

# Introduction

## Course Overview

*Perspectives of Truth in Literature* is not just a heavy book. It is a living, vibrant thing that can shake up your and your students' lives and make them richer and deeper. It is the work of more than sixty authors and poets, people who dreamed and drafted, analyzed and allegorized, read and revised.

As you teach, always view your students with eyes of hope. *They* may be the next authors and poets. At the least, they will be enriched by the study of the works of great thinkers. Their study should help them better perform in their normal tasks of writing letters, reading, or giving a speech or a topic in church. They will carry memories of these stories and poems with them into lives of usefulness and productivity.

## The Lessons

### Vocabulary

Most lessons except those in the introductory unit and the poetry unit begin with a vocabulary exercise that includes some of the boldfaced words from the selection being studied. These words are reviewed in the *Looking Back* sections, quizzes, and the self check. Some will appear on LightUnit Tests. The glossary in the back of the LightUnit defines all of the boldfaced words in the selections.

The poetry LightUnits (4, 5, and 6) include very little vocabulary work. The glossary in the back of these LightUnits lists various poetry terms.

### Comprehension

Some questions are designed to see how well students understand the selection. Many of these are multiple-choice questions and are objective enough for students to check themselves.

### Thinking questions

Some questions lead students to think more deeply about lessons to be learned from the selection and relate those lessons to their own lives. Some students may balk when asked to write their thoughts. Others enjoy thinking through issues. It helps if students can see how issues apply to themselves. Some of these are essay questions that you need to grade. Grade them more by the depth of

thought and effort than by closeness to a certain correct answer.

### Literary techniques

Some questions deal with the characteristics and techniques of effective writing and of good literature.

Some questions specifically address symbolism in literature. Your more literal-minded students may struggle to grasp figurative language, but the more they do it, the better they will become at it.

### Creative writing

Often a creative writing exercise follows exercises dealing with literary techniques, giving students opportunities to put the new techniques to practice.

### Memorization

Some units have more memorizing than others; the first unit has quite a bit of memorizing because it has no creative writing projects. Tell the students whether you want them to write their memorized piece in the book or test, or if you want them to recite it to you.

### Looking Back . . .

Most lessons (all except Lesson 1, quiz, self check, and test lessons) have a *Looking Back* section that reviews vocabulary words, literary techniques, and key concepts from earlier lessons. Students should review these sections before taking quizzes and the test.

## The Teacher's Materials

### Purpose

Since the course is designed for students to be able to work with minimal teacher involvement, the notes here in the teacher's materials are brief. They are designed not to help you "teach the course" but to help you be aware of what the student is doing and to give help as needed.

### LightUnit overview and introduction

These appear on the first page of each LightUnit's notes. A glance at them will tell you what your student will study in the LightUnit.

## Introduction

### Notes for lessons

Not all lessons include notes. Usually, notes are included for exercises involving creative writing, memorization, or exercises needing more teacher participation.

In most cases, when notes are included for a lesson, the actual exercises are repeated in the notes.

Instructions from the LightUnit are printed in this font in the lesson notes.

### Appendixes

Appendix A is a scope and sequence of the course.

Appendix B contains alternate LightUnit Tests that may be copied and used if a student needs to retake a test.

The Teacher's Material includes no indexes of the course. Indexes are located in the back of the textbook.

### Grading

You may grade the course in the usual way, using only the quiz and LightUnit Test scores, as reflected in the score boxes in the back of the LightUnits, or you may want to count creative writing scores as a larger part of the grade.

In the LightUnits in which a significant part of the work is creative writing, you may use the following method of figuring the scores for these LightUnits: Count the LightUnit Test as 40% of the final grade, the quizzes as 40% (20% each), and creative writing assignments as 20%.

For example, suppose a student scores 95% on Quiz 1, 96% on Quiz 2, 89% on his creative writing, and 98% on the LightUnit Test. Here's how it would work:

Quiz 1	95
Quiz 2	96
Creative Writing	89
LightUnit Test	98
counted twice	98
add together	<u>476</u>

divide by five:  $476 \div 5 = 95.2 = 95\%$

LightUnit grade

## Correlation of Textbook Units and LightUnits

<i>Textbook Units</i>	<i>LightUnits</i>
Unit 1: Truth— A Thematic Anthology of Literature About Truth	1
Unit 2: The Short Story— for Unfolding Truth	2, 3, 4
Unit 3: Poetry— A Cadence for Expressing Truth	5, 6, 7
Unit 4: The Essay— for Expounding Truth	8, 9, 10