

Eighth Grade Literature by Unit

Text	Publisher	Synopsis	Diversity	Genre	Form
"Tia Chucha" by Luis Rodriguez	Glencoe (2000)	The narrator describes his admiration for his aunt and her eccentric and whimsical approach to life. (Metaphor).	Hispanic		Poem
"The Story Teller" by Mark Van Doren	PH 2005	Poet extols the value of storytelling to awaken the reader/listener's imagination.			poem
"The Fifty-First Dragon" by Heywood Broun	Adventures (1989)	Gawaine, a young, indifferent knight-in-training, attends special dragon-slaying courses with his headmaster. When it is time to slay real dragons, the headmaster arms Gawaine with a battle axe and a magic word, and Gawaine slays fifty dragons. However, the headmaster makes the mistake of telling the young knight that the magic word is nothing but a confidence-booster, and, after his encounter with the fifty first dragon, nothing is left of Gawaine but his medals. (Theme)		Fantasy	Short story
"The Monkey's Paw" by	Adventures (1989), Ginn (1981)	A family is given a magical monkey's paw that grants its owner three wishes. The family wishes for money and the next day they are granted the exact sum they wished for as compensation for their son's death on the job. The mother wishes for the son to come back home alive and, when he hears knocking at the front door, the father uses his final wish. When the mother opens the front door, the street is deserted. (Theme).		Fantasy Suspense	Short Story
"The Rule of Names" by Ursula K. LeGuin	PH (2005)	On the island of Sattin, the superstitious residents are surprised to find that their resident magician, a fat, incompetent man named Mr. Underhill, is actually the dragon who has been wreaking havoc on the townspeople.		Fantasy	Short story