



1. Check your order

We've made every effort to pack your collection carefully. Please take a moment to make sure you've received everything you ordered.

CONTACT US WITHIN 2 WEEKS IF ANYTHING IS MISSING OR INCORRECT.

2. Get to know your collection

The following unboxing sheets will give you a brief introduction to each component of your collection.

IMPORTANT: Carefully read the teacher and student information in the front of each guide.

3. Browse the schedules

The *Suggested Yearly Schedule* is just that, a suggestion. Our materials are designed to adapt to your schedule, your teaching style, and your student's learning style.

The *Weekly Literature Schedule* is also a suggestion, but over many years, this approach has proven to be a great tool in helping students succeed and flourish.

4. Explore our support resources:

Parent/Teacher Info



blackbirdandcompany.com/ information-for-parents-and-teachers





blackbirdandcompany.com/ information-for-parents-and-teachers/ answer-keys



blackbirdandcompany.com/ product-category/free-stuff



Videos

blackbirdandcompany.com/ video-collection/

To Kill a Mockingbird

A Tree Grows in Brooklyn

Thank you for choosing a Grade Level Collection!

We've made every effort to pack your collection carefully. Please take a moment to make sure you have received everything included in your order.

Your Grade Level Collection contains the following items:

The Great Gatsby

• A Separate Peace

LITERATURE/WRITING • Level 4 American Literature

6 Workbooks & Novels:

- The Acts of King Arthur and His Noble Nights
- The Boys in the Boat

COMPOSITION • The Essay Volume 5: Write the Persuasive Essay

○ Student Workbook

VOCABULARY • Operation Lexicon: John Steinbeck

○ Student Workbook

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The following information will help you become familiar with each piece of your collection.

Literature Discovery Guides: Level 4 American Lit

In your box you will have received 6 Level Four guides and accompanying novels. In the 10th grade, students will read a variety of genres from American authors.

Our curriculum is designed with a built in Teacher/Mentor to support each step of the student's journey. Everything you will need as an instructor is contained within the student guide. Taking time to carefully read through this material in the guide will help you to understand what is being expected of your student along the way. It will also provide strategies that will enable you to support and inspire. Take time to flip through the student journal to understand what is expected week by week. Finally, spend some time reading through the student instructions for the Section 5 culminating essay and creative project.

Once you are familiar with the week-by-week format, you'll be able to successfully complete the guide for each of the novels.

Ultimately, when it comes to language arts learning, much of the exceptional work that students accomplish will be subjective in nature, tied to their ideas. As we value the ideas of the student—their discoveries from reading, their observations—and challenge them to write these ideas well, the outcome, over time, is that literacy skills soar

The Essay Volume 5: Write the Persuasive Essay

The persuasive essay is an opportunity to communicate a point of view on a specific issue. Through 5 lessons spread over 10 weeks, students will explore two sides of an issue, choose a side, then craft details that communicate a position in an effort to convince readers to think twice.

Operation Lexicon: John Steinbeck

A lexicon is the collected vocabulary utilized by a writer. Over the course of 26 weeks, students will explore a cluster of words from the lexicon of John Steinbeck. Using these words in an original way, with inspiration from her many short stories and letters, will help the budding wordsmith recognize the plasticity of language and delight in its beauty.

- 1. Everything for the teacher is included in the front of the student guide. Begin by reading the *Introduction* followed by the *How to use this Guide* –3 short pages! Encourage your student to read along.
- 2. Read, together with your student the information about John Steinbeck.
- 3. With your student, look through the Story Starters and the Day 3 micro-story example before beginning the work.
- 4. Each week contains three days of lessons. These lessons are guided by a built-in-mentor for your student to be guided in the work. Familiarizing yourself with one week will help you to better support your student. Day 1 and 2 will take about 15 minutes each, while Day 3 may take a bit longer, 30 minutes to an hour, because it involves application of the words and a bit of creativity.

Finally, here is an encouragement from Steinbeck:

The discipline of the written word punishes both stupidity and dishonesty. A writer lives in awe of words for they can be cruel or kind, and they can change their meanings right in front of you. They pick up odors like butter in a refrigerator.







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This 40 week schedule represents about 9 months on the calendar, allowing for 175-180 days of instruction after accounting for breaks and holidays.

This suggested outline shows how the pieces of your Grade Level Collection can be puzzled together over the course of the school year. Any of the elements can be staggered and/or spaced out in order to meet your particular needs, creating a varied and comprehensive learning experience.

= No Assignment
= Review or Complete
= 1 Week in Workbook
1 = Week Number

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Level 4: American Lit • 5 days/week, 60–90 minutes/day • 36 Weeks

Jse 4 weeks to complete the journal activities. Use week 5 for essay writing and project. Use week 6 if needed to exten writing and/or projects.

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The Essay Volume 5: Write the Persuasive Essay • 90 minutes/week spread over 1, 2, or 3 days • 10 Weeks This unit can also be spread out to 20 weeks by working every other week

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Operation Lexicon: John Steinbeck • 3 days/week, 15 – 30 minutes/day • 25 Weeks Begin on week 12

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Suggested weekly schedule for literature

	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY
Preliminary	Complete Section 1 reading before beginning V	efore beginning Week 1			
WEEKS 1-4 Sections 1-4	 Begin Notes: Character Themes, Symbols, Motifs Vocabulary Quotes 		 Complete Notes: Character Themes, Symbols, Motifs Vocabulary Vocabulary Guotes Edit and complete 150 Word Synopsis final draft Write 300 Word Reflection rough draft 	 Edit 300 Word Reflection and conference with an adult Write 300 Word Reflection final draft 	 Section due Begin reading for next section
WEEK 5 Section 5	 Begin Section 5 Essay Begin Section 5 Project 	 Continue Section 5 Essay Continue Section 5 Project 	 Continue Section 5 Essay Continue Section 5 Project 	 Continue Section 5 Essay Continue Section 5 Project 	Section 5 Essay and Project due Begin reading for next guide



READ WELL • WRITE WELL • THINK WELL

LANGUAGE ARTS MATERIALS



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LIVE/ONLINE CLASSES



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