

7th Grade English

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Course Syllabus 2023-2024

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Welcome to 7th grade Language Arts at Woodward Middle School! We are excited that you are here. Together, we are going to have a fantastic year reading some good books and writing about topics that matter to you.

Course Description

7th grade Language Arts focuses on analyzing texts, developing writing skills, and promoting life-long reading habits.

Learning Objectives

* *Aligned with Common Core State Standards*

- Write daily to improve fluency and skill
- Read daily to promote life-long reading habits and develop close reading skills
- Construct original interpretations of texts guided by independent opinions
- Organize and analyze in literary analysis essays
- Persuade using statistics, facts, and counter arguments
- Inform relying on information gathered from a variety of sources
- Narrate moments from life
- Examine and use narrative structure

Course Overview

First Semester	Second Semester
<p>Writing: narrative memoir, informative, argument, learning to cite sources</p> <p>Grammar: parts of speech</p> <p>Vocabulary: memorize affixes and roots for decoding unknown words</p> <p>Reading informational text: making inferences, citing textual evidence, research, objective summaries, taking notes in graphic organizers</p> <p>Reading literature: identify plot, theme and symbolism in short stories and novels (<i>The Giver</i> by Lois Lowry and <i>Call of the Wild</i> or <i>White Fang</i> by Jack London), poetry analysis, and character analysis</p> <p>Communication: presenting information to peers, respectful participation in discussions</p>	<p>Writing: persuasive, informative, narrative using literary devices, scripts</p> <p>Grammar: sentence structures, run-ons and fragments, capitalization, punctuation</p> <p>Vocabulary: dictionary/thesaurus for spelling, word choice, tone, connotation/denotation</p> <p>Reading informational text: determine author's point of view and purpose, evaluate arguments to assess for relevant, sufficient evidence to support claims</p> <p>Reading literature: memorize literary devices definitions and learn to recognize in text, global conflict literature circles, poetry, fantasy novels,</p> <p>Communication: presenting information to peers, respectful participation in discussions</p>

[BISD adopted Teaching for Tolerance Social Justice Standards](#)

Grading

Students and guardians can check grades on assessments in **Skyward**.

Work will be assessed based on demonstrating common-core standards for reading, writing and communication. Each assessment will be based on mastery of the content skills.

A= exceeding standard

B= meeting grade-level standard

C= approaching standard

D/F= did not put forth enough effort to grade

All assignments will receive at least a 50 percent (standard not yet demonstrated) until work is submitted, whether absent or present. Students are encouraged to resubmit any major assessments to show their understanding. It is the responsibility of the student to talk to us about academic progress.

Supplies: planner, chromebook, pencil/pen, composition notebook, book for silent reading, section of binder labeled "Language Arts" or "L.A. or a folder", lined notebook paper

Kooistra: Google Classroom is where students will find all announcements and assignments. Daily agendas will be posted in the Classroom Stream. Parents can sign up for weekly guardian summaries in Google Classroom.

Longridge: Google Classroom is where students will find all announcements and assignments. Family helpers can see what we are learning by checking the [Week at a Glance](#).

Communications and Self-Advocacy

Want to know how guardians can help? Talk with your students about elders they might like to interview after we read *The Giver* by Lois Lowry (Nov-Dec). You could help students practice vocabulary 1st semester (prefixes/roots/suffixes) and literature terms 2nd semester. Also, you could help them practice memorizing Shakespearean sonnets in May. Please reach out by email anytime you have questions or concerns. We are always happy to help you by appointment. Thank you!

Ms. Kooistra and Ms. Longridge