

Any Questions?



# 8<sup>th</sup> Grade Language Arts Course Syllabus

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**Room # 212**

## **COURSE DESCRIPTION**

The 8<sup>th</sup> Grade English Language Arts classroom is an environment that supports high expectations and active participation for all students as they develop skills in the main areas of English Language Arts instruction: reading, writing, speaking, listening, research, media literacy, and language.

According to the Florida B.E.S.T. Standards, the primary objective for 8<sup>th</sup> Grade Language Arts is for students to learn to deconstruct, or break down, complex text for comprehension and to demonstrate their understanding effectively using textual evidence in both speaking and writing. Because these critical thinking and communication skills are essential for success in secondary education and the 21<sup>st</sup> century workplace, these skills will be the main focus throughout the school year.

## **TEXTBOOK/CURRICULUM**

- *Florida BEST Standards*
- *McGraw Hill- StudySync Grade 8*
- *Novels will be listed on Google Classroom*
- *NoRedInk for Grammar*
- *CommonLit*

## **ASSESSMENT**

Students' grades will be determined by using the following categories and percentages:

Practice	--	30%
Performance (Mastery)	--	70%

**Grading Scale:** A (90-100) B (80-89) C (70-79) D (60-69) F (0-59)

## **CLASSROOM EXPECTATIONS/RULES**

1. Be on time and where you are supposed to be. (Prompt)
2. Be prepared and on task. (Prepared)
3. Ask for what you need. (Positive)
4. Strive for excellence and always do your best. (Productive)
5. Respect the rights, responsibility, and property of others. (Polite)

You are responsible for reading and following the student handbook as well as classroom procedures and classroom rules. When you make a choice that violates classroom and/or school rules, disciplinary consequences will be implemented. Please refer to the following documents found on the [tvcs.org](http://tvcs.org) website under "middle school", "Forms/Documents/Newsletters":

- VCMS Student Handbook
- 23-24 Classroom Behavior Management Plan

### **DAILY PROCEDURES**

- Bell ringer (grammar- 10 minutes)
- Instructional goals
- Instruction
- Reading/ writing assignment (individual, partnered, or small group)
- Wrap-up -exit assignment
- Reading comprehension tests will be administered after every reading and after a unit test. There will also be short written essays and longer essays throughout the year.

### **Daily Required Materials:**

- ChromeBook
- Three-ringed Binder with Tabs and Paper (for English Language Arts ONLY; kept in the classroom)
- Folder (Kept in backpack)
- Pencils with erasers
- Pens (Blue or Black ink)
- Highlighters in Four Colors (blue, green, yellow and pink)
- AR Book and Log
- Wired Headphones/earbuds

### **Google Classroom:**

- All major assignments (writing pieces & projects) will be uploaded by the students to the corresponding assignment file by the due date posted.
- Tests will be announced on Google Classroom two days in advance.
- Slides created by me will be made available to the students through Google Classroom.
- Bell Ringer assignments and some reading comprehension quizzes will also be available through NoRedInk, StudySync, and Google Classroom.

### **Bell Ringer/Dismissal:**

There will be a daily Bell Ringer posted on NoRedInk. This is to be completed in the first 10 minutes of class. The assignment will close immediately after the allotted time. It will be reviewed by the teacher and scores released the next day. Once the bell ringer is completed, the student should read his/her AR book until the teacher is ready to begin the class. The beginning of class is quiet so that all students can complete the bellringer and read.

### **Make-up Work:**

Any assignment missed due to an excused absence can be made up. The student will have the same number of days absent plus an extra one to turn in work. Checking Google Classroom while out is highly encouraged so that work does not accumulate.

### **Late Work:**

According to school policy, any work that is turned in late, besides missing work due to an absence, will be graded in the following manner:

1 day late	--	60% maximum
2 days late or more	--	0%

## **ADDITIONAL ASSISTANCE AND COMMUNICATION**

I am available to any student or parent requesting additional assistance or needing additional information. If you choose to email me, please remember to put "Student" in the subject line so your email will reach me through the VCS web filter. If you prefer to contact me by phone, please call the school office and leave a message requesting me to return your phone call. If I need to contact you, I will first try to contact you through email unless you have indicated a preference for phone contact on the return form.

## **ELECTRONIC SIGNATURE PAGE**

Please view the Electronic Signature Page posted in the student's Google Classroom using the student assigned Chromebook.

**\*\*\* PLEASE SIGN AND RETURN THE ELECTRONIC SIGNATURE PAGE BY Friday, AUG. 18, 2023\*\*\***

[https://docs.google.com/forms/d/e/1FAIpQLSedx8EWvBx\\_JzLMAhIzbb8jd1clFbqzj55ietwNfXjbAri4nQ/viewform?usp=sharing](https://docs.google.com/forms/d/e/1FAIpQLSedx8EWvBx_JzLMAhIzbb8jd1clFbqzj55ietwNfXjbAri4nQ/viewform?usp=sharing)

