

Class Overview

English Language Arts

is intended to prepare you to be critical thinkers through a close examination of literature. The ELA team has designed the course to be a rich, engaging, and thought-provoking experience to help you become a better reader, writer, listener, speaker, critical thinker, and member of society. My philosophy as a teacher is to equip you with transferrable skills that will actually help you in real life. Ten years from now, it will not matter if you can remember the cast of "Romeo and Juliet" or the plot of "Fahrenheit 451". What will matter is your ability to think critically and creatively, respond to texts and media, communicate effectively with other humans, understand different perspectives, and use the power of literacy to change your life and this crazy world for the better.

WELCOME TO

9th Grade English Language Arts



Ms. Johnson

Room # 112

brenda.johnson@jordandistrict.org

Essential Concepts

- ✓ I can support my analysis and understanding of a text by citing relevant details from that text.
- ✓ I can analyze similar themes across multiple texts by comparing and contrasting the development of those themes as well as the specific details surrounding them.
- ✓ I can analyze the author's choices regarding the development of characters, ideas or themes, the setting, as well as the structure of the text.
- ✓ I can analyze and evaluate how effective an argument is.
- ✓ I can determine the author's purpose in a text and analyze the effect it has on the text itself.
- ✓ I can analyze literary devices as well as word choice in order to better understand a text.
- ✓ I can determine the meaning of words using context clues and roots, prefixes, and suffixes.
- ✓ I can use English grammar and conventions appropriately and correctly.
- ✓ I can apply the writing process through planning, drafting, revising, and editing.
- ✓ I can write an effective argumentative essay.
- ✓ I can write a personal narrative using narrative techniques.
- ✓ I can conduct research gathering relevant information to support thesis.

Expectations

*be kind stay engaged
work hard*

- ❖ We will be following State COVID-19 protocol:
 - Wear a Mask
 - Sanitize before and after each class
- ❖ Backpacks will remain beneath your desk or hanging from your chair. If it becomes a distraction, I will take it until the end of class.
- ❖ I provide the students with an area to store their binders in my classroom so they will have what they need in class daily to help cut down on the weight of dragging them to each class. This is a privilege that will be suspended if they are not properly stored.
- ❖ Phones are to be turned off or in silent mode and remain out of sight at all times. I provide a charging station with access to outlets so students can store and charge their phones (due to covid, I will not provide students with chargers. They can bring their own and use the ports/outlets provided at their own risk.

Required Materials

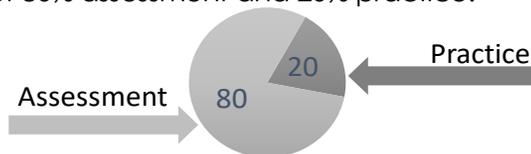
- ✓ Binder filled with lined paper
- ✓ Writing utensil – pencils* pens
- ✓ Highlighter (assorted colors)
- ✓ Colored Pencils
- ✓ Current Class Reading Material
- ✓ Personal Novel
- ✓ Composition Notebook
- ✓ A positive attitude



Grades

Standards Based Grading

This course follows the schoolwide grade distributions of 80% assessment and 20% practice.



Practice & Assessments:

Practice assignments are in-class assignments and homework. **All assignments will be accepted late without penalty until the unit of study is complete or the term ends.** Assessments are considered final assessments of knowledge and will have specified due dates, make-up dates, and one retake option (**only after attending a one-on-one reteach session and I feel you are ready**). **Once the unit is complete or the term has ended, you can no longer turn in practice assignments or assessments.**

*extenuating circumstances are always at the discretion of the teacher
IT IS YOUR RESPONSIBILITY TO COMPLETE ASSIGNMENTS AND TO SCHEDULE RETEACH SESSIONS AND ASSESSMENT RETAKES!

Grade	4 Point Scale	Percentages
A	3.30 to 4.00	82.25 to 100%
A-	3.00 to 3.29	75.00 to 82.24%
B+	2.85 to 2.99	71.25 to 74.99%
B	2.65 to 2.84	66.25 to 71.24%
B-	2.50 to 2.64	62.50 to 66.24%
C+	2.35 to 2.49	58.75 to 62.49%
C	2.15 to 2.34	53.75 to 58.74%
C-	2.00 to 2.14	50.00 to 53.74%
D+	1.85 to 1.99	46.25 to 49.9%
D	1.65 to 1.84	41.25 to 46.24%
D-	1.50 to 1.64	37.50 to 41.24%
F	0.00 to 1.49	0.00 to 37.49%

Technology

We will utilize Canvas. For students to access this program, students will need to sign on to their Jordan District Google Chrome account, click on the “waffle” symbol on the upper right side of the screen and click on the app titled “Canvas”.



Academic Dishonesty

Academic dishonesty will **NOT** be tolerated under any circumstances. Cheating, copying, or plagiarism of any form will result in the following consequences:

- The teacher will notify the administration and contact parents if cheating is suspected.
- The student will be given a failing grade for that particular test or assignment.