



Ms. Annie C. Jones
Room 603
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Language Arts Syllabus

Textbooks/ Resources: Writers Inc: A Student Handbook for Writing & Learning; Elements of Literature: Second Course; Spelling/ Vocabulary: EdHelper.com and numerous resources provided by Ms. Jones.

Dear Parents/ Guardians:

I am please to be your child's Language Arts teacher and eager to begin the new school year. This syllabus is intended to inform you on the subjects, concepts, and goals of our 8th Grade Language Arts Curriculum as they pertain to Room 603.

Sincerely,

Ms. Annie C. Jones

Course Description: The purpose of this course is to provide educational experiences that develop English/ Language Arts concepts and skills. The content includes, but is not limited to, the study and application of writing, reading, listening, viewing, speaking, critical thinking, *and* study skills.

Course Goals:

- a. Read various literary selections/ analyze them for literal/ interpretive meanings.
- b. Identify main idea/ essential message in text/ make personal connections.
- c. Identify common themes/ elements in literature.
- d. Demonstrate active/ critical reading of literary/ informational text.
- e. Respond to readings through thinking, communication, and writing.
- f. Demonstrate understanding/ use of effective vocabulary words/ language.
- g. Write for a variety of purposes/ audiences, using all stages of the writing process.
- h. Apply the conventions of standard English (including spelling).
- i. Utilize critical thinking to identify facts, opinions, and predict outcomes.
- j. Effectively use study, reference, and test-taking skills.
- k. Meet or exceed district and Washington State standards in Reading *and* Writing.

Course Requirements:

- a. Student must participate and cooperate in daily class activities to the best of her/his ability.
- b. Student must keep organized folders/ binder of class notes, study guides, handouts, and assignments.
- c. Student must complete all assigned classwork/ homework on time. Requests for additional time will be considered and granted on a case-by-case basis.
- d. Student must report to class on a daily basis and arrive at school on time.
- e. Student must come to class with necessary books, tools, and supplies.
- f. Student must follow established classroom rules.

Grading Policy/ Procedures: Grades are based on class work, quizzes, and tests. Students who have excused absences will have the opportunity to make up assignments missed during absence according to the policy stated in the Student Handbook. It is the student's responsibility for getting the work from me. The student can also consult with a classmate or "study buddy" to find out what he/ she has missed during the absence. Students who attend class, but do not participate, or turn in assigned work will receive a zero. The following Grade Scale will be used:

<u>Grading Scale Percentage</u>	<u>Letter Grade</u>	<u>B-A-M-E Entry</u>
Exceeding Standard = 100-90	A	95
Meeting Standard = 89-80	B	85
Approaching = 79-70	C	75
Beginning = 69-65	C-	67

Classroom/ Teacher Expectations:

- a. Raise your hand for questions, comments, and clarification.
- b. Come to class/ school on time *and* participate daily.
- c. Remain in your seat *and* keep hands/ feet to yourself.
- d. Gum, candy, chips, *and* colored drinks are prohibited in the classroom.
- e. Bring necessary tools, books, etc.
- f. Put-downs and/ or foul language is not tolerated.

Consequences of negative behavior(s):

- a. Verbal warning/ review of expectations with student.
- b. Processing to another environment/ classroom and/ or written assignment.
- c. Call home.
- d. Referral to Administrator.

Rewards for positive behavior(s):

- a. Verbal/ written praise/ recognition from teacher.
- b. Warrior Winner Positive Office Referral/ school-wide recognition during daily announcements.
- c. Positive email/ note to parents/ guardians.
- d. Free time (limited to 15 min.) and student is encouraged to use time wisely.

Necessary/ Required Classroom Supplies:

1 composition book (black and white cover can be purchased at Wal-Mart or Office Depot)

#2 pencils

blue or black ink pens

highlighters (various colors)

1 box of tissue/ Kleenex.

3-ring binder (can be shared with other classes)

Notebook filler paper

1 pair of scissors

1 ruler