



Subject:

Grade Range:

## **Intro to Composition: The Essay Vol. 6**

**9<sup>th</sup> – 12<sup>th</sup>**

Research: Person | Place | Thing

### **Welcome to Blackbird & Company's English Language Arts program!**

*Intermediate Composition: The Essay - Volume 6 is one of the application elements of our ELA program.*

This year-long creative non-fiction project is an opportunity for high school students to participate in literary writing before heading to college, trade-school, or career. Students will choose a theme they will explore through a person, a place, and a thing. The Discovery Guide work is scaffolded incrementally over the course of 30 weeks to guide students through the steps of brainstorming theme and topic, gathering notes from various sources, collecting quotes while researching, formatting bibliographic information and weaving it all together to coherently communicate their unique idea to their reader.

*This planning Schedule is provided to help YOU as you plan and prepare to mentor your student on this journey of growth and discovery.*

*Are you ready? Let's go!*

*The following guidelines assume you are planning for the start of a typical school year beginning the last week of August and ending the first week of June. This equals about 40 calendar weeks, and allows for 175-180 days of instruction when accounting for breaks and holidays. If you are starting mid-year, or are following a different schedule, simply adjust the dates as needed.*

### **Integrated Literature & Writing - Planning**

*June – August (Overall subject preparation)*

- Familiarize yourself with the material by reading For The Teacher and For The Student introductory pages 5-16 in the Student Workbook. Spend some time look through the work pages in Discovery Guides 6A and 6B to familiarize yourself with the process and pacing of the project. Closely read through the Sample Long-Form Essay provided, following the instructions given for close reading on page 7 of Writing Discovery Guide 6A.
- Now look over the the Table of Contents and the Note for Teachers included in the companion text, Thinking In Threes. The activities in this workbook will be utilized throughout this Essay Unit to explore writing strategies and techniques that will assist your students as they move toward crafting expanded paragraphs.

### **Integrated Literature & Writing - Mapping**

*July – August (Scheduling and preparation for individual literature titles)*

**Things to consider as you plan:**

- This Advanced Composition Essay Guide can be accomplished in one to three sessions per week. Your students will need approximately 60 minutes per session, depending on the developmental stage of your writers and how many sessions you choose per week.
- This unit requires 30 weeks to complete.
- Each two-week lesson can stand on its own and is not dependent on work previously completed. Weekly work does not need to be assigned on consecutive days.
- Guide corrections need to be done weekly to insure that your students receive all input, corrections, and encouragement needed to be successful. Student Self-Edit and Teacher Evaluation Forms are built into this Writing Discovery Guide.
- Due to the subjective nature of the ideas and writing being produced by individual students, there is no answer key for this unit.
- Map out your intended Essay Unit schedule on your academic calendar in pencil, leaving room for possible adjustments along the way. Pay attention to other assignments and work load to avoid overwhelming your student.



## SAMPLE MAPPING GUIDE

**Now you have decisions to make about holidays, activities, and interruptions in scheduling.**

**Plan carefully to avoid overload or a lapse in student recall due to long down periods with holidays.**

**A typical schedule will work around the following breaks:** 1 week in November for Fall Break, 3 weeks in December/January for Winter Break, 1 week in April for Spring Break.

**By the time students are working in Essay Volume 6, they should have a solid enough writing background to start this in the first week of school. This material can be easily staggered with other application elements to keep it interesting and inviting.**

**We will map out a twice-per-week offering, but you can roll all elements into once-per-week assignments if desired.**

**Duration: 10 weeks**

### **Week 1: Lesson 1** (week 6 of school)

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	20	21	22	23	24	25	26	27	28	29	30	31	32	33	34	35	36	37	38	39	40		
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	20	21	22	23	24	25	26	27	28	29	30												

DAY	ASSIGNMENT	NOTES/ MARK COMPLETE
Day 1	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Read through For The Student pages 10-16 in the Writing Discovery Guide</li> <li>Read the Sample Long-Form Essay “On Tragedy: Lincoln, Terezin and Escalators” and thoroughly discuss the essay format</li> </ul>	
Day 2	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Weeks 1-2: Getting Started</li> <li>Read and complete work on pages 18-20 in the Writing Discovery Guide, Choosing Your Theme and Topics and The Epigraph (This will require time for research)</li> </ul>	
Day 3	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Weeks 1-2: Getting Started</li> <li>Reread the Sample Long-Form Essay</li> <li>Complete Discovery Guide pages 21-22</li> <li>Turn Guide in to teacher for review</li> </ul>	

### **Week 2: Lesson 1** (week 7 of school)

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	20	21	22	23	24	25	26	27	28	29	30	31	32	33	34	35	36	37	38	39	40		
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	20	21	22	23	24	25	26	27	28	29	30												

DAY	ASSIGNMENT	NOTES/ MARK COMPLETE
Day 1	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Weeks 1-2: Getting Started</li> <li>Complete research and Guide work and begin drafting your own extended thesis, page 21 in Discovery Guide</li> </ul>	
Day 2	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Weeks 1-2: Getting Started</li> <li>Complete your extended thesis, self-edit, and submit to your teacher for edits and conferencing</li> </ul>	
Day 3	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Weeks 1-2: Getting Started</li> <li>Conference with a teacher and incorporate any revisions and refinements that have been made through the self-editing and conferencing process</li> </ul>	

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# Intro to Composition: The Essay Vol. 6



## Weeks 3-5

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	20	21	22	23	24	25	26	27	28	29	30	31	32	33	34	35	36	37	38	39	40		
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	20	21	22	23	24	25	26	27	28	29	30												

DAY	ASSIGNMENT	NOTES/ MARK COMPLETE
Days 1-3	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Read the gray boxes on pages 26 and 39 in the Discovery Guide</li> <li>• Begin researching your person, recording all information and quotes on Discovery Guide pages 26-39</li> <li>• Turn Guide in to teacher for review</li> </ul>	

## Weeks 6-8

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	20	21	22	23	24	25	26	27	28	29	30	31	32	33	34	35	36	37	38	39	40		
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	20	21	22	23	24	25	26	27	28	29	30												

DAY	ASSIGNMENT	NOTES/ MARK COMPLETE
Days 1-3	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Read the gray boxes on pages 42 and 55 in the Discovery Guide</li> <li>• Begin researching your place, recording all information and quotes on Discovery Guide pages 42-55</li> <li>• Turn Guide in to teacher for review</li> </ul>	

## Weeks 9-11

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	20	21	22	23	24	25	26	27	28	29	30	31	32	33	34	35	36	37	38	39	40		
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	20	21	22	23	24	25	26	27	28	29	30												

DAY	ASSIGNMENT	NOTES/ MARK COMPLETE
Days 1-3	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Read gray boxes on pages 58 and 71 in the Discovery Guide</li> <li>• Begin researching your thing, recording all information and quotes on Discovery Guide pages 58-71</li> <li>• Turn Guide in to teacher for review</li> </ul>	

## Weeks 12-13

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	20	21	22	23	24	25	26	27	28	29	30	31	32	33	34	35	36	37	38	39	40		
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	20	21	22	23	24	25	26	27	28	29	30												

DAY	ASSIGNMENT	NOTES/ MARK COMPLETE
Days 1-3	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Read the gray box on page 6 of Discovery Guide 6B</li> <li>• Reread the introduction of the Sample Long-Form Essay</li> <li>• Write a rough draft of your introduction, self-edit, and submit to your teacher for edits and conferencing</li> </ul>	

## Weeks 14-16

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	20	21	22	23	24	25	26	27	28	29	30	31	32	33	34	35	36	37	38	39	40		
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	20	21	22	23	24	25	26	27	28	29	30												

DAY	ASSIGNMENT	NOTES/ MARK COMPLETE
Day 1	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Read the gray box on page 10 in the Discovery Guide</li> <li>• Reread the Lincoln portion of the Sample Essay and complete the exercises on pages 10-11 in the Discovery</li> </ul>	
Days 2-3	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Read gray boxes on pages 11 and 12 of the Discovery Guide</li> <li>• Outline and draft your person paragraphs for your essay Turn Guide in to your teacher for edits and conferencing</li> </ul>	

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## Weeks 17-19

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	20	21	22	23	24	25	26	27	28	29	30	31	32	33	34	35	36	37	38	39	40		
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	20	21	22	23	24	25	26	27	28	29	30												

DAY	ASSIGNMENT	NOTES/ MARK COMPLETE
Day 1	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Read the gray box on page 16 in the Discovery Guide</li> <li>Reread the Terezin portion of the Sample Essay and complete the exercises on pages 16-17 in the Discovery Guide</li> </ul>	
Days 2-3	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Read gray boxes on pages 17 and 18 of the Discovery Guide</li> <li>Outline and draft your place paragraphs for your essay</li> <li>Turn Guide in to your teacher for edits and conferencing</li> </ul>	

## Weeks 20-23

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	20	21	22	23	24	25	26	27	28	29	30	31	32	33	34	35	36	37	38	39	40		
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	20	21	22	23	24	25	26	27	28	29	30												

DAY	ASSIGNMENT	NOTES/ MARK COMPLETE
Day 1	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Read the gray box on page 22 in the Discovery Guide</li> <li>Reread the Escalators portion of the Sample Essay and complete the exercises on pages 22-23 in the Discovery Guide</li> </ul>	
Days 2-3	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Read the gray box on page 24 of the Discovery Guide</li> <li>Outline and draft your thing paragraphs for your essay</li> <li>Turn Guide in to your teacher for edits and conferencing</li> </ul>	

## Weeks 24-25

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	20	21	22	23	24	25	26	27	28	29	30	31	32	33	34	35	36	37	38	39	40		
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	20	21	22	23	24	25	26	27	28	29	30												

DAY	ASSIGNMENT	NOTES/ MARK COMPLETE
Day 1	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Read the gray box on page 28 and complete the exercises on pages 28-30 in the Discovery Guide</li> </ul>	
Days 2-3	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Reread your paper, adding transitions to foster connectivity and flow</li> </ul>	

## Weeks 26-27

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	20	21	22	23	24	25	26	27	28	29	30	31	32	33	34	35	36	37	38	39	40		
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	20	21	22	23	24	25	26	27	28	29	30												

DAY	ASSIGNMENT	NOTES/ MARK COMPLETE
Days 1-3	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Read the gray box on page 34, complete the work on pages 34-35, and draft the conclusion to your essay</li> <li>Self-edit when completed</li> </ul>	

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## Week 28

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	20	21	22	23	24	25	26	27	28	29	30	31	32	33	34	35	36	37	38	39	40		
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	20	21	22	23	24	25	26	27	28	29	30												

DAY	ASSIGNMENT	NOTES/ MARK COMPLETE
Days 1-3	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Read Week 28 box on page 38 and work on Works Cited page for your essay referring to page 11 in Discovery Guide 6A for specific direction</li> </ul>	

## Week 29

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	20	21	22	23	24	25	26	27	28	29	30	31	32	33	34	35	36	37	38	39	40		
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	20	21	22	23	24	25	26	27	28	29	30												

DAY	ASSIGNMENT	NOTES/ MARK COMPLETE
Days 1-3	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Read Week 29 box on page 38 and work on Conference + Reread of your essay</li> <li>Submit your finished essay to your teacher for review and conferencing</li> <li>Make revisions to your essay after conferencing with your teacher</li> </ul>	

## Weeks 30

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	20	21	22	23	24	25	26	27	28	29	30	31	32	33	34	35	36	37	38	39	40		
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	20	21	22	23	24	25	26	27	28	29	30												

DAY	ASSIGNMENT	NOTES/ MARK COMPLETE
Days 1-3	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Read Week 30 box on page 38 and type your final draft!</li> <li>Share with family and friends!!</li> </ul>	

Select the days of the week that best fit your schedule.