Unit Overview	Content Elaborations	Unit Resources
A Reader's perspective of the elements of	Reading: Readers are able to separate text into	Lesson 1: "Civil War Journal"
informational text.	parts for individual study and look for evidence	IS: Organizer/Foldable
	(either directly stated or inferred) that helps the	Lesson 2: "Civil War Journal"
	author convey the intended message to the audience.	Lesson 3: Newspaper/Magazine Articles IS: Presentation
	Readers must understand the use of certain	Lesson 4: "The Mysterious Mr.Lincoln"
	literary terms and the impact that these terms have on a text. Readers also must understand	Lesson 5: "The Mysterious Mr. Lincoln" IS: Bingo Board
	that the structure of a paragraph and the sentences that develop it must give the reader	Lesson 6: "The Great Chicago Fire of 1871" IS: Word bags to introduce text
	important information that helps the author in	Lesson 7: Elements of Persuasive Text (page
	conveying the message of a text. The author's point of view is established through the use of	985) IS: Create Ad Campaign (p. 983)
	language, organization, and details.	Lesson 8: "Over the Top: The True Adventures
	When presenting a particular topic or idea, a	of a Volcano Chaser"
	reader should recognize when the evidence is	of a voicano chaser
	irrelevant and unsound by evaluating the	
	claims made by the author in terms of accuracy	
	and viewpoint.	
	Speaking and Listening: Applying and	
	adapting effective listening skills to	
	conversational situations, partners and teams	
	will develop new understandings and	
	knowledge as well as accomplish goals and	
	make appropriate contributions. Effective	
	listeners will focus on and analyze information	
	presented in a variety of formats, they must	

	also apply critical listening skills. These skills focus on the speakers main ideas or points in order to pose and respond to questions relative to the topic of discussions. Effective speakers prepare for a speech by considering audience and purpose. The speaker is composed and delivers presentations that are engaging, insightful and articulated in a clear, concise manner and to promote active audience engagement.	
	Writing: The focus of this topic is the understanding that writers develop complete, logically sequenced text with relevant, credible evidence.	
Unit Vocabulary See vocabulary associated with each selection.	Enduring Understandings (Big Ideas) Lesson 1: How do readers use and cite elements of a text to support analyses and develop relevant inferences?	Connections
	Lesson 2: How do authors use a variety of text structures to develop and support a central idea/theme?	
	Lesson 3: How does the structure and use of text features support a central idea?	
	Lesson 4: How can readers use elements within an informational text to construct objective summaries?	

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Lesson 5: How does the use of language devices impact meaning in an informational text?	
Lesson 6: How do readers analyze and evaluate a text to make connections among and distinctions between individuals, ideas or events (e.g. comparisons, analogies, categories)?	
Lesson 7: How do readers delineate and evaluate the argument and claims in texts to assess sound reasoning, the sufficiency of evidence and detect irrelevant evidence?	
Lesson 8: How do writers use point of view and purpose to present ideas as well as acknowledge and respond to conflicting evidence in a singular text?	

Standards

CC_Common Core State Standards - English Language Arts/Literacy (2010) - Grade 8 English Language Arts

Strand CCSS.ELA-Literacy.R.8 Reading

CCSS.ELA-Literacy.RI.8 Informational Text

Key Ideas and Details

Anchor Standard RI.CCR.1 Read closely to determine what the text says explicitly and to make logical inferences from it; cite specific textual evidence when writing or speaking to support conclusions drawn from the text.

Anchor Standard RI.CCR.2 Determine central ideas or themes of a text and analyze their development; summarize the key supporting details and ideas.

Anchor Standard RI.CCR.3 Analyze how and why individuals, events, and ideas develop and interact over the course of a text.

Grade Level Standard CCSS.ELA-Literacy.RI.8.1 Cite the textual evidence that most strongly supports an analysis of what the text says explicitly as well as inferences drawn from the text. Grade Level Standard CCSS.ELA-Literacy.RI.8.2 Determine a central idea of a text and analyze its development over the course of the text, including its relationship to supporting ideas; provide an objective summary of the text.

Grade Level Standard CCSS.ELA-Literacy.RI.8.3 Analyze how a text makes connections among and distinctions between individuals, ideas, or events (e.g., through comparisons, analogies,

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or categories).

Craft and Structure

Anchor Standard RI.CCR.4 Interpret words and phrases as they are used in a text, including determining technical, connotative, and figurative meanings, and analyze how specific word choices shape meaning or tone.

Anchor Standard RI.CCR.5 Analyze the structure of texts, including how specific sentences, paragraphs, and larger portions of the text (e.g., a section, chapter, scene, or stanza) relate to each other and the whole.

Anchor Standard RI.CCR.6 Assess how point of view or purpose shapes the content and style of a text.

Grade Level Standard CCSS.ELA-Literacy.RI.8.4 Determine the meaning of words and phrases as they are used in a text, including figurative, connotative, and technical meanings; analyze the impact of specific word choices on meaning and tone, including analogies or allusions to other texts.

Grade Level Standard CCSS.ELA-Literacy.RI.8.5 Analyze in detail the structure of a specific paragraph in a text, including the role of particular sentences in developing and refining a key concept.

Grade Level Standard CCSS.ELA-Literacy.RI.8.6 Determine an author's point of view or purpose in a text and analyze how the author acknowledges and responds to conflicting evidence or viewpoints.

Integration of Knowledge and Ideas

Anchor Standard RI.CCR.8 Delineate and evaluate the argument and specific claims in a text, including the validity of the reasoning as well as the relevance and sufficiency of the evidence. Grade Level Standard CCSS.ELA-Literacy.RI.8.8 Delineate and evaluate the argument and specific claims in a text, assessing whether the reasoning is sound and the evidence is relevant and sufficient; recognize when irrelevant evidence is introduced.

Strand CCSS.ELA-Literacy.W.8 Writing

Text Types and Purposes

Anchor Standard W.CCR.1 Write arguments to support claims in an analysis of substantive topics or texts, using valid reasoning and relevant and sufficient evidence.

Grade Level Standard CCSS.ELA-Literacy.W.8.1 Write arguments to support claims with clear reasons and relevant evidence.

Strand CCSS.ELA-Literacy.SL.8 Speaking and Listening

Comprehension and Collaboration

Anchor Standard SL.CCR.1 Prepare for and participate effectively in a range of conversations and collaborations with diverse partners, building on others' ideas and expressing their own clearly and persuasively.

Anchor Standard SL.CCR.2 Integrate and evaluate information presented in diverse media and formats, including visually, quantitatively, and orally.

Grade Level Standard CCSS.ELA-Literacy.SL.8.1 Engage effectively in a range of collaborative discussions (one-on-one, in groups, and teacher-led) with diverse partners on grade 8 topics, texts, and issues, building on others' ideas and expressing their own clearly.

Grade Level Standard CCSS.ELA-Literacy.SL.8.2 Analyze the purpose of information presented in diverse media and formats (e.g., visually, quantitatively, orally) and evaluate the motives (e.g., social, commercial, political) behind its presentation.

Presentation of Knowledge and Ideas

Anchor Standard SL.CCR.4 Present information, findings, and supporting evidence such that listeners can follow the line of reasoning and the organization, development, and style are appropriate to task, purpose, and audience.

Grade Level Standard CCSS.ELA-Literacy.SL.8.4 Present claims and findings, emphasizing salient points in a focused, coherent manner with relevant evidence, sound valid reasoning, and well-chosen details; use appropriate eye contact, adequate volume, and clear pronunciation.

Student Assessment	Unit Refection
NWEA Map (Benchmark)	

 Delineate and evaluate the argument and specific claims in a text, assessing whether the reasoning is sound and the evidence is relevant and sufficient; recognize when irrelevant evidence is introduced. RI8.8 F. "Over the Top: The True Adventures of a Volcano Chaser" Determine an author's point of view or purpose in a text and analyze how the author acknowledges and responds to
