

Overview for Grade 6 Unit 2, *The Literary Essay*

Session/Minilesson		Conferring and Small-Group Work	Mid-Workshop Teaching	Share
BEND I: Writing Strong Literary Essays				
1	Essay Boot Camp	Ratcheting Up the Level of Student Work	Essay Body Paragraphs Have Beginnings, Middles, and Ends	Reflecting on Being an Essayist
2	Growing Big Ideas from Details about Characters	Generating Meaningful Ideas, Right from the Start	Link Ideas in the Story	Thinking Gets Better through Talk
3	Writing to Discover What a Character Really Wants	Helping Students Write with Engagement and Precision	Using Thought Prompts for Elaborating	Setting Goals for Future Work
4	Crafting Claims	Strengthening Claims and Supporting Them with Compelling Evidence	Planning the Boxes-and-Bullets Structure, Then Finding Evidence	Drawing on Structure Boot Camp to Organize Evidence
5	Conveying Evidence: Summarizing, Storytelling, and Quoting			
6	Studying a Mentor Text to Construct Literary Essays	Small Groups to Support Students as They Draft	Using Transitional Phrases	Using a Checklist for Self-Analysis and Goal-Setting
7	Revising Essays to Be Sure You Analyze as Well as Cite Text Evidence	Troubleshooting Common Problems with Analysis of Evidence	Considering the Counterargument	Giving Feedback Using the Checklist
BEND II: Elevating the Complexity of Literary Essays				
8	Looking for Themes in the Trouble of a Text	The Power of Compliments	Making Claims More Precise and Compelling	Planning a Thematic Essay
9	Drafting Using All that You Know			
10	First Impressions and Closing Remarks	Addressing Struggles	Using Academic Language	Writing Conclusions
11	Quoting Texts	Finding and Selecting Powerful Quotes	Quoting with Attention to Accuracy	Minding the Gaps in Essays
12	Editing Inquiry Centers			
BEND III: Writing Compare-and-Contrast Essays				
13	Building the Muscles to Compare and Contrast	Deepening Students' Initial Observations	Grouping Comparisons under the Umbrella of an Idea	Strategies for Comparing and Contrasting
14	Comparing and Contrasting Themes across Texts	Taking the Bumps in the Road in Stride	Using a Model to Help Craft Comparative Essays	Being Literary Scholars
15	Applying What You Have Learned in the Past to Today's Revision Work	Thinking about <i>How</i> to Write an Essay, Not Just <i>What</i>	Problem Solving as Students Revise	Offering Constructive Feedback
16	Identifying Run-Ons and Sentence Fragments			
17	Celebrating Literary Essays			