

8th Grade English Language Arts Syllabus

Ms. Antonia R. Sowell

Murphey Middle School Middle School

Planning Period: Monday –Friday (1:30 p.m.-2:30 p.m.)

Course Description:

In reading, students will focus on comprehension and analytical reading skills through the study of a variety of authors and genres. Students will learn how successful readers think and visualize when they read, interact with, and examine text. In writing, we will focus on construction narrative, expository, persuasive, and research pieces. Additionally, we will learn how to write meaningful and concise short responses, summaries, and be able to cite text references.

Student Course Goals

1. Students will increase their academic vocabularies through word analysis, discovering meaning through context, and integrating new words into their writing.
2. Students will write argumentative essays with a definitive claim and the best evidence to support and develop their arguments. Students will write with the mastery of grammar and mechanics required.
3. Students will increase their reading levels by learning reading strategies and acknowledging when to apply them to understand a variety of texts.

Plagiarism/Academic Integrity

Academic integrity is expected on all assignments. Plagiarism is defined as presenting the work of another as one's own. Cheating on an assignment or assessment is another activity that violates ethics and school rules. Any work that exhibits cheating/plagiarism will result in a zero, parental notification, and disciplinary action may be taken.

Attendance:

All students are expected to be in class each day. Your grade is determined by class work, homework, participation, as well as individual and group assignments. If you are sick, it is your responsibility to complete missed assignments.

Grading Policy:

All grades will be based on points and weighted using the scale below Grades will be updated regularly; it is highly recommended that both students *and* parents login to the Infinite Campus weekly to monitor progress. The following are the weighted categories for Language

Weighting Scale:

Assessments (Test/Projects/Essays)	30%
Quizzes	25%
Classwork	20%
Homework	10%

***Grades will be posted and available online using Infinite Campus grading system.**

Behavior and Discipline

*Adhere to all policies and procedure as described in the Richmond County Student Handbook.

Supply List

Composition notebook

Loose leaf paper

Pencils & Pens (blue or black ink)