

Mrs. Epley's Seventh Grade English Language Arts

Supplies - One 1" 3-ring binder

Students will read several novels this year. Students may check out these novels from the media center OR, if you choose, you may purchase a personal copy of any of the novels for your child. I've provided Amazon links if you would like to preview or purchase any of the novels (this is also posted in Canvas and on my school webpage so you can access the links).

First Quarter: [Castle Diary](#), [The Canterbury Tales](#), [The Midwife's Apprentice](#)

Second Quarter: [Code Talker](#), [Farewell to Manzanar](#)

Third Quarter: [Animal Farm](#)

Fourth Quarter: [Fever 1793](#), [An American Plague](#)

Curriculum

- All homework, assignments, and lesson plans are posted in Canvas in advance and can be accessed using your student's Google account.
- There are numerous district and state benchmark tests that provide us with a progress measure for students. Students will take STAR reading assessments and NC Check-In assessments each nine weeks.
- There is an English Language Arts EOG test at the end of the school year.
- We will use the Wit & Wisdom Language Arts Program. The program is divided into four modules (one each nine weeks - see the list above to find out which books we will read each quarter).

Student Binder (SB) Requirements

- An organized SB is essential to success in English Language Arts this year! Students will be provided with a lot of support to set up their binder and maintain it throughout the year.
- All essential papers are located in the binder but can also be found on Canvas. If your child forgets to bring home something he/she needs to study or complete an assignment, he or she (and you) can access it through Canvas.

Grades

- All graded assignments are returned and will be stored in SB.
- Grades are entered into PowerSchool weekly.
 - A zero indicates that the student did not turn in the assignment.

- A grade that contains a decimal indicates that the student made corrections. For example, if the original grade was 40 and the student made corrections, the grade in PowerSchool would be **70.40**. This method allows us to see both the original and the corrected grade.
- An extra credit assignment **may be offered, but should not be expected**, at the end of each module.
- Hudson Middle School uses the district's 10-point grading scale. I explain grades to students like this:
 - 100 - 90 = A You have a strong understanding of the content.
 - 89 - 80 = B You understand most of the content.
 - 79 - 70 = C You understand some of the content; study more!
 - 69 - 60 = D You don't understand much of the content; ask more questions and do extra practice.
 - 59 - 0 = F You don't understand the content; see your teacher in addition to asking more questions and doing extra practice!
- Grades are weighted as follows:
 - 50% Classwork / Daily Grades
 - 30% Tests / End-of-Module Assignments
 - 20% Quizzes

Reading Requirements

- Students need to read at home outside of the classroom reading to improve fluency and develop comprehension skills. We call this Reading Beyond the Curriculum.
- **Students are expected to read at least 20 minutes every day.**
- Students are expected to read **at least three books** (not including novels read for class) every 9 weeks and complete the assigned questions.
- The three books and assigned questions will count as one test grade each quarter.