

ELA Full-Spectrum Nonfiction Content Outline



ELA Full-Spectrum Nonfiction was designed with a focus on close reading and analysis, and was inspired by the Common CORE State Standards, particularly the Reading Standards for Informational Texts for Grades 9-10.

Below, you will find the content outline for *Full-Spectrum Nonfiction*. Note that almost all readings have pre- and post-reading questions, questions throughout the actual text (*Pause...Think and Respond* questions), and questions for analysis. Furthermore, many of the texts are presented as first, second, and sometimes even third readings, promoting close and deliberate reading. Writing prompts (*Now, Your Voice!*) are used throughout the book and encourage students to interpret a text’s meaning, demonstrate their analytical skills, write creatively, and experiment with the different genres they are reading.

1. Essays		
	"Mother Tongue" by Amy Tan	Close Reading, Analysis, Point-of-View, Tone, Code-Switching, Fiction v. Nonfiction, Audience/Purpose, Writing and Panorama Prompts
	"The Cold Hard Facts of Freezing to Death" by Peter Stark	
	Essay from <i>A Man Without a Country</i> by Kurt Vonnegut	
2. Documentary Films		
	<i>Jack</i> by Grace Jackson	Film Analysis, Objective vs. Subjective, Summarizing, Writing Prompts
	<i>The Record Breaker</i> by Brian McGinn	
3. Biographies and Autobiographies		
	Excerpt from <i>The Dark Story of Eminem</i>	Close Reading, Analysis, Informational Sources, Audience/Purpose, Tone, Writing Prompts
	Excerpt from <i>Up From Slavery: An Autobiography</i>	
4. Eyewitness Accounts		
	"The Outhouse" by Clyde	Close Reading, Analysis, Reading for Context, Video and Panorama Prompts, Writing Prompts
	Excerpt from <i>Courage Was My Only Option</i> by Roman Kent	
	James Brophy’s Eyewitness Account of the Roer River Crossing	
	A Chaplain’s Account of the Death of a Soldier (Letter)	

5. Speeches on Going to War		
	“Day of Infamy” Speech by Franklin D. Roosevelt	Rhetorical Appeals, Close Reading, Analysis, Audience/Purpose, Video and Panorama Prompts, Writing Prompts
	George Bush's Address on the Start of the Iraq War	
	“Declaration of War Against Germany” by Woodrow Wilson	
6. Manifestos		
	Excerpt from <i>The Greatest Salesman in the World</i> by Og Mandino	Close Reading, Analysis, Word Choice/Diction, Audience/Purpose, Pacing, Documents of Historical and Literary Significance, Panorama and Writing Prompts
	Excerpt from <i>The Communist Manifesto</i> by Karl Marx	
	The Declaration of Independence	
	“Civil Disobedience” by Henry David Thoreau	
7. Voices that Inspire		
	“Letter From a Birmingham Jail” by Martin Luther King, Jr.	Close Reading, Analysis, Reading for Context, Understanding Persuasion and Argument, Panorama and Writing Prompts
	Elie Wiesel’s Nobel Acceptance Speech	
	Gettysburg Address by Abraham Lincoln	
8. Ads, Ads Everywhere		
	Multiple Advertisements and Political Commercials (photo and video)	Analysis of Persuasive Techniques in Advertising and Politics, Weasel Words/Doublespeak, Advertising vs. Marketing, Satire
	“Marketing Department Under Impression Keebler Elves a Beloved Part of American Culture” from <i>The Onion</i>	
9. Film Reviews		
	“Another Country” by Justyn Dillingham	Close Reading, Analysis of Film Reviews, Writing Film Reviews
	<i>Mr. Christmas</i> by Nick Palmer	
10. Democracy Written Down		
	Town Council Meeting Minutes	Close Reading, Analysis, Primary v. Secondary Sources, Petitions, Writing Prompts, Analysis of a Court Case
	The US Constitution	
	Supreme Court Case, <i>Morse v. Frederick</i>	
11. Research and Interpretation		
	“Solving Underwater Crimes: Development of Latent Prints Made on Submerged Objects” Ana Castelló, Francesc Francés,	Types of Research Studies, Organization of Research Studies, Reading and Comprehension of a Research Study, Close Reading, Analysis, Writing Prompts,

	and Fernando Verdú “America's Real Criminal Element: Lead” by Kevin Drum “Lead and Crime” by Jim Manzi	Interpretations of Research, Persuasion
12. Instructions		
	Multiple sets of instructions	Evaluating Instructions, Writing Instructions
13. Letters: Then and Now		
	Various Postcards and Letters “George Saunders on How the Internet Has Ruined Our Attention Spans” by Luke O’Neil	Using Context Clues, Understanding Primary Sources, Close Reading, Personal Reflection, Writing and Panorama Prompts
14. Everyday Texts		
	Various Forms, Bills, and Contracts	Critical Thinking, Close Reading, Life Skills, Analysis