This course is intended to promote more sophisticated reading analysis and writing skills through interpreting various forms of literature including the short story, the novel, drama and poetry, and identifying and applying techniques used in the literature to writing situations. Units will incorporate opportunities to utilize and improve skills associated with speaking, listening and viewing. Skills associated with careers, technology, creativity and the real world will be addressed. Furthermore, a variety of persuasive, expository and open-ended questions will enable the students to master skills necessary to excel on standardized tests. In addition, students will successfully complete a research project during the first semester.