

English I Unit 1: Survival		
Essential Question: <i>What qualities help us survive?</i>		
Maryland College and Career Ready Frameworks, Grades 9-12 <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Reading Literature Frameworks • Reading Informational Text Frameworks • Writing Frameworks • Speaking and Listening Frameworks • Language Frameworks 		Savvas myPerspectives Family Support <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 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		
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Everyone Should Learn First Aid, Ada Blackjack Rising (media) 		RI.9.2
Whole-Class Learning		
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Through the Tunnel by Doris Lessing 		RL.9.3, RL.9.5, RL.9.6
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The Seventh Man by Haruki Murakami 		RL.9.3, RL.9.4, RL.9.5, RL.9.6
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The Moral Logic of Survivor Guilt by Nancy Sherman 		RI.9.8
Full-Process Writing		
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Argumentative Essay 		W.9.1, W.9.5, W.9.6
Peer-Group Learning		
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The Voyage of the James Caird by Caroline Alexander 		RI.9.2, RI.9.6
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The Endurance and the James Caird by Frank Hurley 		RI.9.7
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The Value of a Sherpa Life by Grayson Schaffer, <i>from</i> Life of Pi by Yann Martel, or Poetry Collection 1 		Sherpa: RI.9.5, RI.9.6, RI.9.8 Poetry: RL.9.2, RL.9.5 Life of Pi: RL.9.3
Independent Learning (Student Choice)		
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>from</i> Unbroken by Laura Hillenbrand • Poetry Collection 2 • The Key to Disaster Survival? by Shankar Vendatam • Preparedness 101: Zombie Apocalypse by Ali S. Kahn 		RI.9.2, RL. 9.5, RL/RI.9.10

Reflect and Respond	
Reflect on Unit Goals and Texts & Unit 1 Assessment	RL.9.2, RL.9.3, RL.9.4, RL.9.5 RI.9.5, RI.9.6, RI.9.7, RI.9.8
Whole-Class Novel or Book Clubs	
Novels for consideration are listed below. Teachers may select a novel for class study or create book clubs of selected texts.	RI./RL.9.2-9.9

English I Unit 2: Promise and Progress	
Essential Question: <i>How can words inspire change?</i>	
Unit 2 Selection Titles	<u>Maryland College and Career Reading Standards English Language Arts/Literacy for Grades 9-10</u>
Unit Introduction	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Wangari Maathai: Like the Hummingbird, Take a Seat Viola (media) 	RI.9.2
Whole-Class Learning	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Remembering Civil Rights History, When “Words Meant Everything” (PBS) 	L.9.6, W.9.2
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> “I Have a Dream” by Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. 	RI.9.4, RI.9.6, RI.9.8, RI.9.9
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Letter from Birmingham Jail by Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. 	RI.9.2, RI.9.3, RI.9.5, RI.9.6, RI.9.8, RI.9.9
Full-Process Writing	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Research Report 	W.9.2, W.9.5, W.9.7, W.9.8
Peer-Group Learning	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The Friendship Bench by Yvette Lisa Ndlovu, How Civil Rights Groups Used Photography for Change by Ashwanta Jackson, OR Poetry Collection 2 	Friendship Bench: RL.9.2, RL.9.3, RL.9.4, RL.9.6 Photography for Change: RI.9.2, RI.9.3 Poetry: RL. 9.2
Independent Learning (Student Choice)	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The First Time I Faced a Hostile Audience by John Leguizamo Sheyann Webb from Selma, Lord, Selma as told to Frank Sikora How NYC’s First Puerto Rican Librarian Brought Spanish to the Shelves by Neda Ulaby Remarks on the Assassination of Martin Luther King, Jr. by Robert F. Kennedy 	RL./RI.9.2, RL./RI.9.10

Reflect and Respond	
Reflect on Unit Goals and Texts & Unit 2 Assessment	RL/RI.9.2, RL/RI.9.3, RL/RI.9.5, RL/RI.9.6, RI.9.8, RI.9.9
Whole-Class Novel or Book Clubs	
Novels for consideration are listed below. Teachers may select a novel for class study or create book clubs of selected texts.	RI/RL.9.2-9.9

English I Unit 3: Crazy, Stupid Love	
Essential Question: <i>What is true love?</i>	
Unit 3 Selection Titles	<u>Maryland College and Career Reading Standards English Language Arts/Literacy for Grades 9-10</u>
Unit Introduction	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <i>Romeo and Juliet</i>: A Tragedy? Or Just a Misunderstanding?, “for Estefani” (media) 	RI.9.2
Whole-Class Learning	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> English Literary History 	RI.9.2
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The Tragedy of Romeo and Juliet, Acts I-V by William Shakespeare 	RL.9.2, RL.9.3, RL.9.4, RL.9.5
Full-Process Writing	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Literary Analysis Essay 	W.9.1, W.9.5, W.9.6
Peer-Group Learning	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Romeo and Juliet is a Terrible Play / Romeo and Juliet and the Hard Parts of Love by Ada Calhoun, Poetry Collection 1, OR American History by Judith Ortiz Cofer 	Romeo & Juliet: RI.9.6, RI.9.8 American History: RL.9.2, RL.9.3, RL.9.4, RL.9.5 Poetry: RL.9.2, RL.9.4, RL.9.5
Independent Learning (Student Choice)	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The Voice of the Enemy by Juan Villoro Poetry Collection 2 (Music by Elizabeth Acevedo, Heart to Heart by Rita Dove) If Romeo and Juliet Had Cell Phones by Misty Harris 	RL.9.2, RL. 9.10
Reflect and Respond	
Reflect on Unit Goals and Texts & Unit 3 Assessment	RL.9.2, RL.9.3, RL.9.5, RL.9.9, RI.9.6, RI.9.8

Whole-Class Novel or Book Clubs	
Novel study: <i>The Tragedy of Romeo and Juliet</i> will be the novel study for this unit.	RI./RL.9.2-9.9
English I Unit 4: Journey of Transformation	
Essential Question: <i>How do we learn who we truly are?</i>	
Unit 4 Selection Titles	<u>Maryland College and Career Reading Standards English Language Arts/Literacy for Grades 9-10</u>
Unit Introduction	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The “American Traveler,” “The Bookmobile” (media) 	RI.9.2
Whole-Class Learning	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> World Literary History, Everything You Need to Know to Read Homer’s Odyssey (media) 	RI.9.2
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <i>from</i> The Odyssey, Parts 1 and 2 by Homer 	RL.9.3, RL.9.4, RL.9.5, RL.9.6
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <i>from</i> the Odyssey: A Graphic Novel by Gareth Hinds 	RL.9.7
Full-Process Writing	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Explanatory Essay 	W.9.2, W.9.5, W.9.6
Peer-Group Learning	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <i>from</i> The Hero’s Adventure by Bill Moyers & Joseph Campbell OR The Writing on the Wall by Camille Dungy 	Hero’s Adventure: RI.9.3, RI.9.5 Writing on the Wall: RI.9.2, RI.9.3, RI.9.4
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Poetry Collection 1 OR Rules of the Game by Amy Tan 	Poetry: RL.9.4, RL.9.5 Rules of the Game: RL.9.2, RL.9.3
Independent Learning (Student Choice)	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Golden Glass by Alma Villanueva Poetry Collection 2 The Prom (animated video) The Return by Ngugi wa Thiong'o 	RL.9.3, RL.9.10
Reflect and Respond	
Reflect on Unit Goals and Texts & Unit 4 Assessment	RL.9.2, RL.9.3, RL.9.5, RL.9.7, RI.9.2, RI.9.3, RI.9.5
Whole-Class Novel or Book Clubs	

Novel study: from <i>The Odyssey</i> will be the novel study for this unit.		RI/RL.9.2-9.9
English I Unit 5: The Things We Make		
Essential Question: <i>Which defines us more, nature or technology?</i>		
Unit 5 Selection Titles		<u>Maryland College and Career Reading Standards English Language Arts/Literacy for Grades 9-10</u>
Unit Introduction		
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The Lamp at the Turning, “Rubber Gloves: The Simple Invention That Revolutionized Medicine” (media) 		RI.9.2
Whole-Class Learning		
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> There Will Come Soft Rains 		RL.9.2, RL. 9.5
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> By the Waters of Babylon 		RL. 9.4, RL.9.5
Full-Process Writing		
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Compare-and-Contrast Essay 		RL.9.5, W.9.2
Peer-Group Learning		
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The Mystery of the Indestructible Beetle, Snowstorm, OR Anicka Yi: In Love with the World / Ask the Artist: Questions for Anicka Yi 		Mystery: RI.9.2, RI.9.3, RI.9.5 Snowstorm: RL.9.3 Anicka Yi: L.9.6
Independent Learning (Student Choice)		
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Medieval Eyeglasses: Wearable Technology of the Thirteenth Century Poetry Collection <i>from</i> The Machine Stops A Visit to the Doomsday Vault 		RL./RI.9.2 RL./RI.9.10
Reflect and Respond		
Reflect on Unit Goals and Texts & Unit 5 Assessment		RL.9.2, RL.9.3, RL.9.4, RL.9.5, RI.9.2, RI.9.3, RI.9.5, RI.9.7
Whole-Class Novel or Book Clubs		
Novel study: For pacing purposes, the novel study will be omitted for this unit.		RI/RL.9.2-9.9

Novels for consideration: *To Kill a Mockingbird* , *Life of Pi*, *Long Walk to Freedom*, *The Absolutely True Diary of a Part-Time*

HCPS RELA English I

Course Text: Grade 9 Savvas myPerspectives

Savvas myPerspectives Curriculum Map 2025-2026

Indian, All American Boys, American Born Chinese, Children of Blood and Bone, The Crossover, Dear Martin, The Hot Zone, The House on Mango Street, Klara and the Sun, Nimona, Of Mice and Men, Persepolis, They Called Us Enemy

For more information regarding the English I 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).