

English Language Arts Syllabus

Teacher Name: Miss Reddinger

Contact Information:

(724) 643-4877 – extension 210

lauren.reddinger@midlandpa.org

About the Teacher:

My name is Miss Reddinger (but please, call me Miss Redd), and I will be your teacher for the upcoming school year. I was born and raised in Clarion County, Pennsylvania and I am the oldest of four siblings. I have two younger sisters and two younger brothers. I graduated high school in 2009 from Keystone Jr. Sr. High School in Knox, PA. I graduated nursing school in 2017 at the Clarion County Career Center located in Shippensburg, PA. I graduated from Pennsylvania Western University, Clarion campus, in May 2024 with my bachelor's degree in Secondary Education, English, and a minor in Literature. Before deciding to pursue a career in education, I was in the medical field serving as a Certified Nursing Assistant (CNA), Licensed Practical Nurse (LPN), and Resident Care Coordinator (RCC). I moved to Beaver County, PA in March 2025 after accepting my first teaching job. Teaching has always been a passion of mine that I wanted to pursue, and I love it! In my free time, I enjoy reading books, listening to music, hiking, kayaking, and spending quality time with my nine-year-old son, Rowan, our dog, Maddie.

Classroom Policies, Rules, and Expectations:

1. Phones and Tablets:

Phones and tablets are not permitted during class and should remain in the students' lockers during class time.

Rationale: Phones and tablets can cause distractions, encourage academic dishonesty, and are not permitted in class per the student handbook.

Consequences:

1. Devices will be confiscated by the teacher until end of day.
2. Devices will be given to the office and a parent will need to pick it up.
3. Detention.

2. Headphones/Earbuds:

Headphones and earbuds are not permitted during class time, especially while instruction is taking place. The same rules and consequences for phones and tablets apply to headphones and earbuds.

3. Food/Drink:

No food or drinks (with the exception of water only) are allowed in the classroom.

4. Pictures/Videos/Phone Calls/FaceTime:

Taking pictures or videos of classmates, teachers, and/or assignments is strictly prohibited. No phone calls, FaceTime calls, social media videos/recordings, or audio/dictation recordings are allowed unless granted permission from the teacher.

5. Assignment Submission Requirements:

All assignments **must** include first and last name and class period on **all** assignments. *Failure to do these will result in a 4-point deduction – 2 points for name, 2 for class period.*

Submit all assignments using Google (Docs, Slides, etc.) unless otherwise stated by the teacher. All assignments must be submitted in Google Classroom unless otherwise stated by the teacher.

- Screenshots, links, and/or PDFs will not be accepted. *Failure to submit in these formats will result in an automatic zero.*
- Editing history must be enabled for all digital submissions.
- Any citations must be in MLA format.
- Assignments submitted via email will not be accepted.

6. Plagiarism and AI Use:

Plagiarism is defined as copying someone else's words, work, or ideas and submitting them as your own. Plagiarism includes turning in another person's work and calling it your own, not citing the proper sources you utilized, and/or submitting work that was completed in another class. AI-generated content also counts as plagiarism unless explicitly authorized by the teacher. All assignments will be run through plagiarism and AI detection tools before being graded.

Consequence: Student will be given a zero on the assignment with no opportunity to redo.

7. Late Work:

- Assignments are due on the assigned date and time.
- Communication is key – if something unavoidable happens, speak to the teacher ahead of time. If no communication is made:
 - 15% off per day late
 - After 5 days late, the assignment will no longer be accepted and will receive a zero.

8. Extra Credit:

I offer various extra credit opportunities on tests and projects throughout the school year. For a student to be eligible for additional extra credit, they must put forth effort in my class. If a student fails to do their work, turn in assignments in a timely manner, and does not participate in class, no additional extra credit will be given.

If a student wants extra credit, they must ask for it **before** the last 3 weeks of the grading period and it must be turned in **no less than** 5 days before the end of the quarter. If a student asks within the last 3 weeks of the grading period or turns in the extra credit less than 5 days before the end of the quarter, there will be no extra credit given. I will allow one point of extra credit to a student for each time they send a different picture of a

baby flamingo or a corgi to my email outside of class time. If sent during class time, the bonus point will not be given. I will allow one point for this each quarter.

9. Required Classroom Materials:

- Writing utensils, preferably a pencil – *you will be required to provide the teacher with collateral to borrow a writing utensil.*
- Notebook and/or lined paper
- Charged Chromebook
- Class folder/binder
- A positive attitude
- A growth mindset

10. Attendance and Absences:

It is the student's responsibility to make up any work they missed. Students should ask a classmate or the teacher to see what assignments or classwork they missed. There are "While You Were Out" bins in the room. Any paper assignments completed in class will be in those folders for the absent student to collect when they return. All other assignments will be posted on Google Classroom and will always be accessible to students.

Students are expected to communicate upcoming absences with me so I can set a due date for the missed assignments.

If a student is late to class, they must have a pass from their previous class or go to the office to receive a hall pass to enter class late.

11. Computer Use:

It is expected of students that computers are treated with respect and responsibility.

Students are expected to utilize computers for school-related tasks only. Social media accounts, gaming, and other inappropriate websites are prohibited and students may receive disciplinary action if used.

12. Participation:

Each student can earn 1 point per day for participation. Participation in this class is defined as being actively engaged in the learning experience – being on time, paying attention to the teacher, contributing to discussions when appropriate, staying on task, following classroom rules/policies/expectations, maintaining a positive attitude, and being respectful and non-disruptive towards the teacher, classmates, and the classroom environment.

The following deductions may occur:

- Off task for part of the class: 0.5 points per day
- Not participating/disruptive: 0 points per day

13. Cleanliness and Respect:

- Students are expected to wash hands upon entering the classroom.
- Respect all people, property, and materials.
- No foul language or inappropriate conversations.
- Raise your hand during instruction.
- Clean up after yourself daily.
- Be on time and follow all classroom rules, policies, and expectations.

- HAVE A POSITIVE ATTITUDE AND DO YOUR BEST!!! 😊

14. Disciplinary Actions:

Students are expected to abide by these policies, rules, and expectations at all times when in this classroom. If students fail to do so, it will result in the following actions:

- 1st offense – verbal warning
- 2nd offense – written warning signed by teacher, student, and parent/guardian
- 3rd offense – office referral
- 4th offense – detention

15. Parent Teacher Conferences:

There are many scheduled dates for parent teacher conferences on the district calendar. If you and/or a parent/guardian would like to schedule a conference with me at any time during the school year outside of those dates, please feel free to reach me during class or via email with your concerns and I will let you know my availability for us to do so.

Note: This syllabus is subject to change at any time based on class needs and external factors. Students will be notified of any changes in advance.

Classroom Library Permission Slip

Our classroom library is a wonderful resource filled with many varieties of books for student reading and research. Please note that some books have not been read by me, and there may be materials that are not suitable for all students. To ensure a safe and comfortable reading environment, students who do not have a signed permission slip on file will not be allowed to access the library without it.

The permission slip is essential, as we will be engaging in projects involving the library throughout the entirety of the school year. Proper permission ensures that all students and parents have understood and agreed to the content they may encounter. If you have any questions or concerns about the library or the materials within it, please do not hesitate to contact me.

Please sign below the dotted line, cut on the dotted line, and only return the bottom portion that is signed by **both** student and parent/guardian to Miss Reddinger by **no later than August 29, 2025**. Please keep the remainder of this document for your records.

Please note, this permission slip is for a grade and needs to be returned for credit.

Classroom Library Permission Slip

Student Name: _____ **Student Grade:** _____

Parent/Guardian Signature: _____ **Date:** _____

Parent/Guardian Printed Name: _____

Please note, this permission slip is for a grade and needs to be returned for credit.

Parent/Guardian Sign: _____

Parent/Guardian Print: _____

Date: _____

Parent/Guardian(s) Contact Information:

Name: _____ **Phone:** _____ **Email:** _____

Name: _____ **Phone:** _____ **Email:** _____

Student Name: _____ **Grade:** _____

Student Signature: _____ **Date:** _____

If there is any additional information about your student that you would like me to know, please share it below:

[illegible]