

...Home of the Dragons...



Grade 7 Language Arts

Ms. Sturup

Course Syllabus 2024-2025

Course Description and Objectives

Grade 7 Language Arts centers around the comprehension of challenging books and articles, basing all of their analyses, inferences, and claims on explicit and relevant evidence from the texts. Students will expand on their ability to identify central ideas by identifying how those themes are shaped and conveyed by particular details. Their analysis of basic literary elements will extend to identifying connections and complexities within narratives and how individual elements weave together to advance the plot and reveal character. The evaluation of the impact of language on tone and meaning will begin to include more sophisticated concepts such as analogy and allusion, subtleties in point of view such as dramatic irony, and a more sophisticated appreciation for connotative diction. These skills will be incorporated into the students' own narrative and expository writing. Students will become increasingly adept at understanding an author's biases, the use of complex rhetorical devices including logical fallacies, and tailoring his or her own prose for maximum influence.

Textbook

HMH into Literature 2024

Novels

The Boy in the Striped Pyjamas by John Boyne

A Christmas Carol by Charles Dickens

The Hunger Games by Suzanne Collins

Path to the Stars by Sylvia Acevedo

Unit/Concept Names

Unit 0 – Review

Unit 1 – Development of Character/Ideas

Unit 2 – Central Ideas

Unit 3 – Text Structure

Unit 4 – Point of View

Unit 5 – Summarizing Text

Unit 6 – Text Analysis

Richmond County Board of Education Grading Policy

- Minor Grades 60% - These types of assignments include but are not limited to asking students to write summaries, taking short quizzes for immediate feedback, conducting open-end discussions, peer assessments, concept maps, timed writings, and class discussions.
- - o **Minimum number** of minor grades per 6-week progress report period = **5**
- Major Grades 40% - These type of assignments include but are not limited to essays, book reports, end of unit tasks, presentations, and final projects.
 - o **Minimum number** of major grades per 6-week progress report period = **2**

Academic Grading Scale

A (90-100) B (80-89) C (75-79) D (70-74) F (below 70)

- Parents are encouraged to monitor their child's grades using the district Infinite Campus Parent Portal.
- Please contact the front office at 706-737-7288 for information to gain access to Infinite Campus.

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Academic Dishonesty

The Student Code of Conduct, Rule 1(A)(t), states that no student shall cheat, alter records, plagiarize, receive unauthorized assistance or assist another in any type of academic dishonesty. The determination that a student has engaged in academic dishonesty will be based on the judgment of the classroom teacher and a supervising administrator, taking into consideration any written materials, observation, or information from witnesses. Students found to have engaged in academic dishonesty will be subject to disciplinary actions as outlined in the Student Code of Conduct. Additionally, the task may be entered as “incomplete” and the student required to redo the assignment or retake the assessment.

Late Work

Late work is defined as assignments that are submitted after the specified deadline. This does not apply to work submitted late due to absence from school. Students are expected to submit assignments on time. Multiple incidents of late work may result in teacher-student-parent conferences to examine and correct the student’s work habits through a behavior or academic contract. Students in grades 6-12 may have their scores reduced by 5% per school day for a 25% maximum reduction (five school days). Late work submitted after the fifth school day will only be accepted at the teacher’s discretion. Completing work in a timely manner during the learning unit is essential for academic success. If the score is reduced for late work, the teacher must make a notation in the Infinite Campus comment section of the gradebook to reflect the reduction for late work. Students and parents should refer to the teacher’s course syllabus for specific late work procedures.

Make-up Work

Students are expected to make-up assignments and assessments that were missed due to absence from school. Students are responsible for asking teachers for the make-up work upon returning to class. Make-up work should be completed by the student within the time specified by the teacher. Teachers should provide reasonable timelines for completing make-up work. Generally, such work should be completed within 5 days of returning to school. A student should not be required to take a quiz or test on their first day back at school if the assessment was first announced during their absence. Graded assignments should be scored to accurately reflect the level of mastery of standards.

Homework

Homework helps teachers determine how well the lessons are being understood by their students. Homework teaches students how to problem solve. Homework gives student another opportunity to review class material. Homework gives parents a chance to see what is being learned in school.

Students will be given homework every night. This will be in the form of worksheets, assigned readings, and assigned questions in accordance to reading material.

Continually, remember that students are required to complete 45 minutes of I-Ready Reading each week. This is 5-7 minutes of I-Ready each day. In addition to the 45 minutes, students need to pass at least 3 I-Ready Reading lessons each week.

Relearn & Reassess (R&R Procedures)

For grades 4-12, after any major assessment, students should have the opportunity to submit a relearning plan for parent and teacher approval. Upon satisfactory completion of the plan, as determined by the teacher, students should be given a minimum of one opportunity to be reassessed. Students scoring below 70 on a major assessment should be expected to complete a relearning plan unless exempted with parent approval.

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AI Guidance

The Student Code of Conduct, Rule 1(A)(t), states that no student shall cheat, alter records, plagiarize, receive unauthorized assistance, or assist another in any type of academic dishonesty. The unauthorized or improper use of an artificial intelligence (AI) program constitutes academic dishonesty.

Teachers have discretion to determine if R&R opportunities will be given for any **minor assessment**.

Cell phones are not permitted in class, per school policy, and should not be seen nor heard. Students should turn cell phones off and place them in their bookbags.

Classroom Procedures & Expectations

Parents, please ensure that your student is ready for school every day. In order for your student's team to be successful, enroll in Remind. Additionally, becoming a parent observer on Canvas will be an integral part of your student's success. Also, be sure to check your student's grade on Infinite Campus every day. Grades are updated frequently. Please contact me as soon as possible with questions and concerns. My contact information can be found below.

Students, this is your future. You are responsible for your success. Come to school ready to learn. If you do not understand, ask questions. Positively participate in class and follow instructions at all times.

Class Procedures

1. Enter Quietly.
2. Hang your book bags and purses in the designated area.
3. Sit in your assigned seat.
4. Begin your Do Now immediately.
5. Contribute positively during instruction.
6. Clean your area.
7. Retrieve your belongings.
8. Line up quietly.
9. Exit to your next class.

Classroom Rules

1. Be prepared and ready to learn.
2. Follow instructions.
3. Raise your hand to speak.
4. Respect yourself, peers, and all adults in the building.
5. Follow all Richmond County rules as seen in the Code of Conduct

Tutt Discipline Policy

Infraction #1 – Redirection/Verbal Warning

Infraction #2 – Parent Phone Call

Infraction #3 – Spotlight Notification

Infraction #4 – Referral to Counselor

Infraction #5 – Referral to Administration

Course Materials

- 1) 1 Duotang Folder
- 2) Pencils
- 3) Blue and Black Pen
- 4) Highlighters
- 5) Headphones

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Please refer to the Student Code of Conduct for further guidance on Richmond County School System's policies and procedures.

My contact information: Email: sturrna@boe.richmond.k12.ga.us

Remind:

| | |
|--------------------------|-----------------|
| Homeroom/Period 3 | SturruHR |
| Period 4 | Sturru4 |
| Period 5 | Sturru5 |
| Period 6 | Sturru6 |

Tutt Middle School Phone Number: 706-737-7288

Please sign and return this portion of the syllabus to affirm that you have reviewed this document:

Student's Signature _____ Date _____

Parent/Guardian's Signature _____ Date _____

Parent Phone Number: _____ Email: _____