



Honors Language Arts 7

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Welcome to Language Arts! In this class, students will be developing reading, writing, thinking and speaking skills. All of these skills are guided by the Common Core Standards and will be taught during units from the TCSD ELA Curriculum Map.

Classroom Expectations:

In order for our classroom environment to be the best place for learning, students will follow these classroom expectations.

- Respect yourself and your future.
- Respect your fellow students and their right to learn.
- Respect the teacher.
- Respect classroom and school property.

Consequences:

Proper behavior and participation in class is a condition of being in the Honors program. Failure to follow the above expectations will result in reminders, seating change, drop in citizenship grade, parent contact, or ALC or ASD (after-school detention). For repeated offenses, students will be referred to the office for further disciplinary action, and probation or removal from the Honors program will be considered.

Grades:

During the year, students will earn points from the following three categories. Grades will be based on the percentage of the total points possible the student earns throughout the term.

Assignments: These include in-class assignments, homework, and writing assignments.

Assessments: Any tests and quizzes taken during the term, as well as their quarterly Honors Endeavors (see backside).

Weekly Self-Starters (class participation): Students will complete a bell ringer worksheet each week. Everyday they will have a prompt to answer, and will silent read for 10-15 minutes. At the end of the week, they will complete a self-assessment on how they conducted themselves in class. Each weekly worksheet will be a total of 20 points.

Late Work:

Students will be given sufficient time to complete assignments in-class and at home. They should have due dates written in their student planners. Any missing assignments can be turned in with one week of the due date for full credit; any assignments turned in later than that week may be turned in for half credit.

Grading Scale:

- A+ = 100% - 93%
- A- = 92% - 90%
- B+ = 89% - 87%
- B = 86% - 84%
- B- = 83% - 80%
- C+ = 79% - 77%
- C = 76% - 74%
- C- = 73% - 70%
- D+ = 69% - 67%
- D = 66% - 64%
- D- = 63% - 60%
- F = 59% and below

Citizenship:

- H = Honor
- S = Satisfactory
- N = Needs Improvement
- U = Unsatisfactory

Preparation:

Students should come to class daily with the following:

- Student planner
- Extra notebook paper for assignments*
- A pen or pencil (blue or black ink, no gel pens)
- A novel/nonfiction book for silent reading

Other suggested supplies: highlighters, sticky notes/post-its, extra pencils and pens

*Students will be given an in-class notebook strictly for taking notes and journaling.

Attendance and Tardy Policy:

It is important that students are in class every day. On those days that students are absent, they can find any missing assignments in the Absent Crate. Students will have one week to complete these assignments. Any assignments turned in after that week will be subject to the late work policy.

It is also important that students are on time to class. When they are late, it disrupts the lesson and distracts the other students. Students will be marked tardy if they are not in their seat working on their bell ringer when the bell rings. At the 3rd tardy, students will receive an "N" in citizenship and a written warning; a 5th tardy results in an automatic drop to a 'U' citizenship grade. At 10 tardies, students will be referred to administration.

Honors Endeavors:

Every term, students will be required to complete two Honors Endeavors. These are additional tasks that will give students a chance to take what we are learning about for the term, and use it in a new way. The Endeavors will be split up into two categories.

Reading Endeavor—

Students will be asked to read a novel/nonfiction book from a specific genre. A mini-lesson about the genre will be given to help students in their selections. They will have until mid-term week to read their novel. Mid-term week, students will complete a book report essay on a given prompt and will be given a class period to write the essay. Students will be given 10-15 minutes everyday to silent read, but they will need to read at home as well in order to finish their books in time. If they finish an assignment early, they may also silent read.

Writing Endeavor—

Students will be given a writing assignment that will extend some aspect of what we are learning about in class. They will be given the assignment at the beginning of the term, but it will be due a week before the term ends. Additional class time will not be given for the writing endeavors, but students are allowed to work on them during class if they finish any assignments early. Examples of the Writing Endeavor will be accessible on the Honors Language Arts 7 course page on the class website.

Final Thoughts:

If you have any questions or concerns, I am available before and after school to return phone calls, and will answer e-mail messages the same day if I am in the building.

Thank you for your support. I look forward to working with you and your child this year!

Miss Miles