The focus of Tenth Grade Literature and Composition Honors is the writing process. Three forms of writing guide the curriculum: persuasive, expository, and narrative writing. A typical lesson culminates in a written assignment that lets students demonstrate their developing skill in one of these forms.

Ninth Grade Literature and Composition Honors includes at least one anchor text per lesson focused on a thematic core of the capacity of language to influence others. Readings include poems, stories, speeches, plays, and a graphic novel, as well as a variety of informational texts, and these texts are often presented as models for students to emulate as they practice their own writing. The readings represent a wide variety of purposes and cultural perspectives, ranging from the Indian epic *The Ramayana* to accounts of Hurricane Katrina told through different media. Audio and video presentations enhance students' awareness and command of rhetorical techniques and increase their understanding of writing for different audiences.

Ninth Grade Literature and Composition Honors provides opportunities for self-directed study, including outside readings, open-ended journal entries, and free-form projects, all of which challenge Honors students to use their creativity and critical thinking skills to gain independent mastery of reading and writing.

Length: Two Semesters

Unit 1: The Written Word

- Expository Prose
- Persuasive Prose
- Narrative Prose
- Wrap Up: The Written Word

Unit 2: The Story

- Plot
- Character
- Description
- Wrap Up: The Story

Unit 3: Literary Criticism

- Theme
- Figurative Language
- Context
- Wrap Up: Literary Criticism

Unit 4: The Research Paper

- Finding Support
- Using Sources

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- Revision
- Wrap Up: The Research Paper

Unit 5: Wrap Up

Unit 6: Practical Documents

- Organization
- Clarity
- Formal Letters
- Wrap Up: Practical Documents

Unit 7: Persuasive Texts

- Tone
- The Medium
- Purpose
- Wrap Up: Persuasive Texts

Unit 8: The Speech

- Speech Analysis
- Speechwriting
- Moving an Audience
- Wrap Up: The Speech

Unit 9: Researched Argumentation

- Claims, Reasons, and Evidence
- Counterclaims
- Revision, Proofreading, and Peer Evaluation
- Wrap Up: Researched Argumentation

Unit 10: Wrap Up

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