

7th Grade Essential Questions

Time Interval	Instructional Unit	Essential Questions
August - June		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Why do I write? ○ What do I write? ○ How are multimedia presentations similar & different from other forms of writing? ○ How can I use technology in my writing and/or to express myself? ○ What makes a topic sentence strong? Supporting information? ○ How do I know if my writing has a strong thesis and support? ○ What part of writing and/or the writing process do I find the most difficult? ○ How does reading examples of good writing help me improve my writing? ○ How and why are structure and mechanics important to writing? ○ Why should I have sentence variety in my writing? ○ What does word choice and vocabulary do to my writing?
August - November	Informative	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Which is more important in informative writing, clarity or imaginative description? ○ What should we tell and what should we describe to make information clear? ○ What are the main characteristics of an informative essay? ○ How is informative writing similar or different from other genres of writing? ○ How are the various forms of informative writing similar and different? ○ Who are the likely readers or audiences for this form of writing? ○ What kind of organization could be used for this form of writing? ○ What kind of voice would be most effective for this form of writing? ○ What is the best way to find important information about a topic? ○ What kinds of facts and evidence are most effective for support in research? ○ How do I use sources and text features to find reliable information? ○ How do I determine if my researched information is reliable and valid?
December-February	Argumentative	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ What is my point of view? ○ How will I know if I have convinced my audience? ○ What are the main characteristics of an argumentative essay? ○ How are the various types of argumentative writing similar or different? ○ How is this type of writing similar or different from other genres of writing? ○ Who are the likely readers or audiences for this form of writing? ○ What kind of organization could be used for this form of writing? ○ What kind of voice would be most effective for this form of writing? ○ How do I choose evidence to support my opinions in my writing? ○ How do I develop counterarguments? Why should I include them?

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March	Nonfiction Narrative	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ What should we put in and leave out to be accurate and honest in our writing? ○ What are the characteristics of nonfiction narrative? ○ How is nonfiction narrative similar and different from fiction narrative? ○ What are the main characteristics of narrative nonfiction? ○ What makes this form of writing different from other forms? ○ Who are the likely readers or audience for this form of writing? ○ What kind of voice would be most effective for this form of writing? ○ How can I communicate the importance of my experience? ○ How much of myself do I want to share?
April	Fiction Narrative	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ What can fiction do better than nonfiction? Why? ○ How do the characterization, conflict, and plot of a work of nonfiction differ from those of a work of fiction? ○ What makes fiction narrative different from other types of writing? ○ What are the main characteristics of a short story? ○ Who are the likely readers and audience for this form of writing? ○ How do I make my story more interesting to my readers? ○ What kind of organization could be used for this form of writing? ○ What kind of voice would be most effective for this form of writing?
May/June	Poetry & Reflective	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ When is a picture better than words? ○ How do I best convey feelings through words on a page? ○ How are the various forms of poetry similar and different? ○ What are the main characteristics of poetry and description? ○ What makes this form of writing different from other genres? ○ Who are the likely readers or audience for this form of writing? ○ What kind of organization could be used for this form of writing? ○ What kind of voice would be most effective for this form of writing? ○ How and why should I use figurative and/or descriptive language in my writing?