

7th Grade Language Arts

Mrs. Oros

GUIDELINES AND EXPECTATIONS

TEXTS: *Writer's Choice* (Glencoe)

Vocabulary Workshop (Sadlier-Oxford)

REQUIRED MATERIALS:

- ✓ Blue or black pen
- ✓ Binder
- ✓ Assignment notebook

BINDER REQUIREMENTS:

- ✓ You must have a binder for language arts. The binder will be left in the classroom.
- ✓ Your binder will be used for journaling, grammar notes, composition (drafts, notes, self-evaluations, peer evaluations), and class notes.
- ✓ You must have the following dividers in your notebook: journals, grammar and class notes, composition, handouts
- ✓ You should pick up your binder from the bin every day as you enter the classroom.
- ✓ Retrieving your binder after the bell rings will result in a tardy.
- ✓ Binders will be collected and placed back in the bin by the row captain of the week.
- ✓ Please make certain that you organize your binder each day.

JOURNALS:

- ✓ Journals will be written in the classroom binder.
- ✓ You may **not** write your journal entries in pencil!
- ✓ It is your responsibility to record each topic and date in your journal notebook. Ample class time will be allotted for journal entry and composition.
- ✓ If you are absent, it is your responsibility to complete the journal entry on your own. You are accountable for all assigned journals.



- ✓ An updated list of assigned journals will be kept in the journal binder.
- ✓ You must write your journal entry on assigned days. Your journal entries may be checked at any time for a grade.
- ✓ You will choose one journal entry per semester to revise for evaluation.

WRITTEN COMPOSITION AND ORAL COMMUNICATION:

- ✓ Learning and perfecting the writing process requires dedication and practice (just like learning a new skateboard move, computer game strategy, or dance step). Use your time wisely when we discuss writing approaches and practices.
- ✓ We will be using the 6 + 1 Traits of Writing model.
- ✓ Peer editing must be taken seriously. It is an effective learning tool.
- ✓ All final essays must be typed or computer-generated and are due at the beginning of the specified class hour.
- ✓ **DO NOT WAIT FOR THE LAST MOMENT TO PRODUCE YOUR FINAL COPIES. BE PREPARED FOR THE POSSIBLE MECHANICAL PROBLEMS THAT MIGHT OCCUR. YOU MAY NOT PRINT IN CLASS ON THE DAY THE ASSIGNMENT IS DUE.**
- ✓ Evaluated essays will be kept in your classroom binder.
- ✓ A writing portfolio record form (in the binder) must be kept up-to-date and accurate.
- ✓ All assigned speeches and oral performances will have due dates. **All** students must be prepared to present their speeches/performances on that assigned date.

WRITTEN COMPOSITION AND ORAL COMMUNICATION SCHEDULE:

- ✓ 1ST quarter – Introduction of the 6 + 1 Traits of Writing
Descriptive writing and oral communication
Impromptu speaking
- ✓ 2nd quarter – Continued emphasis on the traits
Narrative writing and oral communication
- ✓ 3rd quarter-- Continued emphasis on the traits
Expository writing and oral communication
- ✓ 4th quarter-- Continued emphasis on the traits
Persuasive writing and oral communication

MECHANICS, GRAMMAR, AND USAGE:

- ✓ You will be graded on quizzes, tests, and assigned homework.
- ✓ You must have a section in your notebook dedicated to class notes.
- ✓ You should also use this section to record notes that you take for each assigned chapter. It is to your advantage to take good notes. You will often be able to use these notes for chapter tests.
- ✓ On most days, I will be available before school (with an early morning pass) and after school for anyone needing assistance. Please ask for help if you need it!

MECHANICS, GRAMMAR, AND USAGE CONTENT:

- ✓ Capitalization
- ✓ Punctuation
- ✓ Sentences
- ✓ Adjectives
- ✓ Prepositions and appositives
- ✓ Verbs
- ✓ Pronoun usage
- ✓ Subject/verb agreement
- ✓ Mini-lessons as needed
- ✓ Usage will be incorporated all year.

VOCABULARY AND SPELLING:

- ✓ Two weeks will be spent on each unit.
- ✓ Vocabulary exercises will NOT be accepted after the due date.
- ✓ The following schedule will be followed:
 - Monday – Pronounce and review vocabulary words.
Assign synonyms, antonyms, choosing the right word, and vocabulary in context.
 - Wednesday – Assigned exercises due
 - Friday – Spelling assessment
 - Monday – Assign “Completing the Sentence”.
 - Wednesday – Assigned exercise due
 - Friday – Vocabulary assessment
 - Review activities will be incorporated into our weekly schedule.

I look forward to having a great school year!

