



English Language Arts: Writing and Grammar

Mrs. Katherine Dowd

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Grade 7

2018-2019

What you are is God's gift to you. What you do with yourself is your gift to God.

Course Description

Writing

Writing is taught as a process that is based on the 6 Traits: ideas and content, organization, voice, word choice, sentence fluency, and conventions. Emphasis is placed on the importance of the writing process and the various types of writing. Rubric scoring guides will be used to assess student writing.

Grammar

Usage and mechanics will be reinforced and reviewed. Book: Strategies for Writers (Zaner-Bloser)

Journals

Journal writing will be used to help with the brainstorming process and to help students develop daily writing habits.

Expectations:

- ✓ Come to class prepared.
 - Bring all your materials needed for class.
 - Have all homework completed.
 - Come with a positive attitude and willingness to participate in your own learning.

- ✓ Be on task.
 - You are expected to engage in the learning process and complete assigned classwork.

- ✓ Show respect.
 - Treat teachers and classmates with respect at all times.
 - Try to understand the feelings of others.
 - Try to help students in need.
 - Make it a point to include students who are easily left out.
 - Ask an adult if there is a situation you cannot control.

Grading:

The grading is based on a total point system, which means that each assignment is worth a specific number of points and your grade is determined by how many points you earn from the total number of points. Tests and Writing assignments are weighted 60%, Quizzes 20%, and Classwork/Participation 10% and Homework 10%. There will be an assortment of assignments and assessments. Check Genesis to keep track of your progress.

Homework:

Homework is not assigned every night. When it is assigned you are expected to come to class with the homework completed and carefully done. A computer “glitch” is not an acceptable excuse for incomplete homework. If you do not hand in homework on the day that it is due, you will be expected to submit it the following day for half credit. Homework that is missing will be recorded as a “0”.

Absent :

If you are absent from class, it is YOUR responsibility to find out what you missed. You have one day for each day absent to make up any missed work, unless there is a special circumstance that is discussed with me. Teachers must be notified of a planned absence. It is the responsibility of the student to contact a teacher to schedule makeup tests and clarify missed assignments due to absence.

Be sure to check the “While You Were Out” bulletin board in the classroom and the 7th Grade ELA page on the SML website for assignments and handouts that you missed.

Extra Help:

Students having difficulty with their work are encouraged to see teachers for help.

Academic Dishonesty:

Cheating, copying, or any other type of academic dishonesty will be dealt with according to the school policy.

Please keep this part of the syllabus and return the Student-Parent Contract.

Student-Parent Contract

Please sign and return by: _____

Student Name : _____

Parent/Guardian Name: _____

Parent/Guardian E-Mail: _____

I have read the Language Arts course syllabus with my parent/guardian. I understand and agree to abide by the expectations in this contract.

Student Signature: _____

I have read and discussed the Language Arts course syllabus with my child. I understand what is expected of my child.

Parent/Guardian Signature: _____