

**Course Title: Honors/Gifted English Language Arts (ELA)**

**Instructor: Mrs. Jamie Sadenwasser email: sadenja@boe.richmond.k2.ga.us**

**Course Description:**

English Language Arts includes grammar, writing, reading, listening and speaking.

**General Supplies for All Classes:**

Construction	Paper Pens (blue or black – a good supply)
Glue Sticks (3-pack)	Pens (red-for grading)
Coloring Markers and/or Coloring Pencils	Loose Leaf Paper (a good supply)
Pencils (a good supply)	12-inch Ruler with cm/mm markings
Paper Hole-Reinforcements	Book Covers – 1 per subject
Jump/Thumb Drive	Note Cards
Hand held pencil sharpener with cover	Highlighters
Tissues and Hand Sanitizer for the homeroom classroom (optional, but appreciated)	

**Materials:**

Earbuds  
Sturdy 3-ring binder – The binder may NOT contain other subjects.  
Tab dividers for notebook (will need 5 tabs labeled Notes/Handouts, Homework, Daily Language, Journal, Grammar)

**Sadlier Vocabulary Book:**

Having a broad and rich vocabulary is essential to reading comprehension. As part of our School Improvement Plan this year each student will use the *Sadlier Vocabulary Workshop* book to build our word knowledge. The cost of this book is \$15.

**Instructional Expectations:**

- Students are expected to bring all books, binders, and writing utensils to class each day, unless told otherwise.
- Students are expected to perform at their maximum potential.
- Students are expected to exercise time management and organizational skills sufficient to complete each task.
- Academic honesty is expected at all times – this includes plagiarism.
- Tasks will sometimes be individual, with a partner, or in groups. Students will need to display social and collaborative skills in accomplishing a successful final product.
- The course is designed to be challenging and build upon each student’s learning style.

**Class Rules and Expectations:**

The classroom will maintain a positive and respectful environment at all times.

Students will be ready to begin class (in their seats) on time and will be dismissed by the instructor.

Make up work will be accepted in accordance with the policies outlined in the student handbook.

Homework is NOT accepted if it is late. This includes work left in a locker.

Homework assignments will be posted on the board daily as well as on my class webpage, which is located on the DFA website. Students should not solely rely on the DFA site for their assignments.

Students should write their homework in an agenda or composition book daily. Upon request, students may have teachers initial their agendas at the end of the class period. This is suggested if you feel that your child needs this OR if you see that a problem is arising with their homework grades. Teachers are happy to initial agendas, but students are responsible for bringing it to us.

Eleven points will be deducted each day that a project is late. Twenty points will be deducted for the weekend.

All electronic devices (cell phones, portable devices, etc.), will be used in accordance with the student handbook.

### **Types of Assignments for this year:**

- \* There will be an emphasis on student-generated creative projects in this class. Students will be encouraged to use their creativity and communication skills in performing tasks.
- \* Read a variety of text materials, which will be above their grade level. This will include poetry, drama, historical biography, and other forms of media.
- \* Learn a wide range of academic vocabulary which will be useful in preparing them for higher level tasks.
- \* Create power point presentations, podcasts, broadcast ads based on the events in the text.
- \* Participate in literature circle groups to discuss text materials.
- \* Create projects based on the text.
- \* Analyze text, poetry, drama, music, paintings, architecture, and other forms of media.
- \* Cite textual evidence in writing.
- \* Use rubrics for self-assessments and end of task assessments.
- \* Participate in debates on current day issues.
- \* Work individually, with a partner, and in small groups to perform tasks.
- \* Create higher level constructed response questioning and essays.

### **Grading Procedures:**

Students and parents are encouraged to check the Infinite Campus (Parent Portal) in order to track academic progress.

**Website:**

Please see my website for many helpful links such as homework, Powerpoints, project expectations, etc.

Webpage: <https://www.rcboe.org/domain/6480>

**Assessment:**

The following is a table of the basic grading procedures that will be used in language arts class.

There are two important things to remember: 1) not everything that is collected will contain a numerical grade; 2) Late checked homework will NOT be accepted (including work that is left in lockers).

<b>ITEM</b>	<b>WEIGHT</b>
Tests/Projects/Essays	50% of nine-weeks average
Performance Based Assessments/Online Activities	20% of nine-weeks average
Classwork	10% of nine-weeks average
Homework	10% of nine-weeks average
Quizzes	10% of nine-weeks average

**General Class Rule – RESPECT:**

**If students follow the one rule of respect, then each of the expectations below would be followed:**

- Be Respectful – of yourself, others, adults, belongings, the building, etc.  
This means you are responsible for yourself, behavior, assignments, policies, etc.  
This means you are prepared and timely, with all materials needed.  
This means you will be open-minded to learning and trying new things and the ideas of others.  
This means you will be positive and help promote a pleasant, safe environment that is conducive for learning.

**Tardies:**

- All students are expected to be on time daily. This means that students will be in their seat and ready to begin class when the bell rings. Tardies will be enforced according to the school policy. This means students are quietly in their seats, materials are ready, and instruction can begin.
- Students are expected to follow all the guidelines in the Richmond County Handbook.
- Some consequences that may be used in class in conjunction with administration discipline procedures are as follows: warning, preferential seating, parent phone call, detention, student-parent-teacher conference, student-teacher discussion, guidance evaluation, and discipline referral.