

## 11<sup>th</sup> Grade Common Assessment Literary Analysis

**Unit 2 Reading List—Highlight the work(s) you would like to analyze for this project.**

## Romanticism

William Cullen Bryant	“Thanatopsis” pp. 171-2
Oliver Wendell Holmes	“The Chambered Nautilus” p. 189
Edgar Allan Poe	“The Raven” pp. 282-6
Herman Melville	from <i>Moby-Dick</i> pp. 313-27

## Transcendentalism

Ralph Waldo Emerson	from "Nature" pp. 219-21
Henry David Thoreau	from <i>Walden, or Life in the Woods</i> pp. 232-44
Henry David Thoreau	"Resistance to Civil Government" pp. 249-54

Due Dates:

800-Word Typed Draft:  
Friday, 11/30/12

1500-Word Typed Final:  
Friday 1/11/13

**Essay Prompts—Highlight the one you will answer:**

**Category:** Analyze an writer's use of imagery, language, stylistic devices, and universal themes to show how his work reflects the major characteristics of the literary movement to which it belongs. \*\*You may show how a contemporary work reflects one of the movements. (Writing Application Standard 2.2 b & d)

**Theme:** Analyze the way in which the theme or meaning of a work represents a view or comment on life.  
(*Literary Response and Analysis Standard 3.2*)

**Aesthetics:** Analyze the ways in which irony, tone, mood, the writer's style, and/or the "sound" of language achieve specific rhetorical or aesthetic purposes or both. (*Literary Response and Analysis Standard 3.3*) You can answer this by stating which literary movement is the best in allure and beauty. Then use one or two works within that movement to prove your position.

**Tone:** Analyze ways in which a writer uses imagery, figures of speech, and sounds to evoke readers' emotions. (*Literary Response and Analysis Standard 3.4*) This would work well if you want to show how a romantic work evokes feelings of "the sublime" or melancholy; or how a transcendental work evokes optimism.

**Historical:** Evaluate the philosophical, political, religious, ethical, and social influences of the historical period that shaped the characters, plots, and settings. (*Literary Response and Analysis Standard 3.5 c*). For example how American expansionism, industrialization, and manifest destiny might have influenced Henry David Thoreau to write *Walden, or Life in the Woods* or “Resistance to Civil Government.”

**List some keywords and concepts you will have to learn more about for this essay.**

[illegible]