

Seventh Grade English Language Arts

2022-2023

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Course Objectives

This year students will be building upon the skills they learned in 6th grade. We will follow a curriculum that is aligned to the Next Generation Learning Standards and that emphasizes strong reading, writing, and critical thinking skills. Students will also engage in regular discussion with their classmates in order to build a community and to teach and learn from their peers.

Course Expectations

- Students will come to class every day, on time, and prepared with required course materials and any assignments that are due.
- Students will take creative risks and challenge themselves as readers and writers.
- Students will make their learning their number one priority by respecting class time and putting forth their best effort.
- Students are expected to share their ideas, ask questions, and support their classmates.

What to bring to class

- Class book(s)
- Planner
- Pencil or pen
- Binder

Behavior Expectations

As seventh graders, it is imperative that you work your hardest each day as we begin preparing for high school. Do things that will not prevent us from teaching, nor you or others from learning. Always respect yourself, others, and your school. Be responsible with assignments, work hard, and listen carefully.

Students are expected to be kind, respectful and to work cooperatively in class.

Late Assignments/Missed Work/Re-doing assignments

Students may turn in late assignments throughout a unit, but once the unit ends, late work will no longer be accepted. For example, missing work for Unit 3 may be turned in throughout Unit 3, but may not be turned in once Unit 4 has started.

Students may redo assignments that earn below a 75 in order to improve their grade. They must communicate with their teachers if they intend to redo an assignment. Redos must occur within two weeks of a grade being posted in GAMS. For example, if a student receives a grade on

Friday, October 2, they have until Friday, October 16th to submit a redo. After the two-week window, the original grade stands.

Cheating/Plagiarism

Cheating and/or plagiarism will not be tolerated and will result in an automatic grade of zero. This includes copying homework, classwork, test answers, talking during a test or quiz, allowing someone to copy your work, and trying to pass off someone else’s work as your own. There will also be a disciplinary meeting.

Group Work (we do)

During many lessons there will be opportunities to work in pairs or in a group. We ask that everyone respect one another when working together. Please do not express disappointment or disapproval of other students within the class. In addition, all students are expected to contribute to the activity with no one person taking charge of the entire group, and no students relying on other students to do all the work.

Grading Categories and Weights

<u>Assessment- 40%</u>	<u>Classwork- 50%</u>	<u>REACH – 10%</u>
Components can include: I. Performance tasks II. Unit exams III. Lab reports IV. Quizzes V. Group or individual class presentations	Components can include: I. Classroom assignments II. Preparation for performance tasks III. Exit tickets IV. Independent Reading Reflections V. Class discussions	Components can include: I. Student preparedness (materials, dance/PE attire) II. Homework
Content Classes: At least one grade per week Specials: At least one grade per two weeks	Content Classes: At least two grades per week Specials: At least one grade per two weeks	All Classes: At least one grade per week

Restroom Use

It is crucial that all students are in class during instructional time. We ask that you please wait until all instructions have been given before leaving the room to use the bathroom, which means after the mini-lesson, unless it is an emergency. When leaving the room to use the bathroom, please raise your hand using 1 finger silently to ask permission and make sure to sign out using the laptop. Only one person should leave the classroom at a time.

Rewards

We can’t wait to celebrate your success in ELA class! We will be tracking the amount of 5’s each seventh grade class won and at the end of the trimester the class who had the most 5’s will have a celebration!

Consequences

Students are expected to be kind, respectful and to work cooperatively in class. If any rules are broken, however, there is a ladder of consequences that will be followed:

First time a rule is broken: Verbal warning

Second Offense: Behavior is documented on the R.E.A.C.H. Log and detention

Third Offense: Phone call with parent and behavior alert and/or removal from class

Note: The teacher may decide to skip the series of consequences for serious rule infractions.

The student may be sent directly to the counselor or to the administration.

Entering Class

To make sure we make the most of our time together, students are expected to enter class on time, get out their materials for the day (we will go over these soon), and complete a Do Now activity at their seat. This Do Now is important because it will help us get into a learning mindset so we can dive into our lesson for the day.

Exiting Class

At the end of each class, we will ask the entire class to reflect on what they believe they should earn as a REACH score. Silently you will raise your hands to reveal what you believe should be the score. We will then call on two students to explain their reasoning for that particular score. Students should not begin packing up and lining up until told to do so. Once instructed, students may begin to pack up materials, but must remain in their seats. A teacher will give clear instructions to students or tables that may line up. Once all students are lined up, you will be dismissed to your next class.

Homework

Student name: _____

Class: _____

Parents/Guardians:

I have read the Syllabus for Seventh Grade English Language Arts Class, and I understand the course's grading policy, homework policy, required binder organization, and items that my child must bring in daily to be prepared.

Parent/Guardian Signature: _____

Student Signature: _____

Date: _____