

English II – Year at a Glance

Teacher: Ms. Williams

Course Overview:

This year, students will read a variety of short stories, poems, nonfiction works, and drama while building skills in reading, writing, grammar, vocabulary, and critical thinking. They will also participate in **book clubs**, **projects**, and **in-class essays** to strengthen comprehension and communication skills.

Unit 1 – Exploring Literature & Author’s Purpose

Key Texts:

- *What, of This Goldfish, Would You Wish?* by Etgar Keret
- *Without Title* by Diane Glancy
- Book club selections (student choice)

Focus Skills:

- Identifying archetypes and literary devices
- Understanding tone and author’s purpose
- Annotating and analyzing short stories and poetry
- Writing an annotated bibliography

Major Activities:

- Weekly grammar warm-ups
- “Three Wishes” creative writing activity
- Vocabulary sketch note group work
- Honors Project introduction & presentation
- Book club discussions
- Unit Test

TEKS:

- **Readiness:** E2.2.B, E2.4.F, E2.4.G, E2.4.H, E2.5.B, E2.5.C, E2.5.D, E2.7.D.i, E2.8.A, E2.9.B.i, E2.9.B.ii, E2.9.C, E2.9.D.i, E2.10.B

- **Supporting:** E2.2.A, E2.2.C, E2.4.C, E2.4.E, E2.9.D, E2.9.D.ii, E2.9.D.iii, E2.9.D.iv, E2.9.D.v, E2.9.D.vi, E2.10.D
 - **Other Student Expectations:** E2.1.A, E2.1.B, E2.1.C, E2.1.D, E2.3.A, E2.4.A, E2.4.B, E2.4.D, E2.4.I, E2.5.A, E2.5.E, E2.5.F, E2.5.G, E2.5.H, E2.5.I, E2.7.D, E2.9.A, E2.9.B, E2.9.E, E2.11.A, E2.11.B, E2.11.C, E2.11.D, E2.11.E, E2.11.F, E2.11.G, E2.11.G.i, E2.11.H, E2.11.I
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Unit 2 – Literary Nonfiction, Fiction, and Poetry

Key Texts:

- *Total Eclipse* by Annie Dillard
- *The Night Face Up* by Julio Cortázar
- *Mirror* by Sylvia Plath
- Book club selections (student choice)

Focus Skills:

- Analyzing literary nonfiction and short stories
- Understanding plot structure, figurative language, and poetic meter
- Making inferences and analyzing connotation/denotation
- Writing an expository essay

Major Activities:

- Weekly grammar warm-ups
- Vocabulary practice
- Poetry analysis worksheets
- Honors Project: Poetry
- Unit Exam

TEKS:

- **Readiness:** E2.4.F, E2.4.G, E2.4.H, E2.5.B, E2.5.C, E2.5.D, E2.6.B, E2.6.C, E2.8.A, E2.8.D, E2.8.F, E2.9.B.i, E2.9.B.ii, E2.9.C, E2.10.B
- **Supporting:** E2.4.C, E2.4.E, E2.6.A, E2.6.D, E2.7.A, E2.7.B, E2.7.C, E2.8.B, E2.8.C, E2.8.E, E2.9.D

- **Other Student Expectations:** E2.1.A, E2.1.B, E2.1.C, E2.1.D, E2.4.A, E2.4.B, E2.4.I, E2.5.A, E2.5.E, E2.5.G, E2.5.H, E2.5.I, E2.5.J, E2.9.A, E2.9.B, E2.9.E, E2.10.A, E2.11.E, E2.11.F, E2.11.H

Unit 3 – Informational Texts & Persuasive Techniques

Key Texts:

- *Joyas Voladoras* by Brian Doyle
- *Texas v. Johnson* (Supreme Court case)
- “Find Your Park” campaign (media analysis)
- *Unanswered* (informational essay)
- Book club selections

Focus Skills:

- Identifying logos, ethos, pathos, and logical fallacies
- Distinguishing between primary and secondary sources
- Structuring informational and persuasive essays
- Analyzing media techniques and purposes

Major Activities:

- In-class informational and persuasive essays
- Research and poster project
- Honors Project: Advertisement
- Semester Exam

TEKS:

- **Readiness:** E2.4.F, E2.4.G, E2.4.H, E2.5.B, E2.5.C, E2.5.D, E2.7.D.i, E2.7.E.i, E2.7.E.ii, E2.8.A, E2.8.D, E2.8.F, E2.9.B.i, E2.9.B.ii, E2.9.C, E2.10.B, E2.10.C
- **Supporting:** E2.4.C, E2.4.E, E2.7.D.ii, E2.7.E.iii, E2.8.B, E2.8.C, E2.8.G, E2.9.D
- **Other Student Expectations:** E2.1.A, E2.1.C, E2.1.D, E2.4.A, E2.4.B, E2.4.I, E2.5.A, E2.5.E, E2.5.G, E2.5.H, E2.5.I, E2.5.J, E2.7.D, E2.7.E, E2.7.F, E2.9.A, E2.9.B, E2.9.E,

E2.11.A, E2.11.B, E2.11.C, E2.11.D, E2.11.F, E2.11.G, E2.11.G.i, E2.11.G.ii, E2.11.H, E2.11.I

Unit 4 – Argument & Debate

Key Texts:

- “The Importance of Homework” (article)
- “Do Kids Really Need Homework?” (article)

Focus Skills:

- Comparing arguments in multiple texts
- Supporting claims with evidence
- Writing a reflection and defending/challenging an author’s claim

Major Activities:

- Group work to analyze argumentative articles
- Reflection writing assignment
- Argumentative Unit Test (combined with Unit 3B)

TEKS:

- **Readiness:** E2.4.F, E2.4.G, E2.4.H, E2.5.B, E2.5.C, E2.5.D, E2.7.D.i, E2.7.E.i, E2.7.E.ii, E2.8.A, E2.8.D, E2.8.F, E2.9.B.i, E2.9.B.ii, E2.9.C, E2.10.C
 - **Supporting:** E2.4.C, E2.4.E, E2.7.D.ii, E2.7.E.iii, E2.8.B, E2.8.C, E2.8.G, E2.9.D
 - **Other Student Expectations:** E2.1.A, E2.1.D, E2.4.A, E2.4.B, E2.4.I, E2.5.A, E2.5.E, E2.5.G, E2.5.H, E2.5.I, E2.5.J, E2.7.D, E2.7.E, E2.7.F, E2.9.A, E2.9.B, E2.9.E, E2.11.A, E2.11.B, E2.11.C, E2.11.D, E2.11.E, E2.11.F, E2.11.G, E2.11.G.i, E2.11.G.ii, E2.11.H, E2.11.I
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Unit 5 – STAAR Prep & Cross-Genre Analysis

Focus Skills:

- Analyzing theme, character development, symbolism, allegory, and archetypes
- Understanding dramatic conventions and plot contribution
- Comparing literary and informational texts

- Reviewing persuasive essay skills

Major Activities:

- Measuring Up lessons (TEKS-aligned skill practice)
- Progress Learning assignments
- Tier 3 Tutorials & Essay Bootcamp
- In-class essays and practice tests

TEKS:

- **Readiness:** E2.4.F, E2.4.G, E2.4.H, E2.5.B, E2.5.C, E2.5.D, E2.6.B, E2.6.C, E2.7.D.i, E2.7.E.i, E2.7.E.ii, E2.8.A, E2.8.D, E2.8.F, E2.9.B.i, E2.9.B.ii, E2.9.C, E2.10.B, E2.10.C
 - **Supporting:** E2.4.C, E2.4.E, E2.6.A, E2.6.D, E2.7.A, E2.7.B, E2.7.C, E2.7.D.ii, E2.7.E.iii, E2.8.B, E2.8.C, E2.8.E, E2.8.G, E2.9.D
 - **Other Student Expectations:** E2.1.A, E2.1.C, E2.1.D, E2.4.A, E2.4.B, E2.4.I, E2.5.A, E2.5.E, E2.5.G, E2.5.H, E2.7.D, E2.7.E, E2.7.F, E2.9.A, E2.9.B, E2.9.E, E2.10.A, E2.11.G, E2.11.G.i, E2.11.G.ii
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Unit 6 – Drama Study: *Macbeth***Key Texts:**

- *Macbeth* by William Shakespeare (full play)

Focus Skills:

- Understanding Shakespearean language and themes
- Analyzing character relationships and dramatic structure
- Comparing film adaptations to the play

Major Activities:

- Character maps and Venn diagrams
- Media project (Macbeth playlist)
- Macbeth Test
- Reflection Essay
- Honors Project presentations
- Semester Exam

TEKS:

- **Readiness:** E2.4.F, E2.4.G, E2.4.H, E2.5.B, E2.5.C, E2.5.D, E2.6.B, E2.6.C, E2.7.D.i, E2.7.E.i, E2.7.E.ii, E2.8.A, E2.8.D, E2.8.F, E2.9.B.i, E2.9.B.ii, E2.9.C, E2.10.B, E2.10.C
 - **Supporting:** E2.4.C, E2.4.E, E2.6.A, E2.6.D, E2.7.A, E2.7.B, E2.7.C, E2.7.D.ii, E2.7.E.iii, E2.8.B, E2.8.C, E2.8.E, E2.8.G, E2.9.D
 - **Other Student Expectations:** E2.1.A, E2.1.C, E2.1.D, E2.4.A, E2.4.B, E2.4.I, E2.5.A, E2.5.E, E2.5.G, E2.5.H, E2.5.I, E2.5.J, E2.7.D, E2.7.E, E2.7.F, E2.9.A, E2.9.B, E2.9.E, E2.10.A, E2.11.A
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Throughout the Year, Students Will:

- Participate in book clubs and class discussions
- Complete grammar and vocabulary warm-ups
- Write informational, analytical, and persuasive essays
- Engage in creative projects and honors-level work
- Take MAP/NWEA tests to track growth