

## 7<sup>th</sup> Grade English Language Arts

**Mrs. Jewett**

Room #513

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Welcome to 7<sup>th</sup> grade English Language Arts!

This year more than ever, I am excited to begin a new year and to meet a new group of students. This year I hope to introduce several concepts that will help students excel not only in LA, but in every subject. This course will help to strengthen critical thinking skills and build skills in writing and reading comprehension while developing a love for reading! Some of the concepts being reviewed and/or taught include:

- determining main ideas
- using context clues
- making predictions
- comparing and contrasting
- distinguishing between fact and opinion
- summarizing passages/chapters
- making inferences
- identifying and using figurative language
- writing as a continual work in progress
- developing critical thinking
- developing fundamentals of writing as a process
- writing for a variety of purposes and audiences
- improving writing style through the six traits of writing: ideas, organization, voice, word choice, sentence fluency, and presentation
- expanding vocabulary and its usage
- using language effectively
- understanding good character and ethics by responding to a wide variety of written and oral communication

### **Grading Policy**

Grades will be determined using the guidelines set forth in the student handbook. Please check your grades in Schoology **regularly** and contact me with any questions or concerns! I encourage the student to address the concern first since it is directly affecting him/her. It's a great way to practice self-advocacy. Kids can email me or see me in class about grades.

### **Grammar** (every other week)

Students correct one sentence per day, focusing on a few particular grammar concepts. The quiz is on Friday.

***It will be necessary for students to review these concepts for at least 5 minutes each night to prepare for the quiz!***

## DAILY ROUTINE

- 1) The daily practice is to be done in the **GRAMMAR** section of the **O.W.L. Binder**.
- 2) Make **corrections** in a different color.
- 3) Follow along, volunteer, and ask questions as the sentence is corrected/discussed.
- 4) Write down any explanations, notes, or hints that the teacher might give.
- 5) Study for 5-10 minutes per night in order to prepare for the quiz.

## QUIZZES

The quiz is on Friday. The concepts for the quiz are given on Monday. Review **THESE** concepts for at least 10 minutes each night by doing any/all of the following:

- **Google search** the concepts for definitions, video tutorials, examples, and games. 😊
- Use the **online textbook** to look at the grammar rules, examples, and practice questions pertaining to these concepts.
- Use the **GRAMMAR section in the BINDER** to look at previous examples and notes for the concepts .
- Email Mrs. Jewett with ANY questions pertaining to grammar.
- Grammar Quiz scores will be posted in PowerSchool and will fall under the “Grammar Assessment” category, which is worth 10% of the quarter grade.

## Vocabulary

My goal is to help students learn how to unlock the meaning of difficult words using different strategies. Students will be learning several **Word Parts** (roots, prefixes, and suffixes) per lesson. Students will be tested every other Friday on the vocabulary words and their word parts. Vocabulary assessments will be worth 10% of the quarter grade.

## Writing Assessments

Approximately 1 *major* Writing Assessment per grading period will be assigned. When these assessments are assigned, each student will be given a rubric explaining how they will be graded and how many points the assessment will be worth. It is essential that students keep up with the suggested timeline of the individual tasks, which will be provided in class. The overall grade for these tasks and the assessment will be worth 30% of the quarter grade.

## Assignments and Late Work

If a student turns in any assignment on time, he will be eligible to earn 100% on that assignment. If the assignment is 1 or more days late, the student will only receive 50% of the possible points. It is the student’s responsibility to turn in assignments on time. Homework/Classwork will be worth 20% of the quarter grade.

*Any assignment, test, or quiz turned in without a name/period will automatically receive a 10% score reduction. I **will** hold students accountable for following directions.*

If a student is **absent**, he/she must visit the *absent bin* to check for any handouts, refer to the *class agenda board* and my *web page calendar* for assignments, and/or see me in SRT for an explanation of any missed work.

If a student commits **academic dishonesty** (plagiarism, copying another person's work, or giving another person their work to copy) the student will receive a zero on the assignment. Any further repercussions will follow the guidelines set forth in the student handbook.

### **Homework Policy**

Any work not completed in class will be homework. Use your time wisely in class and SRT to reduce your homework. *Please allow about 10-15 minutes every evening to review and/or complete any assignments.* If you are spending much more time than this, please contact me to discuss this. I know how important family, fun, and relaxation are to kids!

### **Classroom Procedures**

Students will:

- Come to class prepared (READY)
- Be ready to listen to instructions (READY)
- Promptly begin working on the bell ringer activity (RESPONSIBLE)
- Respect the learning environment (RESPECT)
- Remember to check the agenda/calendar daily (RESPONSIBLE)

### **Classroom Behavior**

All students will be shown respect by me, and the same is expected of them. I will not tolerate a student stopping the teaching process or interfering with another student's learning.

While in my class, students will:

- follow instructions promptly (READY)
- use time wisely (RESPONSIBLE)
- work cooperatively & effectively (RESPONSIBLE)
- act responsibly & accept ownership of choices (RESPONSIBLE)
- practice safety (RESPONSIBLE)
- respect others (RESPECTFUL)

Consequences for inappropriate classroom behavior will follow the school-wide behavior plan.  
\*Severe violations of rules will result in immediate referral to the office.

**Parent/Teacher Communication:**

I will always indicate homework on my **CLASSROOM AGENDA BOARD and/or ONLINE CALENDAR**; it is every student's responsibility to READ the information and take any necessary notes. This is helpful to both students and parents, as it allows us all to work together as a team.

I set up **SCHOOLGY FOLDERS** to organize the classroom information and materials. Also, remember to check the ANNOUNCEMENTS on Schoology. There may be important information here!

Finally, I will be posting tasks and important dates on my website **Calendar**. Remember to click on the assignment for further details, instructions, links, and copies of handouts.

**Supply List:**

- composition notebook
- Pencils/pens (including 1 red)
- Colored pencils/crayons
- Loose leaf paper
- 1 -2 inch binder & dividers
- Glue Stick
- Red Folder
- Scissors
- Highlighter

It will be helpful to have a pack of page protectors for some sheets that will remain in the O.W.L. Binder all year. Hole reinforcements will also help keep the Binder neat. These are not necessary. Supplies for projects will be explained at the time the project is assigned. If you'd like help acquiring any of the supplies, please reach out to me. I'd be glad to help; I know it is a lot!

This will be a challenging class, but don't give up! I'm here to help **in class and SRT**. Your hard work will be worth it, and you'll definitely see your growth by the end of the year! I can't wait to get to know this new group of kids and to see what this new school year brings!

***Parent and student responses required. See the "1st Week of School" Folder in Schoology!***

