EXPLORATIONS IN LITERATURE, Fourth Edition Lesson Plan Overview

Day(s)	Topic ¹	Pages	Support	Bible Integration
			Materials ²	· ·
			Unit 1: C	ourage
1	Courage	2–3	Bulletin Board "What Have You Read?"	Scriptural Application: Men and women of courage mentioned in the Bible and some who lacked courage Discussion: Private acts of courage (Heb. 13:5–6)
2–3	"'Twas a Dark and Dreary Night" Thinking Zone	4–9	Quiz 1A Teaching Help 1A Teaching Help 1B Word List 1A	Scriptural Application: Danger of being controlled by pride (2 Chron. 32:26; Ps. 10:4; etc.) Scriptural Application: Danger of trying to be what one is not (Matt. 23:13–33) Scriptural Application: Biblical exhortation to be truthful (Prov. 12:22)
4–5	"Run, Boy, Run!" Thinking Zone	10–19	Quiz 1B Teaching Help 1C	Scriptural Application: Biblical comparison of challenge of Christian growth to challenge of running in athletic contest (1 Cor. 9:23–27; Phil. 3:13–14; etc.) Scriptural Application: Talents to be laid on God's altar
6	Cinquain Poem	W1	Writing Worksheet 1A Writing Rubric 1A	
7	"The Most Important Day" Thinking Zone "Columbus" Thinking Zone	20–26	Quiz 1C Quiz 1D Teaching Help 1D Teaching Help 1E Reading Standardized Test Practice 1	Scriptural Application: True repentance requires courage Scriptural Application: Value of perseverance
8–9	"The Friend Inside" Thinking Zone	27–34	Quiz 1E Teaching Help 1F Vocabulary Standardized Test Practice 1A	Scriptural Application: Importance of balance in responding to temptation to do wrong Thinking Zone: Discernment based on God's Word (1 Tim. 4:2; Tit. 1:15; etc.)
10–11	"Yes, Your Honesty" Thinking Zone	35–41	Quiz 1F Teaching Help 1G Word List 1B	Scriptural Application: Courage necessary for speaking (Dan. 4; Esther 5) Scriptural Application: Importance of choosing friends wisely (Prov. 13:20) Thinking Zone: Job's challenge (Job 22:6–11; 42:7–17)
12–14	"Rikki-Tikki- Tavi" Thinking Zone	42–55	Quiz 1G Teaching Help 1H	Scriptural Application: Example of wisdom, self-discipline, and persistence
15–16	"A Kind of Murder" Thinking Zone	56–63	Quiz 1H Bulletin Board "Fall for Explorations" Teaching Help 1I	Scriptural Application: Analysis of point of view in Daniel 3–4 Scriptural Application: Bible characters who spoke out for truth
17–18	Letter	W2	Writing Worksheet 1B Writing Rubric 1B	

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19–20	"Edith Cavell" Thinking Zone	64–70	Materials ² Quiz 1I Teaching Help 1J Teaching Help 1K	Scriptural Application: Dialogue and character development in Scripture (Gen. 25:27–34) Scriptural Application: Enablement to face hard times courageously (Josh. 1:8–9)
21	"Whether by Life or by Death" "Spikenard Very Precious" Thinking Zone	71–79	Quiz 1J Bulletin Board "Character- quain" ESL Exercise 1	Scriptural Application: Called to suffer, but not alone (1 Pet. 2:20–25) Scriptural Application: Death for a Christian, union with Christ (Phil. 1:20–24) Thinking Zone: Scriptural allusions (Phil. 4:7; Col. 3:15; etc.); Mark 14:3 and theme
22	"Stand Up for Jesus" The Bible and Courage Unit 1 Review	80–83	Vocabulary Standardized Test Practice 1B	Discussion: The scriptural basis for the hymn (Eph. 6:11; Ex. 10:11)
23	Unit 1 Test			
			Unit 2: Natur	
24	Nature and Man	86–87	Teaching Help 2A	Nature and Man (Ps. 19; Gen. 1:28; 9:1–7; etc.) Scriptural Application: Matching functions of nature with Scripture (Jonah 1:4; Gen. 1:26, 28; etc.)
25	"Swift Things Are Beautiful" "The Panther" "The Rhinoceros" "Catalogue" Thinking Zone	88–92	Quiz 2A	Scriptural Application: Poetry as a form of written expression carries God's approval
26	Humorous Poem	W3	Writing Worksheet 2A Writing Rubric 2A	
27–28	"The Mahogany Fox" Thinking Zone	93–100	Quiz 2B Teaching Help 2B Teaching Help 2C Word List 2A	Scriptural Application: Fox metaphor in Scripture
29	"Wild Blackberrie s" Thinking Zone	101–3	Quiz 2C Teaching Help 2D	Scriptural Application: Accomplishment preceded by trials and earnest labor (Ps. 126:5–6; 2 Cor. 9:6; etc.) Scriptural Application: Imagery used in Genesis 49:8–12, which predicts coming of Christ
30–31	"The Life and Death of a Western Gladiator" Thinking Zone	104–110	Quiz 2D Teaching Help 2E	Thinking Zone: Man's dominion mandate (Gen. 1:28; 9:1–3)

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32	"The King's Provider" Thinking Zone	111–14	Quiz 2E Teaching Help 2F Reading Standardized Test Practice 2A	Scriptural Application: Two basic relationships between man and nature, adversarial and cooperative
33	"Snapshot of a Dog" Thinking Zone	115–19	Quiz 2F Teaching Help 2G Reading Standardized Test Practice 2B Vocabulary Standardized Test Practice 2A	
34–36	Hatchet Thinking Zone	120–31	Quiz 2G Teaching Help 2H Teaching Help 2I Word List 2B	Scriptural Application: God's sovereignty (Dan. 4:35; Jonah 1:4) Scriptural Application: Creationism not Darwinism (Gen. 1:26–28) Scriptural Application: The value of human life (Ps. 139:13–16)
37	"Old Sly Eye" Thinking Zone	132–38	Quiz 2H Teaching Help 2J	
38–39	"The Rainy Day" "Midnight Storm" "In Memory of My Dear Grandchild" "The Windmill" Thinking Zone	139–44	Quiz 2I Teaching Help 2K Vocabulary Standardized Test Practice 2B	Scriptural Application: Use of repetition in Hebrew poetry (Ps. 150) Scriptural Application: Inclusion of sorrow in life to draw us to God (Eccles. 3:1–11)
40-41	"A Hillside Thaw" "The Raven and the Swan" "The Swallow's Advice" "The Farmer and the Stork" Thinking Zone	145–50	Quiz 2J Teaching Help 2L Reading Standardized Test Practice 2C	Scriptural Application: Man's attempt to influence nature useless (Job 38–41) Scriptural Application: Biblical parables and lessons taught (Matt. 13) Thinking Zone: Envy versus contentment (2 Cor. 10:12; Phil. 4:11)
42–43	"Koyo, the Singer" Thinking Zone	151–60	Quiz 2K Teaching Help 2M ESL Exercise 2	Scriptural Application: Comparison and contrast of settings of Genesis 17:1–22 and Genesis 18:1–33

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	•		Materials ²	•
44	Persuasive	W4	Bulletin Board	
	Paragraph		"Power of	
			Persuasion" Writing Worksheet	
			2B	
			Writing Rubric 2B	
45	"This Is My	161–64	Bulletin Board	Scriptural Application: Nature marred by the Fall to be
	Father's World"		"Seeing Clearly" Vocabulary	restored; Christ's addressing human suffering, as should Christians
	The Bible		Standardized	The Bible and Nature (Gen. 3:14–19; Isa. 11:1–10)
	and Nature		Test Practice 2C	
46	Unit 2	165–67		
4-	Review			
47	Unit 2 Test		Unit 3: Ge	noracity
48	Generosity	170–71	Teaching Help 3A	Generosity (Mark 12:31; Luke 10:30–37; etc.)
49–50	"Stopover in	172–78	Quiz 3A	Scriptural Application: Presence of Holy Spirit to
	Querétaro"		Teaching Help 3B	comfort during hardships (John 14:26)
	Thinking		Teaching Help 3C Word List 3A	Thinking Zone: Importance of grasping opportunities
	Zone		Word List 3A	to show kindness to strangers
51–52	"Martin and	179–186	Quiz 3B	Scriptural Application: The crisis and the climax of the
	Abraham Lincoln"			Bible
	Thinking			Scriptural Application: Evaluation of Lincoln as Christ figure in "Martin and Abraham Lincoln"
	Zone			ingure in waran ana Abraham Emboli
53–54	Character	W5	Writing Worksheet	
	Sketch		3A Writing Rubric 3A	
55–56	"The Buffalo	187–198	Quiz 3C	Scriptural Application: The harm of grudges (James
	Dance" Thinking		Teaching Help 3D	5:9) Scriptural Application: Certain actions earn friends (1
	Zone			Cor. 13:4–7)
				Scriptural Application: Broken relationships healed by
				God's redemption (Isa. 2:1–5; Micah 4:1–4)
57–58	"A Grain as	199–203	Quiz 3D	Scriptural Application: Analysis of biblical teaching on
	Big as a			land ownership and capitalism (Exod. 20:15; Deut.
	Hen's Egg" Thinking			19:14; etc.) Thinking Zone: Scripture and work
	Zone			Tranking 2010. Complaid and work
59–60	"The Beggar"	204–210	Quiz 3E	Scriptural Application: Necessity of motivation of love
	Thinking		Teaching Help 3E	(1 Cor. 13)
	Zone		Teaching Help 3J Teaching Help 3K	Scriptural Application: Sacrificial giving rewarded by God (Heb. 13:16; 1 Kings 17; etc.)
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61–62	"Most	211–20	Quiz 3F	Scriptural Application: Regardless of success or
	Valuable Player"		Teaching Help 3F Vocabulary	failure, God's expectation is to use talents, abilities, and time wisely
	Thinking		Standardized	and time wisery
	Zone		Test Practice 3A	

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63–64	Sports Article	W6	Writing Worksheet 3B Writing Rubric 3B			
65–66	"The Last Leaf"	221–27	Quiz 3G Teaching Help 3H Word List 3B			
67–68	"Mary" Thinking Zone	228–32	Quiz 3H Teaching Help 3K Teaching Help 3L Reading Standardized Test Practice 3	Scriptural Application: Loving others as ourselves, including those with mental, physical, and financial problems (Rom. 12:16; Prov. 17:5) Scriptural Application: Comparison of Kass's Prayer with two of Jacob's in Scripture (Gen. 28:20–22; 32:9–12)		
69-70	"Gold- Mounted Guns" Thinking Zone	233–40	Quiz 3I Teaching Help 3K Teaching Help 3L	Scriptural Application: Unintended consequences of doing wrong (Josh. 7)		
71–72	"Country Doctor" "How to Avoid Contact" Thinking Zone	241–44	Quiz 3J Bulletin Board "Patchwork of Generosity"			
73	"In Flanders Fields" Thinking Zone	245–46	Quiz 3K Teaching Help 3I	Scriptural Application: As in many psalms, great emotion and careful structuring joined		
74–75	"The Strangers That Came to Town"	247–54	Quiz 3L Teaching Help 3K Teaching Help 3L	Scriptural Application: Love for others illustrated in story (Rom. 12:16)		
76–77	From Preacher's Kids Thinking Zone	255–64	Quiz 3M Teaching Help 3J ESL Exercise 3	Scriptural Application: The love of money the root of all evil (1 Tim. 6:10) Scriptural Application: Honor and forgiveness for a parent who fails (Eph. 6:1–2; Col. 3:20)		
78	"We Give Thee But Thine Own" The Bible and Generosity	265–66	Vocabulary Standardized Test Practice 3B			
79	Unit 3 Review	267–69	Bulletin Board "Do You Know Your Authors?"			
80	Unit 3 Test					
81–90	Midterm Revie	w and Midte	erm Examination			
	Unit 4: Our Land					

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91	Our Land	272–73	Teaching Help 4A Teaching Help 4B	
92–93	"The Great Cherokee Bill"	274–83	Quiz 4A Teaching Help 4C Word List 4A	Scriptural Application: Application of biblical principles to story (Ps. 34:14; Prov. 13:20; etc.)
94	"The Landing of the Pilgrim Fathers" "Crossing the Plains" Thinking Zone	284–87	Quiz 4B Teaching Help 4D	Scriptural Application: Starting a new civilization with the Bible
95–96	"Jimmy Yellow Hawk"	288–96	Quiz 4C Teaching Help 4E	
97	"Billy, He's in Trouble" Thinking Zone	297–99	Quiz 4D Teaching Help 4F	Scriptural Application: Analysis of Christian's involvement in government Scriptural Application: Biblical examples of sudden, unexpected endings
98	"To Save the Golden State" "Guard It with Your Life" Thinking Zone	300–7	Quiz 4E Teaching Help 4G Reading Standardized Test Practice 4A	
99–100	Opinion Essay	W7	Bulletin Board: What Is Your Opinion? Writing Worksheet 4A Writing Rubric 4A	
101	"Paul Revere's Ride" "Molly Pitcher" Thinking Zone	308–14	Quiz 4F Teaching Help 4H Vocabulary Standardized Test Practice 4A	Scriptural Application: Inciting moment of Psalm 119 Scriptural Application: Appreciating literature and developing literary skills to shape culture
102–3	"Monty Takes Charge of the Barter Store" Thinking Zone	315–21	Quiz 4G Teaching Help 4I Word List 4B	Scriptural Application: Bible's attitude toward work and toward courtesy Thinking Zone: Courtesy in service (Prov. 15:1, 18, 23, 28)
104–5	"The Wright Brothers"	322–28	Quiz 4H Teaching Help 4J	Scriptural Application: Necessity of preparation for a task (e.g., David before assuming kingship)

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106	"Nancy Hanks" "The Day's Demand" Thinking Zone	329–31	Quiz 4I	Scriptural Application: Two characteristics of biblical success—wisdom and humility (Job 32:9; Matt. 20:26)
107–8	Charlie Coulson: Drummer Boy Thinking Zone	332–43	Quiz 4J Teaching Help 4K	Scriptural Application: Biblical examples of dialogue
109–10	Dialogue	W8	Writing Worksheet 4B Writing Rubric 4B	
111	"Lift Every Voice and Sing" Thinking Zone	344–47	Quiz 4K Teaching Help 4L	Scriptural Application: Comparison of biblical concept of liberty and the concept of liberty used in America today Scriptural Application: Blessing to nations that honor God; chastisement to nations that dishonor God (Ps. 33:12; Prov. 14:34) Thinking Zone: Theme and John 8:32, 36
112	"Our Blessed Land" Thinking Zone	348–51	Quiz 4L Bulletin Board "Our Land" Reading Standardized Test Practice 4B ESL Exercise 4	Scriptural Application: Need to count nation's blessings while not overlooking weaknesses
113	"America" The Bible and Our Land Thinking Zone	352–55	Teaching Help 4M Vocabulary Standardized Test Practice 4B	Scriptural Application: Ways to show love for America Scriptural Application: Specific directions given Israelites about how to preserve their land Participation: Romans 13:1-7 on government
114	Unit 4 Review	356–59		
115	Unit 4 Test			
			Unit 5: H	
116	Humility	362–63		Scriptural Application: Biblical humility (Prov. 3:34; 16:19; etc.) Scriptural Application: Proud responses vs. humble ones (1 Cor. 4:7; Matt. 11:28–30)
117	"Primer Lesson" Thinking Zone	364–65		Scriptural Application: Reminder to use words carefully and to use few words rather than many (Prov. 10:19)

Day(s)	Topic ¹	Pages	Support Materials ²	Bible Integration
118–20	"Casey at the Bat" "Godolphin Horne" "Sir Joseph's Song" Thinking Zone	366–73	Quiz 5A Teaching Help 5A Teaching Help 5B Word List 5A	Scriptural Application: List of seven things the Lord hates, of which "a proud look" is listed first (Prov. 6:16–19)
121–22	Contrast Paragraph	W9	Writing Worksheet 5A Writing Rubric 5A	
123–24	"Being a Public Character" Thinking Zone	374–81	Quiz 5B Teaching Help 5C	
125–26	"Prince Hyacinth and the Dear Little Princess"	382–88	Quiz 5C Teaching Help 5D	Scriptural Application: Awareness of personal faults (Matt. 7:1–5; Ps. 139:23–24)
127–28	"How Beautiful with Mud"	389–96	Quiz 5D Teaching Help 5E	Scriptural Application: True beauty a matter of the heart (1 Sam. 16:7)
129	"What It's Like When You Can't Read or Write" Thinking Zone	397–99	Quiz 5E Teaching Help 5F Reading Standardized Test Practice 5	
130–31	"Three Visitors in the Night" Thinking Zone	400–410	Quiz 5F Bulletin Board "Unlocking Your Understanding" Teaching Help 5G Vocabulary Standardized Test Practice 5A	Scriptural Application: How a person knows God's calling to a particular task (Jon. 1:3; Exod. 3:10–11; etc.)
132–33	"The Crucifixion" Thinking Zone	411–16	Quiz 5G Word List 5B	Scriptural Application: Judging by heart, not by appearances
134–35	Description	W10	Writing Worksheet 5B Writing Rubric 5B	

Day(s)	Topic ¹	Pages	Support Materials ²	Bible Integration
136	"The Fool's Prayer" "Two Went Up to the Temple to Pray" Thinking Zone	417–20	Quiz 5H	Scriptural Application: Meaning of "all men are created equal" (Gen. 1:26–27)
137–38	"The Soloist" Thinking Zone	421–28	Quiz 5l Teaching Help 5H	Scriptural Application: Relationship between courage and humility (Phil. 2:5–11)
139–40	"Alas! Poor Annabelle!" "Father Speaks" Thinking Zone	429–40	Quiz 5J Teaching Help 5I	Scriptural Application: Displaying an open-minded attitude toward different customs and manners (Gen. 1:26–27; Mark 12:30–31)
141–42	"The Split Cherry Tree" Thinking Zone	441–52	Quiz 5K Bulletin Board "Find the Characters" Teaching Help 5J ESL Exercise 5	Scriptural Application: Obligation of Christians to pay debts (Rom. 13:8) Thinking Zone: Education in the truth (Matt. 28:19)
143	"When I Survey the Wondrous Cross" The Bible and Humility	453–54	Vocabulary Standardized Test Practice 5B	Scriptural Application: Value of salvation as related in hymn
144	Unit 5 Review	455–57		
145	Unit 5 Test			
			Unit 6: I	Family
146	Family	460–61	Teaching Help 6A	Analysis: God and the family (Eph. 5:22–33; Tit. 2:4; etc.) Scriptural Application: Discussion of positive and negative examples of biblical families
147–48	"Speed Adjustment s" "First Lesson" Thinking Zone	462–65	Quiz 6A Teaching Help 6A Teaching Help 6B Word List 6A	Scriptural Application: Biblical responsibilities of fathers and children (Eph. 6:1–4; Lev. 20:9; etc.)
149–51	"Hit and Run" Thinking Zone	466–77	Quiz 6B Teaching Help 6A Teaching Help 6C	Scriptural Application: Condemning sin but continuing to love the sinner
152–53	"The Scarlet Ibis" Thinking Zone	478–89	Quiz 6C Teaching Help 6D Vocabulary Standardized Test Practice 6A	Scriptural Application: The sinfulness of pride (Prov. 8:13; Prov. 16:18; 1 John 2:16)

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154–55	"Mister Chairman" Thinking Zone	490–95	Quiz 6D Teaching Help 6A Word List 6B	Scriptural Application: Discussion of democratic method of family government suggested in story
156	"Love Story, Sort Of" Thinking Zone	496–500	Quiz 6E Teaching Help 6A	
157– 159	Personal Essay	W11	Writing Worksheet 6A Writing Rubric 6A	
160	"How We Kept Mother's Day" Thinking Zone	501–5	Quiz 6F Teaching Help 6A Teaching Help 6E	Scriptural Application: Guarding against the self- centeredness illustrated in the selection
161–62	"Those Winter Sundays" "The Secret Heart" Thinking Zone	506–8	Quiz 6G Teaching Help 6A Teaching Help 6F	
163–65	"The Courage That My Mother Had" "Uncle Randolph's Buried Treasure" Thinking Zone	509–18	Bulletin Board "A Different Train" Quiz 6H Teaching Help 6A	
166–68	Family Anecdote	W12	Writing Worksheet 6B Writing Rubric 6B	
169	"The Blanket" Thinking Zone	519–22	Quiz 6l Teaching Help 6A Teaching Help 6G	Scriptural Application: Family harmony achieved through sacrificing self-interest Thinking Zone: Caring for the elderly (Lev. 19:32; Prov. 16:31; etc.)
170	"Mother's Hallowe'en Trick" Thinking Zone	523–26	Quiz 6J Teaching Help 6A Teaching Help 6H Reading Standardized Test Practice 6A	Scriptural Application: Finding verses in Proverbs covering honesty, resourcefulness, hard work, and God's provision

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171–72	"The Safest Place" "Death" Thinking Zone	527–31	Quiz 6K Teaching Help 6A ESL Exercise 6 Reading Standardized Test Practice 6B	Scriptural Application: Our lives a vapor (James 4:14) Scriptural Application: Fellowship with God the enablement to respond correctly to difficulties		
173	"Happy the Home" The Bible and Family	532–33	Bulletin Board "Explore Vacation Reading" Teaching Help 6I Vocabulary Standardized Test Practice 6B	Participation: Practical ways to contribute to harmony in the home		
174	Unit 6 Review	534–36				
175	Unit 6 Test					
176–80	Final Review and Final Examination					

¹ The topics and support materials in italics refer to writing lessons and assignments within a chapter.
² The following items in the Support Materials column are located on the CD found in the back of the Teacher's Edition: Quizzes, Teaching Helps, ESL Exercises, Word Lists, Vocabulary Standardized Test Practices, Reading Standardized Test Practices, Bulletin Boards, Writing Worksheets, and Writing Rubrics.