WEEK 1

- LETTER TO SANTANGEL & LETTER TO FERDINAND AND ISABELLA

### JOHN SMITH

- FROM THE GENERAL HISTORY



"By prevailing over all obstacles and distractions, one may unfailingly arrive at his chosen goal or destination."

CHRISTOPHER COLUMBUS

#### **BACKGROUND CHECK:**

Name some specific individual countries and islands he discovered.		
3)	Which part of the Americas did he discover?	
2)	Did his voyages end successfully and happily?	
1)	How many voyages did Christopher Columbus make?	

#### WORDS TO KNOW:

Identify the part of speech of each word, and give one or two synonyms for each.

unfurled	
infinity	
redress	
revenue	
infirm	
reparation	

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#### JOHN SMITH

- From The General History

#### CHRISTOPHER COLUMBUS

#### LITERARY ANALYSIS:

Synecdoche: a figure of speech in which a part stands for the whole such as "Give us this day our daily bread" with bread standing for food.

Personification: Giving human qualities or features to nonhuman objects or abstract ideas.

**Example**: "The flowers danced in the breeze."

*Narration*: A type of writing that tells a story by relating a series of connected events. It can include other types of writing such as description.

*Point of view*: The perspective from which the literary work is presented.

- First person point of view: uses the pronoun "I."
- Second person point of view: uses the pronoun "you."
- Third person point of view: uses the pronouns "he, she, them, it, etc."
  (Most literary works are written in 3rd person.)
   Related to narration or the way a story is told:
- Omniscient point of view (in 3rd person): where the narrator, like God, sees into each character's mind and knows everything that goes on.
- Limited omniscient point of view (in 3rd person): where the narrator only has full knowledge of one character (usually the main character).
- **Objective point of view**: where the narrator only reports what a camera would see or what someone would hear the character speak.
- Stream of consciousness (in 1st person point of view): where the
  narrator reveals the inward thoughts of the main character, as the
  character thinks them. This thinking is often haphazard and illogical.

WEEK 1

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## JOHN SMITH

- FROM THE GENERAL HISTORY

Christopher Columbus  Critical Reading Questions:
How did the people respond when they first saw Columbus?
2) Did the men Columbus sent to search the islands find a king and cities?
3) How did Columbus say he had changed physically during his voyages?
4) Columbus said he did not go on the voyages to gain or
5) In the second letter, find an example of synecdoche and personification in the same line. Give an explanation for its usage.
Heaven stands for Earth stands for
6) In his letter to the King and Queen concerning the 4th voyage, what does Columbus ask them to do to those who have done wrong?
After reading about the results of his voyages, do you think he was telling the truth? Why or why not?

WEEK 1

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### JOHN SMITH

- FROM THE GENERAL HISTORY



"He who does not work, Does not eat."

JOHN SMITH

#### **BACKGROUND CHECK:**

1) Name some of Smith's adventures before he sailed to the New World.
2) Approximately when was Smith in Virginia? (What dates?)  Name 1 other historical figure who lived during this time, or an event that was taking place at this time.
3) What role did he first serve in Virginia?
4) Why is the account of Smith's rescue by Pocahontas questioned?

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### JOHN SMITH

- FROM THE GENERAL HISTORY

WEEK 1

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#### **BACKGROUND CHECK (CONTINUED):**

5) BONUS: What painting hangs in the Rotunda of the Capitol?

What does this say about the story of John Smith?

#### Words To Know:

Identify the part of speech of each word, and give one or two synonyms for each.

engrossing	
deposed	
untoward	
superfluity	
derision	
ensued	
conjuration	
diverted	
chafed	
mollified	
combustion	

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### JOHN SMITH

- FROM THE GENERAL HISTORY

WEEK 1

CRITICAL READING QUESTIONS:
1) Even though John Smith writes this account, what person is it written in - 1st, 2nd, or 3rd?
Why do you think he writes it this way?
2) Find at least two sentences that show how Smith trusts God's plan and providence.

- 3) How are Smith and his men saved from starvation?
- 4) Why are John Smith's accounts so significant in American literature?

JOHN SMITH

WEEK 1

- Letter to Santangel & Letter to Ferdinand and Isabella

## JOHN SMITH

- FROM THE GENERAL HISTORY

MAKE IT REAL:		
"Columbus sailed the ocean blue, in 1492" - Make 3 more rhymes to tell what happened on his voyages in 1494, 1498, and 1503.		

WEEK 1

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#### JOHN SMITH

- FROM THE GENERAL HISTORY

#### **WRITING ASSIGNMENT:**

Pretend that you are a modern day explorer or adventurer such as Columbus or Smith. Fast forward ahead to May, and look back on your school year. Write a descriptive narrative like John Smith or a letter like Christopher Columbus telling about what you accomplished academically, spiritually, physically and socially. Tell about your adventures and set-backs. You may even want to write in 3rd person like John Smith. Try writing in one of the 4 points of view relating to how a story is told. Use descriptive language like Columbus and Smith.

Proof read your paper for grammatical errors and other mistakes.

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#### **CULMINATING ACTIVITY:**

Summarize either the account of Columbus or Smith in your own words and in one of the following points of view: omniscient, limited or objective, or stream of consciousness. Present this orally. In a group setting, you may divide into groups and present it as a group.