



7th Grade Basic English Language Arts

Penny Davis

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Conference Period: 6th period 1:06-1:52

Tutoring Opportunities: 7:45am- 8:15am Monday-Friday (Available after school when requested)

Class Materials:

- Pens, pencils, notebook paper
- Independent reading book
- Canvas access online
- Blue Planner

Access to Canvas and Office365 tools is available to students through our [Single Sign-on Portal \(SSO\)](#). Students receive their SSO login during enrollment.

Course Description:

On-Level English Language Arts 7

Provides the student with knowledge of the structure and patterns of language. Usage skills develop the student's ability to speak and write effectively. Instruction in written communication focuses on the development of well planned, coherent compositions written for a variety of audiences and purposes. Reading skills include vocabulary development, comprehension, organization, and study skills. Research skills are introduced.

Course Goals:

Students who complete this course successfully will be able to:

- Write expository essays with a sustained focus, developed details, and an organized structure that clearly shows the relationship among ideas
- Revise drafts to improve the effectiveness of sentences, strengthen the development of ideas by adding or deleting information, improve the progression of ideas, ensure that word choice is appropriate, and point of view is consistent

Student Evaluation:

The grading system for this course is as follows:

- On-Level Grade averaged 60% Major 40% Minor
- Major grades –District Common Assessments, best draft essays, research papers, presentations; minimum three per six weeks
- Minor grades – quizzes, daily assignments, journals; minimum four per six weeks
- Semester exams will count 1/7 of the semester grade
- A letter system (S, N, U) is used to report a student's conduct based on proper/responsive conduct and citizenship
- Per Board Policy EIA (LOCAL), "The District shall permit a student who meets the criteria detailed in the grading guidelines a reasonable opportunity to redo an assignment or retake a test for which the student received a **failing** grade. This policy applies only to initial identified major grades and does not apply to daily assignments, quizzes,

six-week test, and semester final examinations. Upon reteach and retest, the new test, project, etc. recorded will be a high score of 70%.

- Official grades will be in Skyward only and can be accessed by student and parent through Family Access.

Assignments, exams, expectations outside of the classroom:

- Aside from reading novels and reviewing notes, students will only have homework if they did not complete an assignment that was intended to be completed during class time OR if they need to preview something to be ready for the next class session.
- Assignments that are not turned in will be marked as “Missing” in Skyward. (Assignments that are blank or marked with an asterisk indicate a grade has not been entered. Students can turn in work up to 4 school days after the day it is due. For example, if an assignment is due Monday, students have until Friday to turn in the assignment. After the fourth day, it will be marked as a 0. Missing work can be found in Canvas.
- Students will be reading texts of their choice in and out of class and will discuss and write about their reading.
- Writing Common Assessments—STAAR style revising & editing tests with passages and multiple-choice questions
- Pre-write and Post-write Assessments—timed writing (pre-write will be a minor grade; post will be major)
- Students will develop essays by completing the writing process

Attendance/Tardy Policy/Make-Up Work:

- Students are allowed an equal amount of days absent plus one day to complete all missed assignments.
- Assignments will be posted to Canvas. Students can ask questions regarding assignments through Canvas, email, before or after class, after school, and during tutorials.
- Assignments and due dates are posted in Canvas, Skyward and on the board in the classroom.
- I will post class notes in Canvas.
- Students can make up tests during tutorials. Other opportunities may be possible.
- Students who are tardy need to join class without disruption and turn in their tardy slip. Repeated tardiness will have penalties.

Classroom Expectations:

Students will be expected to follow all health and safety protocols in place at the campus. At the beginning of class students, will be seated and working when the bell rings. We will read and write daily in our classes, so it is important that students come prepared to class with materials, as well as a positive, productive mindset. During class, students will be expected to work with others and independently over various increments of time. Students will need to follow all expectations in the Code of Conduct. We follow the Wayside 5.

Preliminary Schedule of Reading and Writing Topics

1st 6 weeks:

- Fiction/Realistic Fiction

2nd 6 weeks:

- Fiction/Character Analysis

3rd 6 weeks:

- Fiction Author Study/Thematic Literary Analysis

4th 6 weeks:

- Nonfiction and Literary Analysis/Research-Based Argument Essay

5th 6 weeks:

- Multiple Genres/STAAR Expository

6th 6 weeks:

- Multiple Genres (STAAR Skills)/Fantasy Writing

Academic Integrity:

Academic integrity values the work of individuals regardless if it is another student's work, a researcher, or author. The pursuit of learning requires each student to be responsible for his or her academic work. Academic dishonesty is not tolerated in our schools. Academic dishonesty includes cheating, copying the work of another student, plagiarism, and unauthorized communication between students during an examination. The determination that a student has engaged in academic dishonesty shall be based on the judgment of the classroom teacher or other supervising professional employee and considers written materials, observation, or information from students. Students found to have engaged in academic dishonesty shall be subject to disciplinary and/or academic penalties. The teacher and campus administrator shall jointly determine such action.