

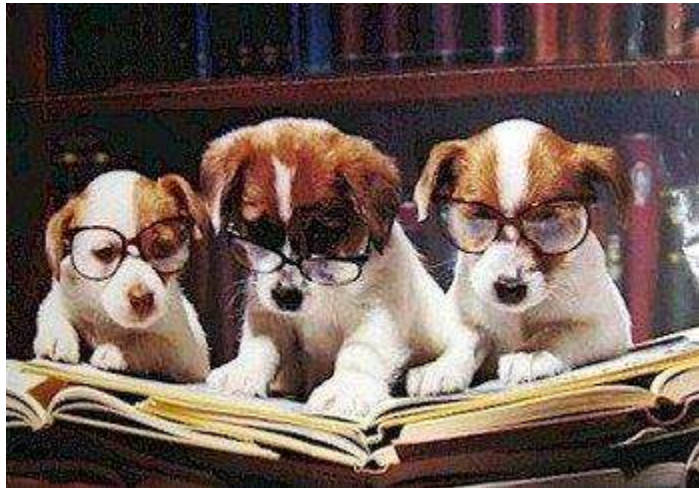
7th Grade Honors Language Arts

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
Mrs. Powers
maria.powers@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: 2 subject notebooks (Blue if possible) (One for each semester with table of contents)
1 Folder with pockets and prongs (Blue if possible)
Pens & pencils
Colored pencils or markers
Glue stick
Scissors
Note cards
USB drive
School Planner

Course Texts:

Short story anthology (provided)
R.E.V. It Up Vocabulary book (provided)
Scholastic Scope Magazine (paid for with book bundles, will be provided throughout the school year)
5 Independent/Whole Class Reading Selections: (Please purchase all @ the beginning of the year)

- Soul Surfer by Bethany Hamilton
- No Summit out of Sight: The True Story of the Youngest Person to Climb the Seven Summits by Jordan Romero and Linda LeBlanc
- The Outsiders by S.E. Hinton
- Chains by Laurie Halse Anderson
- Racing in the Rain: My Life as a Dog by Garth Stein

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 college and career preparation and readiness. Texts of high complexity will be utilized.

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. No student will be allowed to ask to use the bathroom the first 10 minutes of class and the last 10 minutes of class.

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. The Language Arts Teacher will be contacting the child's parent to explain the situation and seriousness of the infraction.

Daily Class Procedures:

Bellwork: Students are expected to quietly begin once the bell rings. The main focus will be mechanics & grammar, independent reading, or vocabulary, with particular emphasis on words in context and the use of prefixes, suffixes, etc.

Classwork: Classwork 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, papers, or projects **will not be accepted**. If any issues arise concerning the possibility of homework, papers, or projects 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 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* (√-):** 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.**

Students will be given ample time (at least 3 days) in advance to complete typed assignments, they also need to store assignments on a USB drive. Therefore, if work is not printed on time, but is saved on the USB drive and brought to school then the student may bring the USB drive to the Media Center BEFORE homeroom, accompanied by a note from a parent or guardian, to be printed. Please remember that the student must have a note from home in order to print the work. 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 Mrs. Powers & Mr. Wengertsman and explained to students for every assignment.

15% Homework

15% Class work

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

We have read this information and understand the contents or we will request clarification.

***By signing below (both student and parent) we are acknowledging that we have read all of this information, understand, and will follow all of the policies and procedures for the 2016-2017 school year.

Please keep a copy of the Syllabus and turn in this last, signed page to your Language Arts teacher***

X (student)_____

Print Name:_____

Class period:_____

X (parent)_____

Print Name:_____

Date:_____