

Month	Unit Overview	Essential Questions	Unit Skills and Understandings	Performance Based Assessment
September/October Unit 1 College 101	Readers will examine how teens set themselves apart to get into colleges, and consider what will be necessary for success as higher education evolves to meet the future.	What does it take to achieve success in today's world of higher education?	Comprehension identify evidence, key ideas and details, craft and structure Academic Vocabulary word study, context clues, base words and suffixes Speaking and Listening collaborate and present: Presentation Writing Argumentative Essay	Analyze which college applicant (Mendoza or Gregory) would be the best candidate to take Open Online Courses? Discuss what traits of this applicant make him or her well-suited for the online environment Pappano describes in her article.
October/November Unit 2 Survivor	Readers discover how authors develop characters with the strength to survive extreme environments.	What inspires the will to survive in an extreme environment?	Comprehension identify evidence, key ideas and details, craft and structure Academic Vocabulary word study, context clues, base words and suffixes Speaking and Listening collaborate and present: Presentation Writing Informative Essay	Write an objective summary of life in the extreme environments portrayed in these two texts. Analyze how the central idea of survival is conveyed through supporting ideas and developed over the course of the text,
December/January Unit 3 (Unit 4 CodeX) Designing The Future	Students will explore how different teams benefit from the contributions of individuals in different ways. They will study the strategies these authors use to convey their perspective about teamwork.	What makes a good team worth more than the sum of its individual parts?	Comprehension identify evidence, key ideas and details, craft and structure Academic Vocabulary Word Study: Using references and context clues Speaking and Listening collaborate and present: Presentation Writing Compare and Contrast Essay	Determine Davis' perspective on the factors necessary for building a strong team. Then write n essay that analyzes his perspective, and either compares or contrasts it with Isaacson's perspective.
January/February Unit 4 (Unit 5 CodeX) Space Invaders	Science fiction stories show us how characters react when faced with aliens on the attack.	How does science fiction capture society's fears?	Comprehension identify evidence, key ideas and details, summarize, craft and structure and writing assignment Academic Vocabulary Word Study: Using the Dictionary Context Clues Speaking and Listening Collaborate and Present: Multi-media Presentation Writing - Argumentative Essay	How do these author's portray life on Earth during an Alien invasion? Compare and contrast the characters and events in each text and how the authors develop them.
March/April Unit 5 Test Readiness	Students will be exposed to various genres to strengthen their skills and strategies in preparation for future assessments.	What is the best way to prepare for state assessments?	Comprehension work with engaging texts that feature big ideas and rich content. Academic Vocabulary Study a small set of high-utility words and academic language structures to build breadth and depth knowledge Speaking and Listening Talk/discuss to build both conversational and academic language and knowledge Writing Write frequently to build content and knowledge	NYS ELA Assessment
April/May Unit 6 ( Unit 7 CodeX) Do The Right Thing	Students will explore the experiences of people who faced difficult situations and are linked to an important event in the civil rights movement.	What does a difficult situation reveal about character?	Comprehension identify evidence, key ideas and details summarize, Craft and Structure & Writing Assignment Academic Vocabulary Word Study - reference: dictionary reference - thesaurus Writing Informative Essay Precise Language and domain specific vocabulary	Analyze in detail how childhood wartime experiences had an impact on Beah's or Ung's life. Consider how the author introduces, illustrates, and elaborates upon the events.
May/ June Unit 7 Shakespeare	Students will be exposed to Macbeth and Shakespearian language.	How can be a person's decisions and actions change his/her life?	Comprehension-Determine a theme or central idea and analyze its development over the course of a text; production vs text Academic Vocabulary-Figurative and connotative meanings of words, impact of word choices on meaning and tone, soliloquy, aside, scene, act Speaking and Listening collaborative discussions about the theme of responsibility	How do themes in Shakespeare's works resonate in today's world? Are our lives impacted by fate or the choices we make? Perform a 3-minute excerpt from <u>Macbeth</u> showing their interpretation through scenery and costume choice. Write a 2-minute diary entry as if you were a character in <u>Macbeth</u> .