

English II HONORS Unit 1: Extending Freedom’s Reach		
Essential Question: <i>What is the relationship between power and freedom?</i>		
Maryland College and Career Ready Frameworks, Grades 9-12 • Reading Literature Frameworks • Reading Informational Text Frameworks • Writing Frameworks • Speaking and Listening Frameworks • Language Frameworks		Savvas myPerspectives Family Support • Savvas Parent Guide (English) • Savvas Parent Guide (Spanish) • Savvas Parent Guide (Arabic)
Unit 1 Selection Titles		Maryland College and Career Reading Standards English Language Arts/Literacy for Grades 9-10
Unit Introduction		
• Lewis Hine: Photographer of Conscience, Silvia’s Legacy (media)		RI.10.2
Whole-Class Learning		
• Harrison Bergeron by Kurt Vonnegut		RL.10.2, RL.10.4
• <i>from</i> The “Four Freedoms” Speech by Franklin D. Roosevelt		RI.10.2, RI.10.4, RI.10.6, RI.10.8
• Inaugural Address by John F. Kennedy		RI.10.2, RI.10.4, RI.10.6
• “We Are Freedom”		RI.10.1, RI.10.2, RI.10.4, RI.10.6, RI.10.9, RI.10.10, W.10.2, W.10.2.a, W.10.8, W.10.9.b, SL.10.3, L.10.1.a, L.10.4.c
Full-Process Writing		
• Explanatory Essay		W.10.2, W.10.5
Peer-Group Learning		
• The Censors by Luisa Valenzuela		RL.10.2, RL.10.3, RL.10.4, RL.10.6
• Poetry Collection: Caged Bird by Maya Angelou, Some Advice to Those Who Will Serve Time in Prison by Nazim Hikmet		RL.10.4, RL.10.5
• Anne Frank’s Diary Speaks to Teen Girls in a Secret Kabul Book Club by Diaa Hadid		RI.10.2, RI.10.2, RI.10.4, RI.10.5
Independent Learning (Student Choice)		
• Credo: What I Believe by Neil Gaiman		RI.10.3, RI.10.4, RI.10.6
• Haitian Soup Joumou Awarded Protected Cultural Heritage Status by UNESCO		RL.10.2, RL.10.3, RL.10.4, RL.10.10
• Emancipation: A Life Fable by Kate Chopin		SL.10.1
Reflect and Respond		
Reflect on Unit Goals and Texts & Unit 1 Assessment, Unit Projects, OR Performance-Based Assessment		RL./RI.10.2, RL./RI.10.4 RI.10.3, RI.10.5, RI.10.6, RI.10.8, RI.10.9, W.10.2, W.10.10, SL.10.1

Whole-Class Novel or Book Clubs	
Novel study: <i>Night</i> or <i>A Thousand Splendid Suns</i> will be the Honors novel study for this unit.	RL./RI.10.2-10.9, W.10.10
English II HONORS Unit 2: Inside the Nightmare	
Essential Question: <i>What is the allure of fear?</i>	
Unit 2 Selection Titles	<u>Maryland College and Career Reading Standards English Language Arts/Literacy for Grades 9-10</u>
Unit Introduction	
The Open Window, How to Make Your Writing Suspenseful (media)	RI.10.2
Whole-Class Learning	
<i>from</i> Extraordinary Tales (Edgar Allen Poe visuals) and <i>from</i> How to Tell You're Reading a Gothic Novel in Pictures (graphics by Adam Frost & Zhenia Vasiliev)	RL.10.2, RI.10.3
The Fall of the House of Usher by Edgar Allan Poe and Hook & Inspire: "Why You Should Read Edgar Allan Poe"	RL.10.2, RL.10.4
House Taken Over by Julio Cortazar	RL.10.2, RL.10.4, SL.10.1
Full-Process Writing	
Short Story with Peer Review	W.10.3
Peer-Group Learning	
Dear Science: Why do people like scary movies and haunted houses? by Rachel Feltman and Sarah Kaplan OR The Cottage	Dear Science: RI.10.2, RI.10.3, RI.10.4 The Cottage: RL.10.3, RL.10.4, RL.10.5, RL.10.9
Poetry Collection	RL.10.2, RL.10.4, RL.10.5
Independent Learning (Student Choice)	
- The Vampire Rabbit by Zaena Tessema - The Feather Pillow by Horacio Quiroga - Mrs. Vargas and the Dead Naturalist by Kathleen Alcalá - Sleep Paralysis and the Monsters Inside Your Mind by Baland Jalal <i>from</i> The Sound of Fear (BBC, host Sean Street)	RI.10.2, RI.10.4, RL.10.4, RL./RI.10.10
Reflect and Respond	
Reflect on Unit Goals and Texts and Develop Your Perspective: Unit Projects	RI.10.2-RI.10.4, RL.10.3-RL.10.5, RL.10.9
Whole-Class Novel or Book Clubs	
Poe Author study: Short Story Collection: A Descent into the Maelstrom, The Cask of Amontillado, Berenice, William Wilson, The Premature Burial	RL./RI.10.2-10.9

English II HONORS Unit 3: Outsiders and Outcasts	
Essential Question: <i>How important is it to belong?</i>	
Unit 3 Selection Titles	<u>Maryland College and Career Reading Standards English Language Arts/Literacy for Grades 9-10</u>
Unit Introduction	
Social Media: Proceed with Caution, “Look Beyond Borders” (media), Explore Myths of Social Media	RI.10.2
Whole-Class Learning	
Art of Tetsuya Ishida by Tetsuya Ishida and Ishida Extension	RL.10.7
- The Metamorphosis by Franz Kafka (novella) - Franz Kafka and Metamorphosis (BBC)	RL.10.2, RL.10.3, RL.10.4, RL.10.5, RL.10.6, RL.10.7, RL.10.9 W.10.1, W.10.4, W.10.7, W.10.9, W.10.10, L.10.5, L.10.6, SL.10.1. a
Full-Process Writing	
Argumentative Essay (Honors prompt and considerations)	W.10.1, W.10.5
Peer-Group Learning	
Revenge of the Geeks by Alexandra Robbins	RI.10.2, RI.10.4, RI.10.8 RI.10.10, L.10.1.a, L.10.4.a, W.10.1.a, W.10.6, SL.10.1.c, SL.10.2
Independent Learning (Student Choice)	
- Personal Rakshasi by Suzan Palumbo - The Orphan Boy and the Elk Dog by Blackfoot - By Any Other Name by Santha Rama Rau <i>from</i> When I Was Puerto Rican by Esmeralda Santiago - Poetry Collection 2	RL./RI.10.1-RL./RI.10.6, RL./RI.10.10, W.10.2
Reflect and Respond	
Reflect on Unit Goals and Texts and Performance-Based Argumentative Writing	W.10.9, W.10.10, SL.10.1, L.10.6
Whole-Class Novel or Book Clubs	
Novel study: The novella, <i>The Metamorphosis</i> , will be the novel study for this unit.	RL.10.2, RL.10.3, RL.10.4, RL.10.5, RL.10.6, W.10.1, W.10.4, W.10.7, W.10.9, W.10.10, L.10.5, L.10.6, SL.10.1, SL.10.3
English II HONORS Unit 4: Virtue and Vengeance	
Essential Question: <i>What motivates us to forgive?</i>	

Unit 4 Selection Titles		Maryland College and Career Reading Standards English Language Arts/Literacy for Grades 9-10
Unit Introduction		
Neither Justice Nor Forgetting: Defining Forgiveness, Mpho Tutu van Furth on Forgiveness (media)	RI.10.2	
Whole-Class Learning		
Literature and Culture: <i>The Tempest</i>	RI.10.2	
- The Tempest, Acts I-V by William Shakespeare “Caliban Catches a Glimpse of His Reflection” by Virgil Suárez	RL.10.2, RL10.3, RL10.4, RL.10.5, RL. 10.6	
Full-Process Writing		
Literary Essay	W.10.1, W.10.5, W.10.5	
Peer-Group Learning		
Understanding Forgiveness (PBS)	RI.10.4, RI.10.5	
Poetry Collection 1	RL.10.2-RL.10.5	
Independent Learning (Student Choice)		
- The Sun Parlor by Dorothy West - Poetry Collection 2 - The Forgiveness Project by Eric Lomax - A Dish Best Served Cold by Aminatta Forna	RL10.2, RL.10.4 RI.10.4 RL./RI.10.10	
Reflect and Respond		
Reflect on Unit Goals and Texts & Performance-Based Assessment	RL.10.2-RL.10.6, RL.10.9 RI.10.5, RI.10.6, RI.10.8	
Whole-Class Novel or Book Clubs		
Novel study: <i>The Tempest</i> will be the novel study for this unit.	RL./RI.10.2-10.9	
English II HONORS Unit 5: All That Glitters		
Essential Question: <i>What do our possessions reveal about us?</i>		
Unit 5 Selection Titles		Maryland College and Career Reading Standards English Language Arts/Literacy for Grades 9-10
Unit Introduction		
Does Money Equal More Happiness? (media), I Came, I Saw, I Shopped	RI.10.2	

HCPS RELA English II Honors
Course Text: Grade 10 Savvas myPerspectives

Savvas myPerspectives Curriculum Map 2025-2026

Whole-Class Learning	
• The Necklace by Guy Maupassant	RL.10.2, RL10.4, RL.10.5, RL.10.6
• Poetry Collection	RL.10.2, RL.10.3, RL10.4, RL.10.5
Peer-Group Learning	
• In La Rinconada, Peru, Searching for Beauty in Ugliness by Marie Arana	RI.10.2, RI.10.3, RI.10.4
• The Golden Touch by Nathaniel Hawthorne	RL.10.3, RL10.4, RL.10.5
Independent Learning (Student Choice)	
• The Gold Series: The History of Gold by Jeff Desjardins • A Dose of What the Doctor Never Orders by Ihara Saikaku • Heirlooms' Value Shifts from Sentiment to Cash by Rosa Salter Rodriquez • The Three-Piece Suit by Ali Deb	RL./RI.10.2, RL./RI.10.4 RL./RI.10.10
Reflect and Respond	
Reflect on Unit Goals and Texts & Unit 5 Assessment OR Final Exam	RL.10.4, RL.10.5, RL.10.6, RL.10.9 RI.10.2, RI.10.3, RI.10.4
Whole-Class Novel or Book Clubs	
Novel Study or Book Clubs: Novels for instructional consideration are listed below.	RL./RI.10.2-10.9

Novels for consideration: *Antigone, Bitter, The Chosen, Darius the Great Is Not Okay, Fahrenheit 451, Farewell to Manzanar, Lord of the Flies, Medea, Metamorphosis, Night, Scythe, A Separate Peace, Spare Parts: Four Undocumented Teenagers, One Ugly Robot, and the Battle for the American Dream, Gallant, The Haunting of Hill House, Long Way Down (Book Clubs), A Thousand Splendid Suns, Macbeth, Kaffir Boy, Oedipus*

Students earn **one required English credit** for successfully completing this course.

For more information regarding the Honors English II course content, curriculum, and pacing, please contact Kristine Scarry, Supervisor of Reading, English, Language Arts (Kristine.scarry@hcps.org) or Annmarie Steltzer, Assistant Supervisor of Reading, English, Language Arts (Annmarie.steltzer@hcps.org).