [<i>Understanding text, responding to text</i>]	
Generalization Connection(s):	Authors create characters and relationships that cross time periods and places in order to represent timeless themes or universal messages Figurative language and word choice influences a reader’s relationship to the text Societal norms and systems may influence personal beliefs and values that inform the understanding and appreciation of a given text	
Teacher Resources:	http://www.pbs.org/newshour/extra/lessons_plans/i-have-a-dream-as-a-work-of-literature/ (“I Have a Dream” as work of literature from PBS) https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=z_ZgSK9yIbk (I Have a Dream Speech) http://www.abrahamlincolnonline.org/lincoln/speeches/gettysburg.htm (Lincoln’s Gettysburg Address) http://www.americanrhetoric.com/speeches/jfkinaugural.htm (JFK’s Inaugural Speech)	
Student Resources:	https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=z_ZgSK9yIbk (I Have a Dream Speech) http://www.americanrhetoric.com/speeches/mlkihavedream.htm (I Have a Dream Speech analysis) http://www.economist.com/news/leaders/21583992-fifty-years-after-martin-luther-kings-speech-fixing-americas-racial-ills-requires-new-50-years-after-i-have-a-dream http://www.pbs.org/newshour/extra/lessons_plans/i-have-a-dream-as-a-work-of-literature/ (“I Have a Dream” as work of literature from PBS) https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=z_ZgSK9yIbk (I Have a Dream Speech) http://www.abrahamlincolnonline.org/lincoln/speeches/gettysburg.htm (Lincoln’s Gettysburg Address) http://www.americanrhetoric.com/speeches/jfkinaugural.htm (JFK’s Inaugural Speech)	
Assessment:	The student will choose a theme/element/belief about the American dream and compare and contrast two speeches messages and interpretations of that theme in a t-chart or similar organizational structure. http://crmsliteracy.wikispaces.com/Two-column+Notes (two column notes)	
Differentiation: (Multiple means for students to access content and multiple modes for student to express understanding.)	Access (Resources and/or Process)	Expression (Products and/or Performance)
	The teacher may assign a theme and/or speeches.	The student may complete the assignment according to the teacher’s instructions.
Extensions for depth and complexity:	Access (Resources and/or Process)	Expression (Products and/or Performance)

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	The teacher may ask students to analyze the impact of differing views on the same theme/element/belief about the American dream.	The student may complete the assignment according to the teacher's instructions.
Critical Content:	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The significance of evidence in the support of claims/assertions • The relationship between personal perspectives and the understanding/interpretation of a text • Precise meanings and underlying meanings of words in context • Multiple and differing points of view on a given topic • Details and information about varying time periods based on research and good, relevant evidence 	
Key Skills:	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Determine the connotation and denotation of words as they are used in a text • Recognize that there are multiple points of view on the same topic • Connect prior knowledge to new information • Compare / contrast the structure of two or more texts and analyze how the differing structure of each text contributes to its meaning and style • Read and comprehend grade level texts of various 	
Critical Language:	Speech, civil rights, compare, contrast, theme, interpretation	

Learning Experience #10	
Task Description: <i>The teacher may... so that students can...</i>	The teacher may use contemporary literary and nonfiction texts (e.g. "Immigrants in Our Own Land" by Jimmy Santiago Baca) so that students can understand that authors intentionally use language and images to convey ideas related to concepts or themes (i.e. the American Dream). [<i>Understanding text, responding to text</i>]
Generalization Connection(s):	Figurative language and word choice influences a reader's relationship to the text Societal norms and systems may influence personal beliefs and values that inform the understanding and appreciation of a given text
Teacher Resources:	http://www.poetryfoundation.org/poem/179708 ("Immigrants in Our Own Land" by Jimmy Santiago Baca) http://www.poemhunter.com/poem/illegal-immigration/ ("Illegal Immigration" by Whitney Albritton) http://s3.amazonaws.com/scschoolfiles/400/two_kinds_by_amy_tan.pdf ("Two Kinds" short story by Amy Tan) http://politicalsystems.homestead.com/ParadoxAndDream.html ("Paradox and Dream" – an essay by John Steinbeck) http://www.nytimes.com/2010/07/07/business/economy/07generation.html?_r=2&scp=1&sq=american%20dream&st=cse ("American Dream is Elusive for New Generation" – NY Times article. July 6, 2010) http://www.teenink.com/nonfiction/academic/article/439502/The-American-Dream/ ("The American Dream" student article from Teen Ink) http://www.theatlantic.com/business/archive/2015/06/teenagers-are-losing-confidence-in-the-american-dream/395780/ ("Teenager are Losing Confidence in the American Dream" – article in <i>The Atlantic</i>) http://www.nationalreview.com/article/415699/will-american-dream-hold-true-hispanics-michael-barone ("Will the American Dream Hold True for Hispanics" – from <i>the National Review</i>) http://www.usatoday.com/story/money/personalfinance/2014/07/04/american-dream/11122015/ ("American Dream Costs \$130K")

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	<p>A Year” – article in USA Today) http://www.becomingminimalist.com/american-dream/ (“The American Dream Does Not Cost \$130,000/year” – a response to the USA Today article above from “becoming minimalist”)</p>	
Student Resources:	<p>http://www.poetryfoundation.org/poem/179708 (“Immigrants in Our Own Land” by Jimmy Santiago Baca) http://www.poemhunter.com/poem/illegal-immigration/ (“Illegal Immigration” by Whitney Albright) http://s3.amazonaws.com/scschoollfiles/400/two_kinds_by_amy_tan.pdf (“Two Kinds” short story by Amy Tan) http://politicalsystems.homestead.com/ParadoxAndDream.html (“Paradox and Dream” – an essay by John Steinbeck) http://www.nytimes.com/2010/07/07/business/economy/07generation.html?_r=2&scp=1&sq=american%20dream&st=cse (“American Dream is Elusive for New Generation” – NY Times article. July 6, 2010) http://www.teenink.com/nonfiction/academic/article/439502/The-American-Dream/ (“The American Dream” student article from Teen Ink) http://www.theatlantic.com/business/archive/2015/06/teenagers-are-losing-confidence-in-the-american-dream/395780/ (“Teenager are Losing Confidence in the American Dream” – article in <i>The Atlantic</i>) http://www.nationalreview.com/article/415699/will-american-dream-hold-true-hispanics-michael-barone (“Will the American Dream Hold True for Hispanics” – from <i>the National Review</i>) http://www.usatoday.com/story/money/personalfinance/2014/07/04/american-dream/11122015/ (“American Dream Costs \$130K A Year” – article in USA Today) http://www.becomingminimalist.com/american-dream/ (“The American Dream Does Not Cost \$130,000/year” – a response to the USA Today article above from “becoming minimalist”)</p>	
Assessment:	<p>Students will highlight and annotate one of the various texts to demonstrate understanding the language and/or imagery as it relates to the American Dream</p>	
Differentiation: (Multiple means for students to access content and multiple modes for student to express understanding.)	Access (Resources and/or Process)	Expression (Products and/or Performance)
	The teacher may assign smaller portions of the text to be analyzed or allow students to work in pairs.	The student may complete the assignment according to teacher instruction.
Extensions for depth and complexity:	Access (Resources and/or Process)	Expression (Products and/or Performance)
	N/A	N/A
Critical Content:	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The significance of evidence in the support of claims/assertions • The relationship between personal perspectives and the understanding/interpretation of a text • Precise meanings and underlying meanings of words in context 	
Key Skills:	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Present claims and findings • Analyze how a text makes connections among and distinctions between individuals • Determine the connotation and denotation of words as they are used in a text 	

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	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Connect prior knowledge to new information • Compare / contrast the structure of two or more texts and analyze how the differing structure of each text contributes to its meaning and style
Critical Language:	Close reading, primary document

Learning Experience # 11	
Task Description: <i>The teacher may... so that students can...</i>	The teacher may present various advertisements and texts from popular culture so that students can understand how the language and idea used to convey the American Dream may influence our everyday lifestyles and decisions. [<i>Understanding text, responding to text</i>]
Generalization Connection(s):	<p>Authors create characters and relationships that cross time periods and places in order to represent timeless themes or universal messages</p> <p>Figurative language and word choice influences a reader’s relationship to the text</p> <p>Societal norms and systems may influence personal beliefs and values that inform the understanding and appreciation of a given text</p>
Teacher Resources:	<p>http://envisioningtheamericandream.com/american-dream/ (a visual representation of the American Dream in media)</p> <p>http://envisioningtheamericandream.com/tag/chevrolet/ (Chevrolet and envisioning the American Dream)</p> <p>https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=vUGDQo2Pb6g (the controversial Coca-Cola ad)</p> <p>http://abcnews.go.com/GMA/video/coca-cola-commercial-coke-responds-critics-stands-super-22406207 (Coca-Cola’s response to critics)</p> <p>http://www.collegian.com/2014/02/coca-cola-ad-promotes-the-american-dream/61970/ (editorial from the <i>Collegian</i> on the Coca-Cola ad during the Super Bowl)</p> <p>http://www.usnews.com/opinion/articles/2014/02/11/cokes-super-bowl-ad-markets-unhealthy-behaviors-to-immigrants (opinion article from <i>U.S. News & World Report</i> on the Coca-Cola ad during the Super Bowl)</p> <p>https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=qHpO9DzylWc (“American Family Insurance – the American Dream commercial”)</p>
Student Resources:	<p>http://envisioningtheamericandream.com/american-dream/ (a visual representation of the American Dream in media)</p> <p>http://envisioningtheamericandream.com/tag/chevrolet/ (Chevrolet and envisioning the American Dream)</p> <p>https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=vUGDQo2Pb6g (the controversial Coca-Cola ad)</p> <p>http://abcnews.go.com/GMA/video/coca-cola-commercial-coke-responds-critics-stands-super-22406207 (Coca-Cola’s response to critics)</p> <p>http://www.collegian.com/2014/02/coca-cola-ad-promotes-the-american-dream/61970/ (editorial from the <i>Collegian</i> on the Coca-Cola ad during the Super Bowl)</p> <p>http://www.usnews.com/opinion/articles/2014/02/11/cokes-super-bowl-ad-markets-unhealthy-behaviors-to-immigrants (opinion article from <i>U.S. News & World Report</i> on the Coca-Cola ad during the Super Bowl)</p> <p>https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=qHpO9DzylWc (“American Family Insurance – the American Dream commercial”)</p>
Assessment:	<p>Students may create their own visual representation of the American Dream.</p> <p>Students may critique an advertisement or popular culture image for language or ideas of the American Dream.</p>

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Differentiation: (Multiple means for students to access content and multiple modes for student to express understanding.)	Access (Resources and/or Process)	Expression (Products and/or Performance)
	The teacher may assign a theme and/or speeches.	The student may complete the assignment according to the teacher's instructions.
Extensions for depth and complexity:	Access (Resources and/or Process)	Expression (Products and/or Performance)
	The teacher may ask students to analyze the impact of differing views on the same theme/element/belief about the American dream.	The student may complete the assignment according to the teacher's instructions.
Critical Content:	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The significance of evidence in the support of claims/assertions • The relationship between personal perspectives and the understanding/interpretation of a text • Precise meanings and underlying meanings of words in context • Multiple and differing points of view on a given topic • Details and information about varying time periods based on research and good, relevant evidence 	
Key Skills:	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Determine the connotation and denotation of words as they are used in a text • Recognize that there are multiple points of view on the same topic • Connect prior knowledge to new information • Compare / contrast the structure of two or more texts and analyze how the differing structure of each text contributes to its meaning and style • Read and comprehend grade level texts of various 	
Critical Language:	Speech, civil rights, compare, contrast, theme, interpretation	

Learning Experience # 12		
Task Description: <i>The teacher may... so that students can...</i>	The teacher may introduce the concept of bias and biased language so that students can begin to recognize bias in texts. [Understanding text, responding to text]	
Generalization Connection(s):	<p>Authors create characters and relationships that cross time periods and places in order to represent timeless themes or universal messages</p> <p>To demonstrate deep understanding of a topic, writers construct informative or explanatory texts based on a synthesis of diverse and varied information/perspectives</p> <p>Figurative language and word choice influences a reader's relationship to the text</p> <p>Societal norms and systems may influence personal beliefs and values that inform the understanding and appreciation of a given text</p>	
Teacher Resources:	<p>https://learnzillion.com/lessons/1926-determine-an-authors-bias (Bias lessons)</p> <p>http://www.mhhe.com/mayfieldpub/webtutor/judging.htm (Judging credibility)</p> <p>Texts from throughout the unit</p> <p>http://politicalsystems.homestead.com/ParadoxAndDream.html ("Paradox and Dream" – an essay by John Steinbeck)</p>	

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	<p>http://www.nytimes.com/2010/07/07/business/economy/07generation.html?_r=2&scp=1&sq=american%20dream&st=cse (“American Dream is Elusive for New Generation” – NY Times article. July 6, 2010)</p> <p>http://www.teenink.com/nonfiction/academic/article/439502/The-American-Dream/ (“The American Dream” student article from Teen Ink)</p> <p>http://www.theatlantic.com/business/archive/2015/06/teenagers-are-losing-confidence-in-the-american-dream/395780/ (“Teenager are Losing Confidence in the American Dream” – article in <i>The Atlantic</i>)</p> <p>http://www.nationalreview.com/article/415699/will-american-dream-hold-true-hispanics-michael-barone (“Will the American Dream Hold True for Hispanics” – from <i>the National Review</i>)</p> <p>http://www.usatoday.com/story/money/personalfinance/2014/07/04/american-dream/11122015/ (“American Dream Costs \$130K A Year” – article in USA Today)</p> <p>http://www.becomingminimalist.com/american-dream/ (“The American Dream Does Not Cost \$130,000/year” – a response to the USA Today article above from “becoming minimalist”)</p>	
Student Resources:	<p>Texts from throughout the unit</p> <p>http://politicalsystems.homestead.com/ParadoxAndDream.html (“Paradox and Dream” – an essay by John Steinbeck)</p> <p>http://www.nytimes.com/2010/07/07/business/economy/07generation.html?_r=2&scp=1&sq=american%20dream&st=cse (“American Dream is Elusive for New Generation” – NY Times article. July 6, 2010)</p> <p>http://www.teenink.com/nonfiction/academic/article/439502/The-American-Dream/ (“The American Dream” student article from Teen Ink)</p> <p>http://www.theatlantic.com/business/archive/2015/06/teenagers-are-losing-confidence-in-the-american-dream/395780/ (“Teenager are Losing Confidence in the American Dream” – article in <i>The Atlantic</i>)</p> <p>http://www.nationalreview.com/article/415699/will-american-dream-hold-true-hispanics-michael-barone (“Will the American Dream Hold True for Hispanics” – from <i>the National Review</i>)</p> <p>http://www.usatoday.com/story/money/personalfinance/2014/07/04/american-dream/11122015/ (“American Dream Costs \$130K A Year” – article in USA Today)</p> <p>http://www.becomingminimalist.com/american-dream/ (“The American Dream Does Not Cost \$130,000/year” – a response to the USA Today article above from “becoming minimalist”)</p>	
Assessment:	<p>The student will annotate one of the previous texts studied to indicate bias and write a response commenting on the language that reveals what the author’s bias is toward the subject.</p>	
Differentiation: (Multiple means for students to access content and multiple modes for student to express understanding.)	Access (Resources and/or Process)	Expression (Products and/or Performance)
	The teacher may assign the article and provide a framed essay structure.	The student may complete the essay based on an assigned article and/or with a framed structure.
Extensions for depth and complexity:	Access (Resources and/or Process)	Expression (Products and/or Performance)
	The teacher may assign the student a specific article that aligns with their beliefs but contains bias.	The student may confront their own bias.

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Critical Content:	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The significance of evidence in the support of claims/assertions • Key words that identify/suggest bias • The relationship between personal perspectives and the understanding/interpretation of a text • Precise meanings and underlying meanings of words in context • Multiple and differing points of view on a given topic • Text structure and organization for informative/explanatory writing • The definition of reasoning • The importance of using standard grammar when writing and speaking
Key Skills:	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Present claims and findings • Read for credibility and bias in authors • Determine the connotation and denotation of words as they are used in a text • Recognize that there are multiple points of view on the same topic • Write informative/explanatory texts to examine a topic and convey ideas, concepts, and information through synthesis of content • Practice and review reasoning to determine if it is reliable • Determine strengths and weaknesses of their thinking and thinking of others • Read and comprehend grade level texts of various genres
Critical Language:	Bias, credibility, explanatory writing, evidence, context, point of view

Learning Experience # 13	
Task Description: <i>The teacher may... so that students can...</i>	The teacher may present and revisit various poems around the topic of the American dream (see previous Learning Experiences) so that students can use figurative language to convey a particular concept or theme. [<i>Producing text</i>]
Generalization Connection(s):	<p>Authors create characters and relationships that cross time periods and places in order to represent timeless themes or universal messages</p> <p>Figurative language and word choice influences a reader’s relationship to the text</p> <p>Societal norms and systems may influence personal beliefs and values that inform the understanding and appreciation of a given text</p>
Teacher Resources:	<p>http://www.philosophicalsociety.com/Archives/Three%20Poems%20About%20America.htm#\"Let%20America%20Be%20America%20Again (“Let America Be America” by Langston Hughes)</p> <p>http://www.ellenbailey.com/themes/patriotism.htm (Poem examples)</p> <p>http://www.yourdailypoem.com/listpoem.jsp?poem_id=118 (poem “Money” by Dana Gioia)</p> <p>http://www.teenink.com/poetry/all/article/12565/The-American-Dream/ (student poem “The American Dream”)</p> <p>http://literarydevices.net/free-verse/ (What is free verse poetry?)</p>
Student Resources:	http://www.philosophicalsociety.com/Archives/Three%20Poems%20About%20America.htm#\"Let%20America%20Be%20America%20Again (Let America Be America by Langston Hughes)

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	http://www.yourdailypoem.com/listpoem.jsp?poem_id=118 (poem “Money” by Dana Gioia) http://www.teenink.com/poetry/all/article/12565/The-American-Dream/ (student poem “The American Dream”) http://www.ellenbailey.com/themes/patriotism.htm (Poem examples) http://literarydevices.net/free-verse/ (What is free verse poetry?)	
Assessment:	The student will write a free verse poem around their personal concept or definition of the American dream.	
Differentiation: (Multiple means for students to access content and multiple modes for student to express understanding.)	Access (Resources and/or Process)	Expression (Products and/or Performance)
	The teacher may provide a framed poem or definition of the American dream.	The student may complete their poem according to teacher instructions.
Extensions for depth and complexity:	Access (Resources and/or Process)	Expression (Products and/or Performance)
	The teacher may assign specific poetry types outside of free verse.	The student may complete the assignment according to teacher guidelines.
Critical Content:	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The relationship between personal perspectives and the understanding/interpretation of a text • Precise meanings and underlying meanings of words in context • Multiple and differing points of view on a given topic • The importance of using standard grammar when writing and speaking 	
Key Skills:	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Analyze how a text makes connections among and distinctions between individuals • Determine the connotation and denotation of words as they are used in a text • Recognize that there are multiple points of view on the same topic • Explore a variety of authors and literature to develop a relationship with literature for personal interest selection • Connect prior knowledge to new information • Compare / contrast the structure of two or more texts and analyze how the differing structure of each text contributes to its meaning and style • Develop and share interpretations of literary works • Read and comprehend grade level texts of various genres 	
Critical Language:	Free verse, interpretation	

Learning Experience # 14	
Task Description: <i>The teacher may... so that students can...</i>	The teacher may introduce a multi-genre project on American Dream concepts that is a synthesis of texts studied so far and topics so that students can use the communicative potential of a multi-genre project. Teacher note: This learning experience begins the writing process for the students’ own multi-genre exploration of the American Dream. [<i>Producing text</i>]

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Generalization Connection(s):	<p>Authors create characters and relationships that cross time periods and places in order to represent timeless themes or universal messages</p> <p>To demonstrate deep understanding of a topic, writers construct informative or explanatory texts based on a synthesis of diverse and varied information/perspectives</p> <p>Societal norms and systems may influence personal beliefs and values that inform the understanding and appreciation of a given text</p>	
Teacher Resources:	<p>http://www.loc.gov/teachers/classroommaterials/lessons/american-dream/students/ (Assessment outline)</p> <p>Resources found in previous learning experiences</p> <p>http://freeology.com/graphicorgs/thematic-web/ (Graphic organizer for thematic webs)</p> <p>http://www.docstoc.com/docs/104315740/Multi-Genre-Project-Examples (Multi-genre project exemplars)</p> <p>http://writefromtheheartclasses.com/research-projects.php (Multi-genre research projects)</p> <p>http://www.users.muohio.edu/romanots/mgrpapers.htm (Multi-genre project exemplars)</p> <p>http://21stcenturyskillsnmtteachercourse.wikispaces.com/*MULTIGENRE+RESOURCE (Multigenre project)</p> <p>http://www.users.muohio.edu/romanots/Tom_Romano.html (Tom Romano resources for multi-genre projects)</p> <p>http://theunquietlibrary.libguides.com/multigenre2011 (Multi-genre research projects)</p> <p>https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=8DZy5fR-QvI (multigenre video example from Downtown Community Television Center, a youth media training program)</p> <p>As Tom Romano describes it: “A multigenre paper arises from research, experience, and imagination. It is not an uninterrupted, expository monolog nor a seamless narrative nor a collection of poems. A multigenre paper is composed of many genres and subgenres, each piece self-contained, making a point of its own, yet connected by theme or topic and sometimes by language, images and content. In addition to many genres, a multigenre paper may also contain many voices, not just the author's. The trick is to make such a paper hang together” from <i>Blending Genre, Altering Style: Writing Multigenre Papers</i> (2000) (x-xi).</p>	
Student Resources:	<p>http://www.loc.gov/teachers/classroommaterials/lessons/american-dream/students/ (Assessment outline)</p> <p>Resources found in previous learning experiences</p>	
Assessment:	<p>You and a classmate are a documentary team that has been hired to develop a project revealing modern day perspectives on the American Dream. Your project should be a multi-genre representation that relies on words, photographs, and images to express your understanding of the American Dream. Students will receive feedback throughout the writing process. The assessments for this Learning Experience are aimed at providing feedback as they craft their multi-genre project. For this Learning Experience, students will finalize their draft of the multi-genre project.</p> <p>http://www.gtps.k12.nj.us/curric/writing/index_files/page0003.htm (Writer's workshop toolkit with editing/revising checklists, peer observation forms, strategies, and student exemplars)</p>	
Differentiation: (Multiple means for students to access content and multiple modes for student to express understanding.)	Access (Resources and/or Process)	Expression (Products and/or Performance)
	N/A	N/A
Extensions for depth and complexity:	Access (Resources and/or Process)	Expression (Products and/or Performance)

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	N/A	N/A
Critical Content:	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The significance of evidence in the support of claims/assertions • The relationship between personal perspectives and the understanding/interpretation of a text • Text structure and organization for informative/explanatory writing • Details and information about varying time periods based on research and good, relevant evidence • The importance of using standard grammar when writing and speaking 	
Key Skills:	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Analyze how a text makes connections among and distinctions between individuals • Write informative/explanatory texts to examine a topic and convey ideas, concepts, and information through synthesis of content • Connect prior knowledge to new information • Develop and share interpretations of literary works 	
Critical Language:	American dream, photo essay, poet’s notebook, storyboard, news article, comic strip, sheet music, legal brief	