

**7<sup>th</sup> Grade Language Arts**  
**Unit One: Journey Towards Self-Discovery**

1. Diagnostic Writing: "Letter of Introduction" – week one
2. Diagnostic Writing: "Paragraph Comparison" – week one
3. Diagnostic Skills Test: "Language Arts Skills" – by week two (can be completed during AR time)
4. Introduction to Informational Texts: "Multiple Intelligences" evaluation
  - a. Use of charts and information to synthesize "cause and effect"
5. Introduction to the "Writing Packet," Writing Process, the Paragraph Format, and Peer-Editing/PQPing
  - a. Paragraph Writing on "My dominant intelligence is \_\_\_\_\_ for a number of reasons"
  - b. Go through the drafting process from pre-writing to typed final draft
6. Continue Informational Texts with reading "Burning out at 9" essay in literature books
  - a. Discuss impact on free-time today
  - b. Write a paragraph on "What is Your Favorite Thing to Do?" and go through the writing process from pre-writing to typed final draft
7. Introduction to Literary Terms that apply to short story: (theme, protagonist, antagonist, setting, character development, foreshadowing, symbolism, point-of-view, plot chart, conflict, and major symbols in literature)
  - a. Focus on Reading Comprehension and Literary Analysis
  - b. Read Gary Soto's "Seventh Grade," discuss, analyze, and prepare to write a paragraph
    - i. Write a paragraph on: "What are three things that make you different or unique?"
    - ii. Take the writing from pre-writing to typed final draft
  - c. Read Isaac Bashevis Singer's "The Cat Who Thought She Was a Dog and the Dog Who Thought He Was a Cat," discuss, analyze, and prepare to write a paragraph
    - i. Everyone has a significant object or possession that is valuable to them, they cherish, or says something about who you are as a person. Pick one significant object that you own and write a paragraph on "Why that object is so significant to you?"
8. Grammar Units that cover: the 8 parts of speech, 3 types of sentences (simple, compound, complex), and the basic mechanics of a sentence (such as capitalization, punctuation, run-ons and fragments)
9. Vocabulary Units focusing on prefixes, roots, suffixes (Five root based Units)
  - a. "Acr/Migr," "Al," "Arbitr/Noc," "Capit/Corp," "Crypt/Gnom"
    - i. Each unit has a vocabulary test
    - ii. Focus on these five for the quarter
10. Unit One Assessment: focus on writing, vocabulary, grammar, and speaking/listening
  - a. Final Project with speech and visual aide on Journey Towards Self-Discovery
  - b. Parts of Speech unit test
  - c. Grammar: Compound/Complex sentence test
  - d. Parts of the Paragraph Test