

Name of School:

Name of Course: **Language Arts 7**

Instructor Information

Name:

E-mail address:

School phone number:

Web page address:

Best times to be reached:

Course Description

Language Arts 7 is a year-long course that integrates listening, speaking, writing, reading, and viewing and allows students to explore several universal themes. Students participate in oral and silent reading of varied types of literature; in personal, informative, descriptive, and narrative writing; in journal (log) writing, and in varied listening, speaking, and viewing activities. Instruction in language skills, in approaching writing as a process, and in thinking strategies is also integrated into the course. Learning opportunities include individual and large and small group activities, teacher-directed and student-selected activities, and independent student projects.

District Standards and Power Benchmarks

Standard: Students will apply reading, writing, and speaking skills to communicate effectively.

Power Benchmarks:

- Students will be able to use speaking and listening strategies and technological tools to learn and communicate in a variety of situations.
- Students will be able to use a wide range of strategies to comprehend literary and informational texts.
- Students will be able to use a wide range of strategies to interpret, evaluate, and appreciate literary and informational texts.
- Students will be able to use the writing process and Standard English to write for a variety of purposes.

Course Information

Language Arts 7 is a required 36-week course (year-long). Students take *Language Arts 6* prior to entering seventh grade.

Course Outline/Calendar

- Five required writings: comparison/contrast, descriptive, career paper, persuasive, research
- Required academic vocabulary instruction
- Unit 1: Plot, Conflict and Setting
- Unit 2: Analyzing Character and Point of View
- Unit 7: Biography and Autobiography
- Unit 9: The Power of Research
- Unit 5: Appreciating Poetry
- Unit 8: Information, Argument and Persuasion
- 1-3 *Literature Circle* units using small groups with these novels: *Bud, Not Buddy*; *Crash*; *Holes*, *Touching Spirit Bear*, *Olive's Ocean*, *Stargirl* OR
 - Unit 6: *Myths, Legends, and Tales* OR
 - *Drama Unit*
- Oral Presentation
- Supplemental Writings
- **ACT Skills: English** throughout

Text/Other Required Materials/Resources

Literature (Red) McDougal Littell, 2008.

Curtis, Christopher Paul. *Bud, Not Buddy*.

Henkes, Kevin. *Olive's Ocean*.

Mikaelsen, Ben. *Touching Spirit Bear*

Sachar, Lewis. *Holes*.

Spinelli, Jerry. *Crash*.

---. *Stargirl*.

Materials needed by student: planner, paper, writing implements, folders, note cards, notebooks, and whatever else is required by the teacher.

Instructional Procedures & Support

- Direct instruction
- Cooperative learning
- Graphic organizers, teacher created PowerPoint slide shows, note taking, QAR, HOTS, KWL, Read Alouds, Think Alouds, Every Pupil Response, Brainstorming, and ACT Skills: English, District Literacy Initiative strategies
- **ACT Skills: English**
- High expectations: Students are expected to move from the Needs category into the Meets and from the Meets into the Exceeds category.
- District Anchor Papers
- Completion of all work is necessary: The Power of "I."
- Students may make an appointment to receive additional instruction or computer time to finish assignments.

Classroom Management Procedures

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Assessment Plan

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| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Progress reports/grade reports at midquarter, quarter, and semester. • District writing rubric • ACT Skills: English Post-tests • Quizzes, tests, daily assignments • Formative/Summative assessment • District end-of-semester assessments |
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Grading System

A	93 and above	Firm command of knowledge domain High level of skill development
A ⁻	90 - 92	Exceptional preparation for later learning
B ⁺	87 - 89	Command of knowledge beyond the basic concepts of knowledge Advanced development of most skills
B	83 - 86	Has prerequisites for later learning
B ⁻	80 - 82	
C ⁺	77 - 79	Command of the basic concepts of knowledge Demonstrates ability to use basic skills
C	73 - 76	Lacks a few prerequisites for later learning
C ⁻	70 - 72	
I		The letter "I" indicates the student has not satisfactorily achieved the grade/course-level benchmarks and/or has missing work. "I" status is temporary and not a final grade. The letter "I" may affect athletic eligibility.
D ⁺	67 - 69	Lacks knowledge of some fundamental ideas Some important skills not attained
D	63 - 66	Deficient in many of the prerequisites for later learning
D ⁻	60 - 62	
F	59 and below	Most of the basic concepts and principles not learned Most essential skills have not been demonstrated Lacks most prerequisites needed for later learning