



Memorial Middle School

6th Grade



English Language Arts/Reading Syllabus

Mrs. Gonzalez

Room 310

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In Grade 6, students will refine and master previously learned knowledge and skills in increasingly complex presentations, reading selections, and written text. Sixth grade students will analyze a speaker's written techniques and credibility. Students will evaluate a spoken message in terms of its content, credibility, and delivery. Students will demonstrate an ability to understand and analyze a variety of written texts across reading genres. Students will demonstrate an ability to understand and analyze literary texts. Students will demonstrate an ability to understand and analyze informational texts. Students will be able to select and use different forms of writing for a specific purpose such as to inform, persuade, and/or entertain. Students will vary sentence structure and use verb tenses appropriately and consistently such as present, past, future, perfect, and progressive. Students will edit their writing based on their knowledge of grammar and usage, spelling, punctuation, and other conventions of written language. Students will produce final, error-free pieces of written composition on a regular basis. Sixth grade students will acquire learning potentials that will be carried across other content disciplines.

This class is aligned with district and state standards and supports the school wide efforts in increasing student achievement. Moreover, this class is designed to assist students to succeed in the STAAR, State of Texas Assessment of Academic Readiness exam by practicing reading and writing state mandated objectives.

Grading Policy and Information

1. Students will be given the opportunity to know his/her grade on a 3 week basis (progress report/s).
2. Tardiness will not be tolerated. Excessive tardies will lead to parent phone calls, lunch detention, and ineligibility for school/class activities and/or events. Avoid this by being punctual and prepared for class every day.
3. When a student has been absent, make sure to see the teacher promptly to get any missing assignments accumulated during the time of the absence from class. It is NOT the teacher's responsibility to seek a student out, so make sure that if you have been absent, see the teacher right away. Students have one day for every day missed to make up any missing assignment. A student's situation may be considered by the teacher, if need be. Remember, make sure to get an absence slip from the attendance office when returning to school first thing in the

morning. Absences without proper documentation will be considered unexcused and may delay the process of making up work.

The Grading Scale

Daily Assignments/Homework
Exams/Quizzes

75%
25%

Novels

1. Besides the literature read in class, students will be expected to read on their own during Daily Independent Reading Time and out of class.

Literature:

Quarter 1: Analyzing Narratives Fiction/Nonfiction, Myths, and Short Stories.

Quarter 2: Novel study and story elements/Drama

During 2nd quarter students will read a novel:

The Watsons Go to Birmingham,

Charlie and the Chocolate Factory,

Or Walk Two Moons.

Quarter 3: Poetry/Nonfiction Arguments and claims

Quarter 4: Fiction/Novel

2. Throughout the year, students will become familiar with reading for a purpose and the expectations for STAAR.
3. Students will practice testing strategies to help you achieve the STAAR testing mandates.

Writing/Writing Samples

Students will be required to write one formal essay every quarter. Students will be required to keep a writing portfolio for these writings. Writing samples will go through the phases of the writing process. Students will be responsible to have all writing collections within the portfolio in order to maintain the quality of the work and be ready when conferences and groupings are initiated. All graded writing samples will be kept within the writing portfolio.

Literary Elements

Students will be expected to identify in accordance the various genres in reading and writing. Any note taking relevant to the given genre will be kept within the interactive notebook that is to be kept with their folder. Students will take quizzes, tests, and/or exams which will assess knowledge and understanding of the literary elements and genres taught for that quarter.

Words of Wisdom

“Successful and unsuccessful people do not vary greatly in their abilities. They vary in their desires to reach their potential.”-John Maxwell

Student/Parent Contract

In order for the English Language Arts/Reading class to be successful, it is vital for all individuals (both students and parents alike) to know the importance of everyday classroom expectations. This will ensure that everyone involved knows that student performance is based on involvement and efforts from all parties in order to make the student's academic year readily a successful one. Throughout the 2025-2026 academic school year, it is highly encouraged that the teacher, **Mrs. Gonzalez** has continued parent support. Maintaining responsible roles for this English Language Arts/Reading class will most certainly enable positive learning outcomes, ensure growth of which better prepares them for next grade level, and ensures success.

Please sign the oath provided in order to reassure that everyone involved with the student's learning will be fully aware of their requirements of this class.

I have read and understand the contents of this syllabus. I will fulfill all the class requirements and teacher expectations set before me in order to be successful in the 6th grade English Language Arts/Reading class.

Student Signature

Date

I have read and understand the information provided to me as a parent/guardian pertinent to my child by the teacher. I will support and encourage my child in order to fulfill all the requirements given within the 6th grade English Language Arts/Reading class. If I have any concerns, I will contact the teacher by email and/or to the campus.

Parent/Guardian Signature

Date