



Gifted and Talented Language Arts 6

Semester A Summary:

In this course, students will sharpen and strengthen their skills in reading, writing, listening, and speaking. The student is exposed to a wide variety of writing styles to create a sense of curiosity and excitement.

During this course, the student will learn to make connections between readings, podcasts, radio clips, videos, and the world. The student will also expand an academic vocabulary and build confidence through independent reading, peer model videos, and practice opportunities. The student will write expository and creative compositions and employ test-taking strategies that are effective for different types of learners.

Throughout the course, the student will engage in activities that promote critical thinking, explore increasingly complex conceptual relationships, and encourage them to be curious about the world they live in and explore ways to test and apply their ideas.

Semester A Outline

1. Gifted and Talented ELA 6 A Course Overview

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2. Novel Study

1. Novel Study Introduction

- In this section, you will choose a book, write an explanation for your choice, and present your explanation to the class.

3. Standard English

1. Standard English Introduction

- In this section, you will analyze meter and structural elements, such as line breaks, in poetry.

2. Pronouns

- In this section, you will identify subjective, objective, and possessive pronouns and the words to which they refer (their antecedents) in sentences. You will also use those pronouns correctly.

3. Intensive Pronouns

- In this section, you will identify and use pronouns that add emphasis to a sentence (intensive pronouns).

4. Correct Spelling

- In this section, you will correct spelling errors.

5. Using Reference Materials

- In this section, you will use print and digital reference materials to find a word's pronunciation, syllabication, part of speech, origin, and precise meaning.

6. Grammar

- In this section, you will use adverbs to modify verbs, adjectives, and other adverbs to express manner, place, time, frequency, degree, and level of certainty more precisely when speaking and writing.
 - In this section, you will use appropriate subject-verb agreement when using phrases or clauses in a sentence when writing.
 - In this section, you will form and use confusing verbs (e.g., lie/lay, sit/set, rise/raise) correctly in sentences.
7. Mechanics
 - In this section, you will compose sentences with correct comma usage.
 - In this section, you will use colons to separate hours and minutes and to introduce a list.
 8. Affixes and Roots
 - In this section, you will differentiate roots, prefixes, and suffixes.
 9. Context Confirmed
 - In this section, you will use clues in nearby words and phrases (context clues) and a dictionary to confirm the meaning of a word or phrase.
 10. Pronoun Number
 - In this section, you will use pronouns that change when the words to which they refer (their antecedents) change. You will also identify and correct changes that make pronouns no longer match the words to which they refer
 - In this section, you will use pronouns correctly, making sure that they agree with their antecedents in number and gender.
 11. Vague Pronouns
 - In this section, you will identify and correct pronouns that are unclear and confusing.
 12. Using Standard English
 - In this section, you will differentiate standard and nonstandard English.
 13. Word Relationships
 - In this section, you will explain relationships between certain words.
 14. Word Connotations
 - In this section, you will determine how words with similar meanings (denotations) suggest different feelings or ideas (connotations).
 15. Standard English Apply
 16. Standard English Review
 17. Standard English Unit Test
4. **Novel Study Choice**
 1. Novel Study Choice
 - In this section, you will justify your novel selection for the semester-long portfolio project.
 - In this section, you will revise a passage to convey clear meaning.
 5. **Informational Text Analysis**
 1. Informational Text Analysis Introduction
 2. Relationships Between Words
 - In this section, you will use the relationship between words in an informational text to help your understanding of the text.
 3. Learning New Words
 - In this section you will identify general and specialized meanings in informational text
 4. Technical Definitions

- In this section, you will define words and phrases with literal and technical meanings in an informational text.
5. Figurative and Connotative Meanings
 - In this section, you will interpret figurative words and phrases in an informational text. You will also determine the feelings or ideas (connotations) suggested by words or phrases in the text.
 6. Explicit Details and Inferences
 - In this section, you will identify explicit details and inferences.
 7. Identifying Central Ideas
 - In this section, you will identify central ideas in informational text.
 8. Effective Summaries
 - In this section, you will summarize informational text.
 - In this section, you will identify the parts of an effective summary.
 9. Author's Purpose
 - In this section, you will identify the author's point of view.
 10. Text Structure
 - In this section, you will determine the purpose of text features.
 11. Analyzing Details
 - In this section, you will explain how an important person, event, or idea is presented in an informational text.
 12. Varying Media/Formats
 - In this section, you will identify media and formats in informational text.
 13. Comparing Texts
 - In this section, you will compare and contrast two authors' presentations on the same topic.
 14. Informational Text Analysis Portfolio 1
 - In this section, you will identify and analyze the central ideas in informational texts.
 - In this section, you will identify and analyze explicit details in informational texts. You also will make inferences based on the details.
 15. Informational Text Analysis Portfolio 2
 - In this section, you will analyze the structure of informational texts.
 - In this section, you will determine authors' purposes for writing informational texts.
 16. Informational Text Analysis Portfolio 3
 - In this section, you will identify an author's point of view in an informational text. You also will explain how the point of view is conveyed.
 - In this section, you will analyze point of view in informational texts.
 17. Informational Text Analysis Review
 18. Informational Text Analysis Unit Test
6. **Novel Study: Setting**
 1. Novel Study: Setting
 - In this section, you will decide how scenes from the text develop the novel's setting.
 7. **Informative Writing**
 1. Informative Writing Introduction
 2. Organizational Strategies
 - In this section, you will identify characteristics of various ways to organize an informative or explanatory text.

3. Effective Organization
 - In this section, you will explain effective organizational strategies.
4. Effective Text
 - In this section, you will compose the body paragraph of an informational text.
5. Choosing Vocabulary
 - In this section, you will contrast general and domain-specific vocabulary.
6. Using Transitions
 - In this section, you will use transitions to show how ideas about a topic are related.
7. Evaluating Formal Writing
 - In this section, you will evaluate formal writing rules.
8. Concluding a Text
 - In this section, you will compose a logical conclusion based on an informative passage.
9. Informative Writing: Apply
 - In this section, you will create an informational presentation on your favorite topic.
10. Informative Writing Review
11. Portfolio: Informative Essay 1
 - In this section, you will identify and use strategies for spelling correctly when writing an informative essay.
 - In this section, you will use technology and work with others to plan an informative essay.
12. Portfolio: Informative Essay 2
 - In this section, you will write an informative essay using effective organization, development, and style. You will also demonstrate your skill at keyboarding as you type your essay
 - In this section, you will revise your informative essay.
13. Portfolio: Informative Essay 3
 - In this section, you will use technology and peer review to revise and edit your informative essay.
 - In this section, you will use technology to publish the final version of your informative essay.

8. **Novel Study: Plot**

1. Novel Study: Plot

9. **Research and Presentation**

1. Research and Presentation Introduction
2. Generating Questions
 - In this section, you will distinguish between formal and informal inquiry, including the kind of questions each type of inquiry might address.
 - In this section, you will generate questions for formal and informal inquiry.
3. Credibility of Sources
 - In this section, you will explain what describing a source as credible means. You will also assess the credibility of various sources.
4. Understanding a Topic
 - In this section, you will gather information using media formats.
5. Using Sources
 - In this section, you will classify research questions.

6. Source Effectiveness
 - In this section, you will evaluate the effectiveness of research sources.
7. Quoting and Paraphrasing
 - In this section, you will identify the difference between quoting and paraphrasing. You will also quote or paraphrase a source without plagiarizing.
8. Parentheses and Dashes
 - In this section, you will compose sentences with proper punctuation including, commas, parentheses, and dashes.
9. Interpreting Information
 - In this section, you will interpret information presented in various media and explain how it adds to the study of a topic, text, or issue.
10. Evaluating Visuals
 - In this section, you will discuss how well examples of multimedia and visuals make a topic clear.
11. English to Context
 - In this section, you will adjust your manner of speaking to various situations, including using formal English when appropriate.
12. Bibliographic Information
 - In this section, you will define bibliographies.
13. Research and Presentation Apply
 - In this section, you will research a topic of your choosing.
14. Research and Presentation Review
15. Research and Presentation Portfolio 1
 - In this section, you will research several sources to learn about a topic or issue. You will also create and present an informative research project, using the sources and creating a bibliography of them.
16. Research and Presentation Portfolio 2
 - In this section, you will research at least three print and digital sources to learn about a topic or issue.

10. Novel Study: Plot Development

1. Novel Study: Plot Development
 - In this section, you will compare and contrast texts in different genres.

11. Argument Analysis

1. Argument Analysis Introduction
2. Identifying a Claim
 - In this section, you will differentiate a claim, reason, and evidence.
3. Table and a Text
 - In this section, you will deduce the meaning of text through media formats.
4. Evaluating Claims
 - In this section, you will identify claims in arguments.
5. Reviewing Argument
 - In this section, you will identify evidence to support a claim.
6. Audio Argument Summaries
 - In this section, you will outline a speaker's argument. You will also discuss the speaker's claims and the way in which they are or are not supported by reasons and evidence.
7. Introducing a Claim
 - In this section, you will identify evidence to support a claim.

8. Clear Organization
 - In this section, you will identify the components of an essay.
 9. Portfolio: Present a Claim 1
 - In this section, you will record facts to support a claim.
 - In this section, you will organize descriptions, details and facts to support a claim.
 10. Portfolio: Present a Claim 2
 - In this section, you will present your claim.
 11. Formal and Informal Speech
 - In this section, you will evaluate whether formal English is appropriate in various speaking situations.
 12. Argumentative Analysis Apply
 - In this section, you will create an argumentative paragraph that includes a claim, reasons, and evidence.
 13. Argument Analysis Review
 14. Argument Analysis Unit Test
- 12. Novel Study: Novel Analysis**
1. Portfolio: Novel Analysis A
 - In this section, you will research at least three print and digital sources to learn about a topic or issue.

Semester B Summary:

In this course, students will sharpen and strengthen their skills in reading, writing, listening, and speaking. The student is exposed to a wide variety of writing styles to create a sense of curiosity and excitement.

During this course, the student will learn how to identify credible sources as well as compose argumentative and narrative essays using formal writing techniques. Students will also compare different types of media used to tell stories. These methods include textual, audio, and visual media types.

Throughout the course, the student will engage in activities that promote critical thinking, explore increasingly complex conceptual relationships, and encourage them to be curious about the world they live in and explore ways to test and apply their ideas.

Semester B Outline

1. Gifted and Talented ELA 6 B Course Overview

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2. Novel Study

1. Novel Study: Elements of Fiction
 - In this section, you will review character, setting, and plot in a novel.

3. Argumentative Essay

1. Argumentative Essay Introduction
2. Counter Claims
 - In this section, you will evaluate the claims and evidence in an argument. You will also discuss counterclaims in an argument.
3. Portfolio: Argument Essay Planning
 - In this section, you will create the claim for an argument. You will also present reasons and evidence to develop the claim.

4. Credible Sources
 - In this section, you will identify sources that are credible and effective in supporting claims in arguments.
5. Relationships
 - In this section, you will determine how claims and reasons in an argument are related. You will also use words, phrases, and clauses that make the relationships clear.
6. Formal Writing
 - In this section, you will identify and evaluate a formal style for an argument.
7. Concluding Statement
 - In this section, you will write a concluding statement for an argument.
8. Argumentative Essay Apply
 - In this section, you will create an argument to present to members of a town council to convince them to build a park at an abandoned gas station.
9. Argumentative Essay Review
10. Portfolio: Argument Essay I
 - In this section, you will use technology and work with others to develop and strengthen your writing as you plan your argumentative essay.
11. Portfolio: Argument Essay II
 - In this section, you will write a clear and coherent argumentative essay. You will also use keyboarding skills to type your essay.
 - In this section, you will try a new approach as you write an argumentative essay to develop and strengthen your writing.
 - In this section, you will use technology and peer reviews to revise and edit an argumentative essay.
12. Portfolio: Argument Essay III
 - In this section, you will correct spelling in an argumentative essay.
 - In this section, you will use technology to write and publish a final version of an argumentative essay.

4. Novel Study: Narration and Point of View

1. Novel Study: Narration and Point of View

5. Literary Analysis

1. Literary Analysis Introduction
2. Literary Context Clues
 - In this section, you will explain how clues in nearby words and phrases (context clues) help you figure out the meaning of an unfamiliar word or phrase.
3. Poetry
 - In this section, you will discuss rhythm in poetry. You will also determine the actual or figurative meanings of words and phrases in poetry and the feelings or ideas that they suggest (connotations).
4. Figures of Speech
 - In this section, you will use clues in nearby words and phrases (context clues) to interpret figures of speech.
5. Making Inferences
 - In this section, you will identify evidence that supports implied ideas (inferences) in a literary text, including ideas about the author's purpose for writing.
6. Analyzing Theme

- In this section, you will explain the theme or central idea of a literary text. You will also identify text details that point to that theme or central idea.
7. Summarizing
 - In this section, you will summarize a literary text without including your opinion of the text.
 8. Character's Responses
 - In this section, you will describe how characters respond as a story or drama's plot moves toward a resolution.
 - In this section, you will describe how characters in a story or drama react to plot events.
 9. Point of View
 - In this section, you will explain how an author creates and uses a narrator's point of view in a story or poem.
 10. Versions
 - In this section, you will compare and contrast reading a literary text to watching or listening to an audio, video, or live version of the text.
 11. Genres
 - In this section, you will identify the main features of various kinds (genres) of literary texts.
 12. Comparing Genres
 - In this section, you will compare and contrast ways in which various kinds (genres) of literary texts treat similar themes or topics.
 13. Narrative Introductions
 - In this section, you will discuss how well a narrative's introduction attracts the reader, introduces the narrator and/or characters, and sets the scene for further reading.
 14. Dialogue and Descriptions
 - In this section, you will evaluate how well the dialogue and descriptions in a narrative develop experiences and plot events, and keep characters clear and interesting.
 15. Organizing a Narrative
 - In this section, you will create a natural, logical order of plot events for a narrative.
 16. Literary Analysis Apply
 - In this section, you will analyze a short narrative text.
 17. Literary Analysis Review
 18. Literary Analysis Unit Test
6. **Novel Study: Setting and Plot**
 1. Novel Study: Setting and Plot
 - In this section, you will decide how scenes from the text develop the novel's setting.
 - In this section, you will decide how parts of the text help to develop the novel's plot.
 7. **Writing a Narrative**
 1. Writing a Narrative Introduction
 2. Portfolio: Introducing a Narrative
 - In this section, you will write a narrative introduction that attracts the reader, introduces the narrator and/or characters, and sets the scene for further reading.

- In this section, you will create a narrative outline that presents a natural, logical order of plot events.
 - In this section, you will use dialogue, pacing, and description to develop a narrative's experiences, events, and/or characters.
3. Narrative Context Clues
 - In this section, you will use context clues to figure out the meanings of unfamiliar words and phrases.
 4. Connotative Meanings
 - In this section, you will interpret figurative words and phrases in a literary text. You will also describe the feelings or ideas (connotations) suggested by words or phrases in the text.
 5. Word Choice
 - In this section, you will discuss how certain word choices affect the meaning and tone of a literary text.
 - In this section, you will use transitions to show the order of plot events and changes of time or place in a narrative.
 - In this section, you will use precise words and phrases, and effective description to present experiences and events in a narrative.
 6. Sensory Language
 - In this section, you will use language that appeals to the senses (sensory language) to develop experiences, events, and characters in a narrative.
 7. Pacing
 - In this section, you will use pacing to develop experiences, events, and characters in a narrative.
 8. Purpose and Audience
 - In this section, you will write in a clear, well-connected (coherent) way. You will also write in a way that shows effective organization, development, and style and that meets a given task, purpose, and audience.
 9. Writing Process
 - In this section, you will use planning, peer review, editing, and rewriting (including trying a new approach) to develop and strengthen your writing.
 10. Concluding a Story
 - In this section, you will create a narrative conclusion that follows logically from the narrative's experiences and events.
 11. Writing a Narrative Apply
 - In this section, you will create your own narrative story, which will include all elements of the plot, dialogue, detailed descriptions, and transition words.
 12. Writing a Narrative Review
 13. Portfolio: Writing a Narrative I
 - In this section, you will identify and use strategies for spelling correctly when writing a narrative.
 - In this section, you will use technology and work with others to plan a narrative essay.
 14. Portfolio: Writing a Narrative II
 - In this section, you will write a clear, effective narrative essay for a given task, purpose, and audience. You will also demonstrate your skill at keyboarding as you type your essay.
 - In this section, you will assess and revise your writing by trying a new approach.

15. Portfolio: Writing a Narrative III

- In this section, you will use technology and peer review to help you revise and edit your narrative essay.
- In this section, you will use technology to publish the final version of your narrative essay.

8. Novel Study: Theme

1. Novel Study: Theme

- In this section, you will decide how a sentence, chapter, or scene develops a novel's theme.

9. Comparisons

1. Comparisons Introduction

2. Style and Tone

- In this section, you will evaluate the language, style, and tone in a variety of texts.
- In this section, you will learn how to improve the language, style, and tone of your writing by adding appropriate modifiers to sentences and using coordination and subordination to emphasize ideas within them.

3. Point of View in a Story

- In this section, you will evaluate how an author develops the narrator's point of view in a story.

4. Comparing Texts Portfolio I

- In this section, you will compare the style and tone of stories.
- In this section, you will compare the plot structure of stories.

5. Comparing Texts Portfolio II

- In this section, you will compare the development of characters in stories.

6. Point of View in a Poem

- In this section, you will evaluate how an author develops a speaker's point of view in a poem.

7. Informative Point of View

- In this section, you will determine an author's point of view or purpose in an informational text and explain how it is communicated in the text.

8. Different Forms: Informative

- In this section, you will compare and contrast information presented in different media and formats.

9. Comparing Informational Texts

- In this section, you will compare and contrast how different authors present events in their writing.

10. Compare Video and Text

- In this section, you will identify how reading a story is similar to and different from watching a video of the story.

11. Compare Media

- In this section, you will identify similarities and differences in reading a story, listening to an audio version of the story, or watching a video of the story.

12. Comparisons: Apply

13. Comparisons Review

14. Comparisons Unit Test

10. Novel Study: Compare and Contrast Genres

1. Novel Study: Compare and Contrast Genres

- In this section, you will compare and contrast texts in different genres.

11. Debate

1. Debate Introduction
2. Collegial Discussion
 - In this section, you will identify goals, deadlines, roles, and rules for group discussions.
3. Language in Speeches
 - In this section, you will evaluate the language, style, and tone of speeches.
 - In this section, you will recognize differences between standard and nonstandard English in speech. You will also identify ways to add expressions in the language you use as you speak.
4. Collaboration
 - In this section, you will prepare for and participate in a group discussion by referring to evidence from the reading.
5. Collaborative Discussion
6. Portfolio: Collaborative Discussion Reflection
 - In this section, you will identify the key ideas of a group discussion. You will also paraphrase (restate in your own words) details of the discussion and provide a reflection to show your understanding of other people's views and ideas.
7. Discussion Strategies
 - In this section, you will prepare for and participate in a group discussion by asking and answering questions, making comments that add to the topic of discussion, and referring to evidence from the reading.
8. Discussion: Demonstrating Discussion Strategies
9. Portfolio: Discussion Strategies Reflection
 - In this section, you will identify the key ideas of a group discussion. You will also paraphrase (restate in your own words) details of the discussion and provide a reflection to show your understanding of other people's views and ideas.
10. Speaker's Claims and Reasons
 - In this section, you will identify a speaker's argument and claims. You will also determine which claims are supported by reasons and evidence.
11. Media Messages
 - In this section, you will explain the characteristics of a variety of media messages.
 - In this section, you will explain how media messages are intentionally constructed to impact a specific audience.
 - In this section, you will analyze the effectiveness of a variety of media messages by considering the results and/or impact on the intended audience.
 - In this section, you will craft and publish a public audience-specific media message that presents claims and findings in a logical sequence.
12. Presenting Claims and Findings
 - In this section, you will present claims and findings in a class debate. You will also present your ideas in a logical order, provide facts and details to emphasize main ideas and themes, and make eye contact and speak clearly while presenting
13. Presenting Claims and Findings Discussion
14. Portfolio: Claims and Findings Reflection
 - In this section, you will determine key ideas of a debate. You will also

paraphrase (restate in your own words) claims, counterclaims, and evidence presented in the debate.

15. Debate Apply

- In this section, you will develop an argument about a topic that you would want to debate with someone.

16. Debate Review

17. Debate Unit Test

12. Novel Study: Novel Analysis

1. Portfolio: Novel Analysis B

- In this section, you will learn how to summarize a text.
- In this section, you will write an evaluation of a novel.