



E.A. Poe Shakespeare Dickens

English Language Arts Mastery & Enrichment:

A Sampling of Anchor Activities

1. **Create, or contribute to, a news site produced by students for students, by writing, revising, and editing one of the following:** *Sports Story, News Story (current or upcoming events), Feature Story (Highlighting personalities and more), Opinion (Letters, Editorials, Entertainment or Book Reviews, Blogging)*
2. **Write an original short story that contains an organized plot, dynamic and static characters, theme, an established setting and/or other literary elements.**
3. **Publish your story using online technology** - Mix Book, Story Bird, and/or Various online tools, like <http://www.festisite.com>
4. **Use Scratch, Alice, or a free gaming program to create an original video game based upon your novel or a class novel.**
5. **Write a screenplay based upon a novel, a current event or historical event, or the life of an author.**
6. **Translate a short story into a visual comic strip.** *See requirements.*
7. **Watch a Shakespearean play online.** *Note the elements of the production, including clarity of the spoken lines, settings, costumes, and any part of the production which captures interest or needs more attention for a better performance.*
8. **Create a book trailer or a book jacket using Ipad apps.** *Use the Superhero, Expedition, or Narrative templates to first create a storyboard for the trailer.*
9. **Read and analyze a classic novel and complete the following:** *1) a Dialectical Journal, and 2) a Major Works Data Sheet (setting, tone, point of view, etc.)*
10. **Investigate the setting of your novel.** *Create an originally designed newspaper or online magazine reflecting the time period and/or the place. Include significant influences, famous or infamous people, fashion, controversial issues, historical events, architecture, and more.*
11. **Discover Shakespeare's world by investigating the following:** *Elizabethan Theater, Government in Elizabethan England, Religion in Elizabethan England, Fashion, Occupations, Food, Travel and Education in Elizabethan England, the life of William Shakespeare*
12. **Investigate one of the following American Literary Periods:**
 - A. **Planters and Puritans (17th and early 18th centuries)** – *Anne Bradstreet, William Bradford, Jonathan Edwards*
 - B. **Founders of the Nation (Classicism) – 1750-1800** – *Benjamin Franklin, Patrick Henry, Thomas Jefferson, Thomas Paine, George Washington, Phillis Wheatley, Jean de Crevaconeur*
 - C. **Early National Period and American Romantics 1800-1840** – *James Fenimore Cooper, Washington Irving, Edgar Allen Poe, William Cullen Bryant*

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- D. **The American Renaissance (Transcendentalism) 1840-1855** – Nathaniel Hawthorne, Henry Wadsworth Longfellow, Ralph Waldo Emerson, Herman Melville, Henry David Thoreau
 - E. **Conflict & Celebration (Realism) 1855-1880** – Emily Dickinson, Frederick Douglass, Abraham Lincoln, Mark Twain
 - F. **Regionalism & Realism (Naturalism) 1880-1910** – Louisa May Alcott, Ambrose Bierce, Kate Chopin, Stephen Crane, Jack London, O’Henry, Upton Sinclair
 - G. **New Directions – Modernism/Impressionism, Harlem Renaissance – 1910-1930** - Carl Sandburg, William Carlos Williams, Willa Cather, Countee Cullen, EE Cummings, F. Scott Fitzgerald, TS Eliot, Robert Frost, Ernest Hemmingway, Langston Hughes
 - H. **Mid Century Voices (The Great Depression and post War) 1930-1960** – Isaac Asimov, James Baldwin, Gwendolyn Brooks, Pearl Buck, Ralph Ellison, William Faulkner, Flanner O’Connor, John Steinbeck
 - I. **1960 – Present – Rebellion against conformity, Civil Rights, Generation Gap** – Lorraine Hansberry, Maya Angelou, Nikki Giovanni, Robert Hayden, Gary Soto, Naomi Shihab, Julia Alvarez, Rudolfo Anaya, Ray Bradbury, Sandra Cisneros, Truman Capote, Richard Connell, Hellen Keller, Shirley Jackson, John Knowles, Harper Lee, N.Scott Momaday, Daniel Keyes, Walter Dean Myers, Frank R. Stockton, Laura Ingalls Wilder, Richard Wright, John Updike, James Thurber, Chaim Potok
13. **Select and analyze a newly released movie rated PG or G.** Include the ticket stub as a part of this assignment. Note the acting, script development, plot development, character, special effects, cinematography, musical score, theme and more. Write a movie review that focuses on these elements, as well as any personal observations which seem appropriate.
14. **Analyze a poem using the TPCASTT method of analysis.**
15. **Read through current newspapers or online news sites and focus on current events.** Select 3 current events that support a common theme, like “Good always wins.” Then write a well-crafted response to share your findings.
16. **Vocabulary Building / Enrichment** - Vocabulary from Classical Roots by Nancy Flowers, Word Wise – A Vocabulary Guide to Enhance Your Real-World Conversations by Norman and Roecklein, and/or Various games, programs, and online tools.
17. **Literary Analysis using Pre-AP strategies** – TPCASTT, Dialectical Journals, Developmental Stages of Reader Response
18. **Select Humanities Studies through Khanacademy** - <http://www.khanacademy.org/>
19. **View educational videos and courses through iTunes University.**
20. **MIT Open Courseware** - <http://ocw.mit.edu/index.htm>