

Year 8 English

Semester 1 Course Outline

This semester is divided into two major units. In the first term, we will focus on the key concepts of *Character* and *Narrative*. By examining a variety of fiction texts we will analyse how strong characters and narratives are developed. In Term 2, students will be introduced to ideas of *Argument*, *Authority* and *Perspective* in non-fiction texts including how these concepts are used to position readers. Throughout the semester, students will also participate in group activities, silent reading, and weekly writing tasks to improve these core skills.

Learning Outcomes

Students will be assessed on the following Learning Outcomes:

- 8.115 - Explains how language features, images and vocabulary are used to represent different ideas and issues in texts
- 8.116 - Interprets texts, questioning the reliability of sources of ideas and information
- 8.117 - Selects evidence from the text to show how events, situations and people can be represented from different viewpoints
- 8.118 - Listens for and identifies different emphases in texts, using that understanding to elaborate on discussions
- 8.119 - Understands how the selection of language features can be used for particular purposes and effects
- 8.120 - Explains the effectiveness of language choices they make to influence the audience
- 8.125 - Demonstrates an understanding of grammar, selects vocabulary for effect and uses accurate spelling and punctuation

Assessment Tasks

Students will be assessed on their participation and completion of classwork and assessment tasks.

| Task | Week Due* |
|----------------------------------|----------------|
| Writing Journals | Ongoing |
| Classwork | Ongoing |
| STEAL Chats - Narrative Scaffold | Term 1, Week 3 |
| Short Story | Term 1, Week 8 |
| Written Task - Essay | Term 2, Week 4 |
| Debate Task | Term 2, Week 7 |

*Due dates are an estimate only

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Executive Teacher: Paul Fitzpatrick