

Language Arts 8 Syllabus 2026-2027

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Please email or call me with any questions or concerns.

Course Outcomes : In accordance with everyone's capabilities, the student will:

1. Write descriptive, persuasive, and Literary analysis essays.
2. Develop proofreading techniques dealing with grammar, punctuation, and content.
3. Define and utilize the elements of poetry, short story, novels, and drama in critical analysis through writing.
4. Use new vocabulary correctly.
5. Use a variety of reading strategies to summarize and evaluate a text.
6. Deliver oral presentations and projects.

Grading System/Area of Focus:

Homework 15% (*Reading for the 30 Book Challenge and short grammar/vocabulary assignments*)

Class Work 15% (*Classwork includes journals, formal essays, and reading comprehension assignments etc.*)

Essays/Projects/Summative Assessments 70% (*This includes comprehension tests, debates, essays, and thematic presentations*)

Inappropriate use of AI tools for writing assignments will equal a zero in the gradebook. Students will be given one opportunity to redo the assignment in handwritten format under teacher supervision.

Classroom Expectations:

Students should:

1. Utilize self-discipline through self-control and cooperation.
2. Participate in all activities and assignments.
3. Contribute to a positive learning environment.
4. Write legibly and thoughtfully.
5. Come to class prepared and on time.

Resources: Texts:

CommonLit 360 Curriculum Grade 8

The Outsiders by S.E. Hinton

Midsummer Night's Dream by Shakespeare (Young Adult Version)

Lord of the Flies by William Golding

Units:

Unit 1: Individuality & Social Acceptance

- ❖ **Novel Study-***The Outsiders* by S.E. Hinton
- ❖ *Mock Trial & Literary Analysis Essay*

Unit 2: The Art of Suspense

- ❖ CommonLit-Short Stories
- ❖ Narrative Writing & Literary Analysis

Unit 3: Courage, Loyalty & Trust

- ❖ **Drama Study-***Midsummer Night's Dream*-Shakespeare
- ❖ CommonLit-Poetry & Speech
- ❖ Literary Analysis & Persuasive Writing

Unit 4: Can Fiction Reveal the Truth?

- ❖ CommonLit-Poetry, Nonfiction Texts, & Short Stories
- ❖ **Novel Study-***Lord of Flies* by William Golding
- ❖ Literary Analysis Essay & Poetry

Student signature: _____ Date: _____

Parent signature: _____ Date: _____