
7TH GRADE HONORS LANGUAGE ARTS

COURSE SYLLABUS

Room 117

Mr. Wengertsman

peter.wengertsman@tcmstornadoes.com

813-987-6555

Availability for Conferences: Period 5: 1:10-2:05

Contact Mr. Oswald to schedule

Room 115

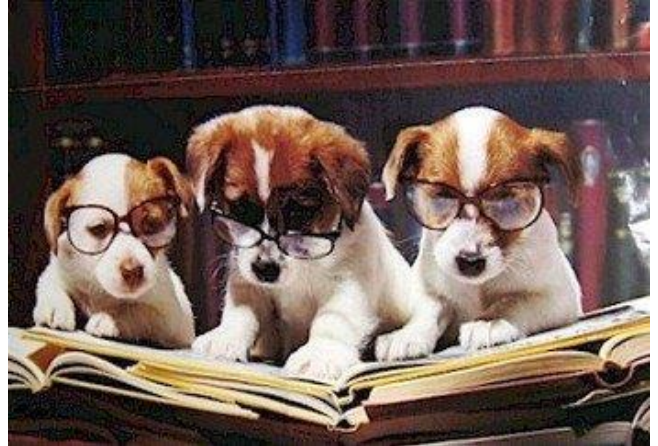
Ms. Heron

katie.heron@tcmstornadoes.com

813-987-6555

Availability for Conferences: Period 2: 9:35-10:30

Contact Mr. Oswald to schedule



Extra Help Tutoring: Tuesday mornings, 7:45 – 8:15 a.m.

MATERIALS NEEDED:

4 highlighters in different colors

2: 1 subject notebooks (Blue if possible) (One for each semester with table of contents) **OR** 1: 3 subject notebook (to use all year long with a new table of contents each semester)

1 Folder with pockets and prongs (Blue if possible)

Pens & pencils

Colored pencils or markers

Scissors

Note cards

USB drive

School Planner

COURSE TEXTS:

Scholastic Scope Magazine (will be provided throughout the school year)

Sadlier Vocabulary Workshop Achieve: 7th grade/ Level B

4 Independent/Whole Class Reading Selections: (Please purchase all @ the beginning of the year)

- The Outsiders by S.E. Hinton

- The Night Gardener by Jonathon Auxier
- Chains by Laurie Halse Anderson
- Racing in the Rain: My Life as a Dog by Garth Stein

Play: (will be provided for all classes)

- No Fear Shakespeare: Much Ado About Nothing by William Shakespeare

COURSE DESCRIPTION:

The purpose of this course is to provide grade 7 students an advanced integrated language arts study in reading, writing, speaking, listening, and language for high school, college and career preparation and readiness. Texts of high complexity will be utilized.

TCMS' advanced L.A. curriculum is supported by the *Language Arts Florida Standards & designed to lead all children toward college and career readiness.*

BEHAVIORAL EXPECTATIONS:

Respect, Responsibility, Results, & Positive Thinking

Students will be respectful at all times. Respectful behavior includes the following:

- Having a positive ☺ attitude
- Speaking respectfully to others; this includes fellow students, as well as teachers
- Offensive language and/or behaviors will not be tolerated
- Being mindful of others who are speaking

POLICIES AND PROCEDURES:

Tardy: A student is tardy when they are **not in their seat** when the bell rings. Promptness is a requirement. Students are expected to come to class on time and begin their bell work.

Clinic: Students need to ask for a pass to the clinic during class time and not before the bell rings. Trips lasting longer than half of the period (28 minutes or more) will count as an **excused** absence.

Bathroom: Students need to utilize the passing time during periods and their lunch period to use the bathroom. Students will only be granted permission to use the bathroom if it is an emergency.

Preparedness: Students are expected to come to class prepared to work. Students will need planners, pen or pencil, their notebook, as well as the current novel we are reading. They will also need their homework from the night before.

MAKE-UP WORK:

If you are absent, be sure to check your teacher's Edsby page. You can and should do the posted homework for the evening. Any important handouts will be provided for you by your teacher when you return.

If you are absent on the day of a test or quiz, please be prepared to make up the assessment the day you return, either before or after school. The more time that goes by, the less you will remember because we do move on with content material. Please make up that quiz or test right away!

A student who has been absent and whose absence is **excused or related to school business** is permitted to make up the work missed, provided that the student makes arrangements with teachers the **next day the student returns to school**. It is the **student's** responsibility to make these arrangements. Make-up work must be submitted within the deadline(s) set in the student handbook. *The GLA may elect to allow suspended students to complete make-up work.*

PLAGIARISM:

Is defined as: *an act or instance of using or closely imitating the language and thoughts of another author without authorization and the representation of that author's work as one's own, as by not crediting the original author. (Dictionary.com)*

If a student intentionally takes another person's writing and uses it as their own (i.e. cutting and pasting or directly copying text from online) they can expect to receive a zero on the assignment and a step on a behavior referral resulting in a meeting with their GLA and after school detentions. If a referral step was received in 6th grade and student is caught for plagiarizing again in 7th grade, the referral step becomes a level 1.

DAILY CLASS PROCEDURES:

Bell work: Sentence Stalker activity: students are expected to quietly begin once the bell rings. The main focus will be mechanics & grammar, with emphasis on words in context and the use of prefixes, suffixes, etc.

Class work: Class work will generally begin with a mini lesson on the given skill to be practiced, a model of how it is to be done, further practice in a partner or group setting, and finally an individual assignment to

continue work on the skill. Classwork may be individual writing and then sharing, large or small group instruction, silent or large group close reading, and will change daily to keep students motivated and active members of every class.

Homework: The homework will consist of the following: news articles, vocabulary, prewriting, drafting, revising, editing, novel reading, reading strategies practice. It will be due at the beginning of class, **no exceptions**.

Late Policy: Late homework **will not be accepted**. Projects or essays count more in the teacher's grade book & can dramatically decrease a student's grade; therefore, they **MUST** be turned in. A 10 point per day penalty will be applied for every day the assignment is late.

If any issues arise concerning the possibility of projects or essays being late then contact must be made by the student or parent to the teacher in advance. At this point the appropriate steps will be taken to determine when the assignment will be turned in.

TCMS STUDENT HANDBOOK POLICY:

-At no time will a student's homework, which included assigned classroom and out of classroom projects be accepted late, unless pre-cleared by the classroom teacher and for emergency circumstances only.

-Under no condition may a family member bring a student's homework, projects, PE clothes, book bags, etc to school. These items will not be accepted by any TCMS employee.

Heading on Homework: As per TCMS policy, a heading needs to be on EVERY ASSIGNMENT, QUIZ, PROJECT, ESSAY, TEST (basically everything) you turn in to be graded by your teacher in the upper right corner. **THE TEACHER RESERVES THE RIGHT TO TAKE 10 PERCENT OFF ANY WORK THAT IS TURNED IN WITH NO HEADING OR AN INCOMPLETE HEADING as the work is turned in INCOMPLETE.**

Heading is as follows:

Student's Full Name

Date

Period

Assignment Title

Homework/Class work Holistic Rubric:

Outstanding (√+): 100% - Exceptional work; all directions followed; may have executed the assignment *beyond* expectations

Satisfactory (√): 80% - Well completed work; all directions followed; assignment legible; evidence that the student followed the model for the assignment.

Below Average (v-): 60% - Below average; not all directions followed; some problems with neatness and readability of the assignment; minimal evidence of effort or attempt to imitate the model.

****Teacher has the discretion to add or deduct points based on student's effort and completion of assignment****

Computer Assignment Regulations:

Students will need to have constant access to a computer (the Internet) and a printer. **It is a requirement for the course to print worksheets, articles, and stories to bring to class the following day. Failure to do so will result in not being prepared for class and thus a lower grade.** Homework will be posted on Edsby at the beginning of the week, so if you do not have a printer at home then use the Spark Lab on Monday to print all the handouts you will need for the week.

If work is not printed on time, but is saved on a USB drive and brought to school then the student may bring the USB drive to the Spark Lab BEFORE homeroom. This is only to be used as a back up plan. Emailed assignments will not be accepted. This is why the USB drive is required.

Grading Categories:

40% Major Assessments: tests, projects, essays (meaning papers)

30% Minor Assessments: quizzes

Major & Minor assessments will be determined by Ms. Heron & Mr. Wengertsman and explained to students for every assignment.

30% Class work & Homework

7LA SYLLABUS AGREEMENT

***By signing below (both student and parent) are acknowledging that they have read all of this information, understand, and will follow all of the classroom expectations and procedures for the 2018-2019 school year.

Please turn in this last, signed page to your Language Arts teacher***

X (student) _____

Print Name: _____

Class period: _____

X (parent) _____

Print Name: _____

Date: _____