#8 Anthologies of Short Stories, Essays, and Poetry, Speeches
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While each story or speech or poem or essay may address one or more particular Essential Understanding, the anthologies in total portray all seven.


Summary: This collection includes stories by Debra Earling, Janet Campbell Hale, and poetry by Anita Endrezze.

Summary: This collection includes thirteen stories, essays, poems by Native American authors

Essential Understandings #1, #2, #5, #6
Short Stories - Grades 9 and up
Summary: This is a collection of fine stories with teens or young adults as protagonists. The authors include the following: Joy Harjo, Sherman Alexie, Cynthia Leitich Smith, Richard Van Camp, Linda Hogan, Joseph Bruchac, Louise Erdrich, Greg Sarris, Lee Francis, and Susan Power. While some of the stories can easily appeal to middle-school students, others deal with sensitive issues such as gender identity, sexual abuse, and drug abuse, and teachers will want to select materials based on the particular needs of their students, as well as their communities. In the Introduction, Carlson writes that “these stories are made of deep contemplations about a past that is still alive in those of us who are descended from ancient peoples.” She goes on to say that this world “presents us with endless dilemmas,” some of which are “from the larger society: drugs, alcohol, racism, the confusion of being of mixed race(xv).” The stories reveal effective tools for survival.

Summary:

While the editor admits that the authenticity of some of the speeches may be questionable, he has included them because there is no evidence to prove they are not authentic. “In general the . . . oratory is remarkable . . . for its directness, its metaphors and vivid images, its comprehension of clashing worlds. . . . Some of the speeches that follow were delivered on the run, some on the attack, some on the defensive, some spontaneously, some after moments or years of reflection(iv).” The speeches are included in time order, beginning with Acuers (Timucua) (c.1540), and ending with Oren Lyons (Onondaga) (1991).

Summary:

Iris Jacob is an eighteen-year-old biracial female with a strong commitment to diversity issues. This is a collection of poems and essays by many teens who write about their experience. A few are written by girls of American Indian descent.

Non-Fiction and Oral Tradition  Historical Essay and Traditional Story  
Essential Understandings #1 and #6
Summary:

Relying on tribal and family oral and written histories, this is an outstanding collection of essays and stories written by descendants, award-winning scholars, journalists, tribal and national park service leaders, attorneys, educators of the Indians whose homelands [Lewis and Clark] traversed: Vine Deloria, Jr. (Standing Rock Sioux); Debra Magpie Earling (Confederated Salish and Kootenai Tribes); Mark Trahant (Shoshone-Bannock Tribe); Bill Yellowtail (Crow); Roberta Conner (Cayuse, Umatilla, Nez Perce); Gerard A. Baker (Mandan Hidatsa); Allen V. Pinkham, Sr. (Nez Perce); Roberta and Richard Basch (Puyalup and Coeur D’Alene); with a tribute by N. Scott Momaday (Kiowa).

Summary:

This collection Includes works by Louise Erdrich, Lucy Tapahanso, Leslie Silko, Diane Glancy, Simon Ortiz, N. Scott Momaday, Wendy Rose, and a Proclamation of the Indians of Alcatraz)

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**Table of Contents:** with poems, nonfiction, fiction, and an essay. It’s problematic that traditional native stories are called “fiction.” Organized according to themes, the collection includes a Media Connection and connections to other cultures and geographies with each of the following themes: The Traditional World, The World of Home, The Natural World, Other Worlds, Change and Continuity. It also includes an interview with N. Scott Momaday, reprinted by permission of [www.achievement.org](http://www.achievement.org). Each section includes tribal background of writings.


**Summary:** According to Scraver’s introduction: “These are not meant to be definitive or actual stories.” They began with an assignment to create a time-line for the Blackfeet people, and so the stories begin in 1742 and cover the time period between then and now.


