



7th Grade GT English Language Arts Advanced

COURSE OVERVIEW

Prerequisite: Meet qualifications for GT placement

This course is designed to prepare identified gifted/talented students for success in advanced and Advanced Placement (AP) courses and to meet their cognitive and affective needs. This version of the ELAR course provides advanced learning opportunities for students to engage in research, problem solving, critical thinking, and creative expression. In grade seven, students will refine and apply their oral and written communication skills. Critical reading skills will be developed through a wide variety of diverse materials including classical and contemporary literature and informational texts. Students will deepen their literary and expository writing skills, research skills, and analytical skills in a variety of genres. Students will also build their vocabulary by studying word origins and increase their proficiency in utilizing conventions such as spelling, capitalization, and punctuation. Students will engage with ELAR standards with increased depth and complexity and analyze content from multiple sources for interdisciplinary connections. Students should have a sincere interest in the areas of reading and language arts in order to thrive and be happy in this course. Students enrolled in this course may be required to produce sophisticated products and/or performances.

Middle School ELAR TEKS

ESTIMATED TIME FRAME	UNIT SUMMARY	TEKS
6 weeks	Unit 1: Crossing Generations In this unit, students will read numerous examples of how people of different generations interact and learn from one another, including a whole class novel study of <i>Esperanza Rising</i>. Students will read and evaluate nonfiction narratives, short stories, a memoir, and lyric poetry. Students will learn elements of nonfiction narrative writing. They will work together to build on one another's ideas, develop consensus, and communicate with one another. At the end of the unit, students will write a personal narrative.	1A, 1B, 1D, 2A, 2B, 2C, 4, 5A, 5C, 5D, 5E, 5F, 5G, 5H, 6A, 6B, 6C, 6D, 6E, 6F, 6H, 7B, 8A, 8B, 8Di, 8F, 9D, 9F, 10A, 10Bi, 10Bii, 10C, 10Di, 10Dv, 10Dvi, 10Dvii, 10Dix, 10E, 11A, 12A, 12D, 12F
5 weeks	Unit 2: Imagining the Future In this unit, students will read and discuss space exploration and the future of human voyages to worlds beyond Earth. Students will read and evaluate arguments. They will also read science-fiction short stories, poetry, and persuasive essays, as well as a selection of their choosing. At the end of the unit, after learning the elements of argumentative	1A, 1C, 1D, 2A, 2B, 2C, 3, 4, 5B, 5C, 5D, 5E, 5F, 6A, 6B, 6C, 6D, 6E, 6F, 6I, 7C, 8A, 8B, 8Ei, 8Eii, 8Eiii, 8F, 9A, 9B, 9D, 9F, 10A,

	writing, students will write their own arguments. Students will work together to build on one another's ideas and communicate with one another. They will also learn to develop and present a critique.	10Bi, 10Bii, 10C, 10Dii, 10Dvi, 10Dviii, 10E, 11A, 11B, 11C, 12A, 12D
5 weeks	Unit 3: Transformations In this unit, students will read and discuss transformations, crossroads and turning points in people's lives. Students will read and evaluate drama, fiction, nonfiction, and poetry, as well as a selection of their choosing. They will learn the elements of writing a short story. They will analyze a character and write correspondence to a character. Students will collaborate to build on one another's ideas, communicate, and develop a consensus.	1A, 1D, 2A, 2C, 4, 5A, 5D, 5E, 5H, 5I, 6A, 6B, 6D, 6E, 6H, 6I, 7A, 7C, 8A, 8C, 8Dii, 8Diii, 8F, 9B, 9C, 9E, 9G, 10A, 10Bi, 10Bii, 10C, 10Div, 10Dvi, 10Dviii, 11A, 11C, 11D, 12A, 12D, 12G, 12J
9 Weeks	Unit 4: Facing Adversity In this unit, students will read many examples of people who have faced adversity and overcome obstacles. Students will read and evaluate research-based essays. They will also read myths, poetry, a short story, and a selection of their choosing. Students will learn the elements of research writing. They will write essays and complete brief timed writing assignments. Students will work together to build on one another's ideas and communicate with one another. They will also learn to give and follow oral instructions. At the end of the unit, students will write their own research papers.	1A, 1C, 1D, 2A, 2C, 4, 5A, 5B, 5C, 5I, 6B, 6C, 6H, 7A, 7D, 8Di, 8Diii, 8F, 9A, 9E, 9F, 10Bi, 10Bii, 10Di, 10Dii, 10Div, 10Dvi, 10Dviii, 10Dix, 11B, 12A, 12E
6 Weeks	Unit 4: Learning from Nature In this unit, students will read about people's relationship to nature through different perspectives. Students will read and analyze informational texts. They will also read historical fiction, a short story, and a selection of their choosing. At the end of the unit, students will use the elements of research on a topic to create a digital presentation. Students will work together to build on one another's ideas, develop consensus, and communicate with one another to present their work.	1A, 1B, 1D, 2A, 2C, 3, 4, 5C, 5E, 5H, 6B, 6D, 6G, 6H, 6I, 7A, 7D, 8Di, 8Dii, 8F, 9F, 10A, 10Bi, 10Bii, 10Dii, 10Div, 10Dvii, 10E, 11B, 11D, 12A, 12B, 12C, 12D, 12E, 12F, 12G, 12Hi, 12Hii, 12I, 12J