

# Looking Back on America

**This eight-week unit of eighth grade continues with reflections on the setting of stories and events, this time from a historical perspective.**

**Essential Questions: How does learning history through literature differ from learning through informational text?**

English Language Arts Standards	Resources, Materials , Activities
<p><b>RL.8.9. Analyze how a modern work of fiction draws on themes, patterns of events, or character types from myths, traditional stories, or religious works such as the Bible, including describing how the material is rendered new.</b></p> <p>a. Determine a theme or central idea of a text.</p> <p>b. Analyze the development of the theme or central idea over the course of a text.</p> <p>c. Develop an objective summary of a text.</p> <p><b>RI.8.3. Analyze how a text makes connections among and distinctions between individuals, ideas, or events (e.g., through comparisons, analogies, or categories).</b></p> <p><b>RI.8.9. Analyze a case in which two or more texts provide conflicting information on the same topic and identify where the texts disagree on matters of fact or interpretation.</b></p> <p><b>W.8.7. Conduct short research projects to answer a question (including a self-generated question), drawing on several sources and generating additional related, focused questions that allow for multiple avenues of exploration.</b></p> <p><b>SL.8.5. Integrate multimedia and visual displays into presentations to clarify information, strengthen claims and evidence, and add interest.</b></p> <p><b>L.8.3. Use knowledge of language and its conventions when writing, speaking, reading, or listening.</b></p>	<p>Johnny Tremain (novel)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>-use text evidence to answer questions</li> <li>-use reasoning to answer questions</li> <li>-defend statements from the novel</li> <li>-make inferences</li> <li>-complete a character analysis</li> <li>-develop a theme</li> </ul> <p>Compare/Contrast characters before and after life-changing events</p> <p>Graphic Organizer</p> <p>Journal Entries</p> <p>Research a character from history</p>

<p>a. Use verbs in the active and passive voice and in the conditional and subjunctive mood to achieve particular effects (e.g., emphasizing the actor or the action; expressing uncertainty or describing a state contrary to fact).</p>	<p>Verbs          -verbs and objects          -active and passive voice          -agreement with subjects</p>
<p><b>Required Independent Reading Texts:</b> 15 RC points required</p> <p>Recommended Readings: <i>The Year of the Hangman</i></p>	<p>“I Know Why the Caged Bird Sings”          “Paul Revers Ride”          “Hour of Freedom”          “I, Too, Sing America”</p>
<p><b>Authentic Assessments:</b></p>	