

8th Grade English
School Year 2024 - 2025

Unit Plan	
“Charlotte’s Web”	
Dates:	26 August 2024 – 18 October 2024
No. of Sessions	16, two-hour sessions; 24, one-hour sessions
Unit Overview:	<p>Centerpiece: "Charlotte’s Web" by E.B White</p> <p>Supplements: Oxford Discover Series 3 Student Book Chapters 1,2 Workbook Chapters 1,2 Grammar and Vocabulary Worksheets The Oxford 3000 Vocab List Achieve 3000 Readings Notebook Entries (Quotes of the Day, Vocabulary, Grammar, Scholastic Tips and Tricks, Reflections)</p> <p>Common Core Standards: Reading Literature: CCSS.ELA-LITERACY. RL.8.1, RL.8.2, RL.8.3, RL.8.4, RL.8.5, RL.8.6, RL.8.7, RL.8.8, RL.8.10 Writing: CCSS.ELA-LITERACY.W.8.1, W.8.2, W.8.3, W.8.7 Speaking and Listening: CCSS.ELA-LITERACY. SL.8.1, SL.8.4 Language: CCSS.ELA-LITERACY. L.8.4</p> <p>We begin our journey of English language development and mastery in the 8th grade with the novel, “Charlotte's Web” by E.B. White. An endearing classic that explores the following important themes:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <i>Friendship</i> -- The central theme of the novel is the deep and genuine friendship between Charlotte, the spider, and Wilbur, the pig. Their bond highlights the importance of loyalty, kindness, and support in true friendship. <i>Life and Death</i> -- The novel addresses the cycle of life and the inevitability of death. It explores how characters come to terms with mortality and the impact of death on the living. <i>Courage and Sacrifice</i> -- Courage and sacrifice are prominent in the novel, particularly through Charlotte's actions to save Wilbur. Her bravery and willingness to sacrifice her own well-being for her friend are central to the story's message. <i>Identity and Self-Worth</i> -- The theme of identity and self-worth is explored through Wilbur’s journey to understand his place in the world and his value. Wilbur’s feelings of inadequacy and his journey towards self-acceptance are key aspects of this theme.

	<p>5. <i>The Power of Words</i> -- The novel highlights the impact of words and communication, particularly through Charlotte's web messages. The power of words to influence, inspire, and affect change is a key theme.</p> <p>6. <i>Kindness and Compassion</i> -- Kindness and compassion are recurring themes in the novel, shown through the characters' interactions and their responses to each other's needs.</p> <p>These important themes will be defined, discussed, evaluated, and reflected upon in a variety of ways as we read through the story. Activities will likely include round-table discussions, character maps, self-reflections, short essays, story boarding, role play, artistic translations, and of course lots of reading (approx. 7 pages per school day).</p>
General Pedagogy:	Mastery of the English language through the study, discussion, analysis, and critique (both verbal and written) of English literature supplemented with Notebook Entries, Socratic seminars, group and individual investigations in the arts and sciences, Achieve 3000 selections, and grammatical exercises from the Oxford Discover Futures series.
Scope and Sequence:	<p><u>Week 1</u></p> <p>I. Novel</p> <p>Introduction and Chapters 1-3</p> <p>Objectives:</p> <p>Introduce the novel, its themes, and characters.</p> <p>Analyze the setting and the introduction of the main conflict.</p> <p>Activities:</p> <p>Introduction to the book, author, and historical context. Discuss farm life and key themes.</p> <p>Read Chapter 1 together. Synopsis, Vocab and Discussion Questions</p> <p>Read Chapter 2. Synopsis, Vocab and Discussion Questions.</p> <p>Draw and describe the barn setting.</p> <p>Read Chapter 3. Synopsis, Vocab and Discussion Questions</p> <p>Character charts for Wilbur and Fern.</p> <p>Group discussion on key events, character growth and development, and thematic developments.</p> <p>Key events summary, reflections, and quiz on Chapters 1-3.</p> <p>II. Oxford Series</p> <p>SB p.6-7, #1, #2, #3, #4</p> <p>WB p.4-5, #1, #2, #3, #4</p> <p>III. Achieve 3000</p> <p>Two (2), 5-step lessons</p> <p>IV. Notebook Entries</p> <p><u>Week 2</u></p> <p>I Novel</p> <p>Chapters 4-6</p> <p>Objectives:</p> <p>Explore character development and relationships.</p>

Identify and discuss figurative language.

Analyze the introduction of Charlotte and her impact on the story.

Activities:

Read Chapter 4. Synopsis, Vocab and Discussion on the first encounter with Charlotte.

Read Chapter 5. Synopsis, Vocab and Discussion Questions

Write a diary entry from Wilbur's perspective.

Read Chapter 6. Synopsis, Vocab and Discussion Questions .

Draw a comic strip of Wilbur and Charlotte's first meeting.

Discuss the relationship between Wilbur and Charlotte. Character analysis activity.

Group discussion on key events, character growth and development, and thematic developments.

Key events summary, reflections, and quiz on Chapters 4-6.

II. Oxford Series

SB p. 8-9, #1, #2, #4, #5, #6, #8

WB p.6-7, #1, #2, #3, #4, #5, #6

III. Achieve 3000

Two (2), 5-step lessons

IV. Notebook Entries

Week 3

I. Novel

Chapters 7-9

Objectives:

Discuss the development of the plot and its key events.

Analyze the role of Charlotte's web as a symbol.

Explore themes of friendship and loyalty.

Activities:

Read Chapter 7. Synopsis, Vocab and Discussion Questions

The importance of friendship.

Read Chapter 8. Synopsis, Vocab and Discussion Questions

Role-play a conversation between Wilbur and Charlotte.

Read Chapter 9. Synopsis, Vocab and Discussion Questions

Discuss the themes of loyalty and friendship and create a theme chart.

Group discussion on key events, character growth and development, and thematic developments.

Key events summary, reflections, and quiz on Chapters 7-9.

II. Oxford Series

SB p. 10-11, #1, #3, #4, #6

WB p.7-9, #7, #8, #9, #10, #1, #2

III. Achieve 3000

Two (2), 5-step lessons

IV. Notebook Entries

Week 4

I. Novel

Chapters 10-12

Objectives:

Analyze character motivations and decisions.

Explore the theme of survival.

Activities:

Read Chapter 10. Synopsis, Vocab and Discussion Questions

The power of words.

Read Chapter 11. Synopsis, Vocab and Discussion Questions

Create word webs for both Charlotte and Wilbur. Use descriptive words.

Read Chapter 12. Synopsis, Vocab and Discussion Questions.

Write a poem about friendship.

Discuss the theme of identity. More character analysis.

Group discussion on key events, character growth and development, and thematic developments.

Key events summary, reflections, and quiz on Chapters 10-12.

II. Oxford Series

SB p. 12-13, #1, #2, #3, #4, Reflect

WB p.11-13, #5, #3, #5, #6, #7, #9, #11, #12, #13

III. Achieve 3000

Two (2), 5-step lessons

IV. Notebook Entries

Week 5

I. Novel

Chapters 13-15

Objectives:

Examine the development of the theme of friendship.

Analyze how the story builds tension.

Activities:

Read Chapter 13. Synopsis, Vocab and Discussion Questions.

Wilbur's growing confidence.

Read Chapter 14. Synopsis, Vocab and Discussion Questions.

Write a persuasive letter from Wilbur's perspective.

Read Chapter 15. Synopsis, Vocab and Discussion Questions.

Create a storyboard of key events.

Discuss the theme of bravery and write a short story inspired by Wilbur's bravery.

Group discussion on key events, character growth and development, and thematic developments.

Key events summary, reflections, and quiz on Chapters 13-15.

II. Oxford Series

SB p. 16-17, #1, #2, #3, #4, #5t

WB p.14-15, #1, #2, #4, #5

III. Achieve 3000

Two (2), 5-step lessons

IV. Notebook Entries

Week 6

I. Novel

Chapters 16-18

Objectives:

Analyze the climax of the story.

Discuss the resolution of key conflicts.

Activities:

Read Chapter 16. Synopsis, Vocab and Discussion Questions.

The fair and its significance.

Read Chapter 17. Synopsis, Vocab and Discussion Questions.

Design a poster for the county fair.

Read Chapter 18. Synopsis, Vocab and Discussion Questions.

Write a journal entry from Wilbur's perspective at the fair.

Discuss the themes of hope and perseverance. Create a theme analysis chart.

Group discussion on key events, character growth and development, and thematic developments.

Key events summary, reflections, and quiz on Chapters 16-18.

II. Oxford Series

SB p. 18-19, #1, #2, #3, #4

WB p.16-17, #1, #2, #3, #4, #5, #6, #7, #8

III. Achieve 3000

Two (2), 5-step lessons

IV. Notebook Entries

Week 7

I. Novel

Chapters 19-22

Objectives:

- Reflect on the ending and its themes.
- Discuss the lasting impact of the story and its lessons.

Activities:

- Read Chapter 19. Synopsis, Vocab and Discussion Questions. Charlotte's plan for Wilbur.
- Read Chapter 20. Synopsis, Vocab and Discussion Questions.
- Read Chapter 21. Synopsis, Vocab and Discussion Questions. Create a timeline of Wilbur's journey.
- Read Chapter 22: Synopsis, Vocab and Discussion Questions.
- Discuss the themes of sacrifice and growing up.
- Group discussion on key events, character growth and development, and thematic developments.
- Key events summary, reflections, and quiz on Chapters 19-22.

II. Oxford Series

- SB p. 20-21, #1, #2, #4, #5, #6, #7
- WB p.18-19, #9, #10, #11, #2, #4, #5

III. Achieve 3000

- Two (2), 5-step lessons

IV. Notebook Entries

Week 8

I. Novel

- Review and Final Projects

Objectives:

- Review major themes, storyline, and characters
- Produce final project

Activities:

- Assign final projects. Options include a general book report, a creative writing piece, a multimedia presentation, or a thematic essay (e.g, an informative essay on the importance of friendship, a reflective essay on Charlotte's sacrifice, etc)
- Review major themes, characters, and events. Group discussion on the entire book; reflections and take-aways
- Work on final projects and include peer/draft review sessions.
- Finalize and present projects.
- Final unit exam

II. Oxford Series

- SB p. 22-23, #1, #2, #3, #5, Reflect
- WB p. 20, 22, 23 #1, #2, #3, #1, #2, #3, #5, #6, #7, #10, #12

III. Notebook Entries

Student Assessments	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Individual daily participation assessment • Individual daily verbal, aural, and written assessments • Individual notebook review and assessment • Individual project(s) assessment • Group project(s) assessment • Quizzes and exams
Student Exit Criteria	<p>The following measurable exit criteria for 8th grade English reflect the key skills in reading, writing, speaking, and listening, and include clear, specific objectives that students should meet by the end of the unit as well as projected year-end goals.</p> <p>I. Reading Comprehension (Year-end goal ==> 95%)</p> <p>a. Literature Analysis: Students will be able to identify and analyze themes, character development, and plot structure in grade-level texts, scoring at least 80% on a literary analysis assessment.</p> <p>b. Inferential Meaning: Students will be able to make inferences and draw conclusions based on textual evidence, demonstrating proficiency with an 80% accuracy rate on comprehension quizzes.</p> <p>c. Vocabulary Acquisition: Students will correctly use grade-level vocabulary in context, achieving a minimum of 80% accuracy in vocabulary tests and writing assignments.</p> <p>II. Reading Fluency (Year-end goal ==> 140 words per min)</p> <p>a. Oral Reading: Students will read grade-level text aloud with fluency, accuracy, and expression, meeting or exceeding 90 words per minute in a reading fluency test.</p> <p>III. Writing (Year-end goals ==> i) 5 out of 5; and ii) 95%)</p> <p>a. Essay Writing: Students will write a coherent, well-organized essay with a clear thesis, supporting evidence, and proper grammar, receiving at least a 3 out of 5 on a standardized rubric.</p> <p>b. Narrative Writing: Students will write a narrative that effectively uses descriptive details and dialogue, showing mastery by scoring at least 80% on a creative writing assignment.</p> <p>c. Research Skills: Students will complete a research project, properly citing sources and integrating information from multiple texts, achieving a minimum score of 80% on the project rubric.</p>

IV. Speaking and Listening (Year-end goals ==> i) 5 out of 5; and ii) 95%)

a. Oral Presentations:

Students will deliver a clear and engaging oral presentation, using appropriate volume, pacing, and eye contact, earning at least 3 out of 5 on a speaking rubric.

b. Class Discussions:

Students will participate in class discussions, demonstrating active listening and contributing relevant points, with a participation score of at least 80%.

V. Grammar and Mechanics (Year-end goals ==> i) 95%; and ii) no more than two errors per page)

a. Sentence Structure:

Students will correctly use various sentence structures (simple, compound, complex) in their writing, achieving at least 80% accuracy on grammar tests.

b. Punctuation and Spelling:

Students will use proper punctuation and spelling in their writing, with no more than five errors per page in final drafts of essays.

VI. Final Projects Portfolio

Students will compile a portfolio showcasing their best work, demonstrating growth in reading, writing, and speaking skills, with at least 80% of the included works meeting the proficiency criteria.

Instructor

Date

Bruce Marrón

Dirección Académica

Date

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