

Course Syllabus ELA

Cicely Tyson Middle/High School
English/ Language Arts Grade 7
Days of the Week 5
Full year

Ms. K. Catching
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Welcome and Introduction

Welcome to English Language Arts. I am your instructor, Ms. Catching. I look forward to working with all of you this academic year.

Course Theme: This English/Language Arts class will use a variety of texts and works of literature to promote mastery of numerous reading, writing, verbal, and comprehension skills. As a class, we will read, analyze, and discuss many different texts. Students will demonstrate their knowledge and comprehension of texts and writing skills through a number of quizzes, tests, projects and papers. All students are expected to read, write and analyze at the level of proficiency for or beyond the seventh grade common core standards by the end of the year.

Course Goals/Essential Questions

Objectives

- The Common Core standards for English/Language Arts are: Reading Literature, Reading Informational Texts, Writing, Speaking and Listening and Language
- The student will use various cues and strategies to comprehend what he or she reads
- The student will use a knowledge of the purposes, structures, and elements of writing to analyze and interpret various types of texts
- The student will apply his or her knowledge of word analysis strategies to determine the meaning of unfamiliar words and texts.
- The student will write for different audiences and purposes, applying the process approach to writing to create whole, legible texts.
- The student will use speaking skills to participate in large and small groups in both formal and informal situations.
- The student will use listening skills to comprehend and analyze information he or she receives in both formal and informal situations.
- The student will gather information from a variety of sources and present his or her topic of exploration using a variety of strategies.

Methods of Instruction:

Students will be actively engaged in the instruction process in this class. Lesson plans will include a wide variety of activities including interactive lectures, small and large group discussions, role-playing, small learning groups, and instructional games. Students will also participate in online tutorials to increase understanding of skills introduced in class. Achieve 3000 will be used daily to assist in students in increasing their lexile levels. Students will read independently on a daily basis.

In this course, we will utilize a variety of academic learning strategies such as:

<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Explicit and Direct instruction • Cooperative learning • Think-Write-Pair-Share • Book Talks • Brainstorming • Quick-writes • Graphic Organizers • Study groups • Questioning • Make Inferences • Drawing Conclusions • Problem Solving • Comparing and Contrasting 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Self monitoring strategies • KWL • Journaling • Independent reading • Independent study • Differentiated learning stations • Story Mapping • Predicting • Make connections to text • Evaluating • Visualizing 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Inquiry and research • Word walls • Conferences • Writing process • Author’s chair • Guided Reading • Read-Aloud • Self evaluation • Peer evaluation • Synthesizing • Analyzing • Summarizing • Building Vocabulary • Using Sensory Details • Make generalizations
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Course Component Specifics

Students are expected to:

- Come to class on time and **prepared** (*see supplies)
- Attend class on a daily basis
- Be respectful to themselves, their peers, and teachers
- Adhere to school polices and rituals
- Actively participate in the learning/small groups/study buddy
- Complete all homework assignments when they are due
- Study notes on a daily basis
- Read for 30 minutes or more, each day (Informational texts, novels, newspapers, magazines etc)
- Be responsible and take ownership of their learning

Attendance and Make-Up Work:

Absences are recognized for the following reasons:

1. Absences to participate in official school/district activities (performances, field trips, athletic events, etc.)
2. Absences for medical reasons
Pass indicating with Administrator/Guidance/Nurse/CST/Social Worker/Discipline
3. Passes indicating you are with another teacher must be cleared first by the period teacher if you are planning to be more than 5 minutes late
4. Students are responsible for getting missed class notes from their study buddy.
5. Absent students must make up all missed assignments within two days.

Course Requirements and Grading

- Students will receive weekly selection assessments

- Students will receive five unit assessments for English/Language Arts over the course of the year
- Students will take annual state examination in the spring (PARCC)
- Students will take three district online assessments throughout the year. (**Achieve 3000, and Renaissance**) pre (September), Mid (January), and Post (April)
- Students will compose four writing performance tasks for their portfolio

Students will be graded on the following scale:	Grading Scale
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Tests= 25% • Quizzes=15% • Portfolios/Research= 25% • Classwork= 15% • Homework= 10% • Participation= 10% 	<p>A- Excellent = 90%-100% B- Above Average= 80%-89% C- Average= 70%-79% D- Below Average= 65%-69% F- Failure= Below 65%</p>

Opportunities for Extra Support

Students may come in for extra assistance after school, if they have parental consent. The available days are (TBD)

How to Reach Me

Please see e-mail addresses above. I can be reached at above extension during school hours. (Please allow 24-48 hours for response to e-mail).

Conferences: The first conferences will be during the back to school night in November. Look out for notices to be sent home with students.

Required text/E-book/Online Resources Used

Holt McDougal Elements of Literature Grade 7

Common Core Edition 2012

Online Resource Used (ThinkCentral.com, <http://kcatchingela.blogspot.com/> Achieve3000)

Student Online Login:

Username: **estudent1282**

Passcode: **reading**

Supplies: Students are expected to bring the following supplies to class daily:

- Two number two pencils
- Two pens (blue or black only)
- Two inch loose-leaf binder with composition paper
- Post –its
- Two pocket homework folder
- Highlighters
- Pencil Case to hold writing utensils

Quarterly/Unit Schedule

Topics (as outlined in your curriculum guide and/or) **and major assignments/projects/unit test**

Quarter/Unit I Dates:

- List of Topics/SLOs
- Narrative Writing Task
- **RL 7.1** Cite several pieces of textual evidence to support inferences drawn from the text.
- RL 7.2 Determine a theme or central idea
- RL 6.8 Analyze how an author develops the point of view
- RL 7.4 Determine the meaning of words and phrases
- W3 a-e
- Assignments/projects/Assessments
 - Homework will be assigned weekly (indicate assignments by 1st week in Sept. if subject has not been identified)
 - Major projects for the cycle not included Semester PBL
 - Bi-weekly/weekly quizzes
 - Unit Assessment/Chapter Test

Quarter/Unit II Dates:

- Informational Writing Task
 - RI 7.1 Cite textual evidence
 - RI 7.2 Determine Theme of Central idea
 - RI 7.4 Determine the Meanings of words and phrases
 - W.2 a-f
 - Assignments/projects/Assessments
 - Homework will be assigned weekly (indicate assignments)
 - Major projects for the cycle not included Semester PBL
 - Bi-weekly/weekly quizzes
 - Unit Assessment/Chapter Test

Semester Project (PBL)/Midterm Exam February 2016 (TBD)

Project Due Date:

Quarter/Unit III Dates:

- List of Topics Narrative Writing Task
- **RL 7.1** Cite several pieces of textual evidence to support inferences drawn from the text.
- RL 7.2 Determine a theme or central idea
- RL 6.8 Analyze how an author develops the point of view
- RL 7.4 Determine the meaning of words and phrases
- W3 a-e
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- Homework will be assigned weekly (indicate assignments)
- Major projects for the cycle not included Semester PBL

- Bi-weekly/weekly quizzes
- Unit Assessment/Chapter Test
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Quarter/Unit IV Dates:

- Informational Writing Task
 - RI 7.1 Cite textual evidence
 - RI 7.2 Determine Theme of Central idea
 - RI 7.4 Determine the Meanings of words and phrases
 - W.2 a-f
 - Assignments/projects/Assessments
 - Homework will be assigned weekly (indicate assignments)
 - Major projects for the cycle not included Semester PBL
 - Bi-weekly/weekly quizzes
 - Unit Assessment/Chapter Test

Semester Project (PBL)/Final Exam (This will follow Unit V for ELA and Math)
Project Due Date:

Unit V (ELA and Math only) Dates:

- List of Topics/SLOs **TBD**
 - Assignments/projects/Assessments
 - Homework will be assigned weekly (indicate assignments)
 - Major projects for the cycle not included Semester PBL
 - Bi-weekly/weekly quizzes
 - Unit Assessment/Chapter Test

Semester Project (PBL)/Final Exam (This will change for ELA and Math)
Project Due Date: **TBD**

*Cicely L. Tyson Community School for Performing and Fine Arts Middle/High School where:
“ We aim high. We soar high.”*