

Grade 7 – English Language Arts

Important Information

Mr. Ryan Richards

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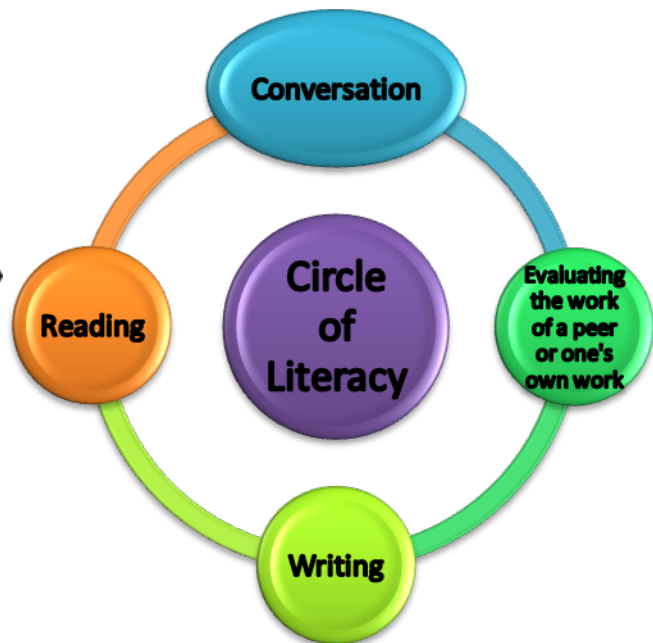
Phone: 902 889-4301 ext. 1702215

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Welcome to English Language Arts 7. This course provides opportunities for students to develop and enhance their communication skills, refine their thinking and problem solving skills and to develop a better understanding of their own language and culture. Students are engaged in a variety of authentic and meaningful situations in which they must give and request information, express their thoughts and opinions, amuse and entertain, as well as satisfy and use their imagination. By interacting with others, students learn, in context, elements of language that facilitate their communication.

The three main aspects of this course focus on speaking and listening, reading and viewing, writing and representing. Students will work on developing their skills in these areas while participating in the circle of literacy. In this process students will have the chance to hear and see multiple models of the structures they need to employ when writing. Students will also take an active part in evaluating their improvement.

In order to meet these outcomes, students will focus on several general themes and will be introduced to various strategies and skills throughout the unit. The following indicates which units will be studied this year.



Topics of Study

- Biography
- Short Stories
- Poetry
- Novel Study
- Media
- Informative text
- Persuasive text
- Debates
- Research

English Language Arts 7 curriculum follows the curriculum outcomes which can be found on the Nova Scotia Department of Education website. The program itself is divided into three strands and the students will be given a separate mark for each. Students will be provided with multiple opportunities to show their understanding through varied activities.

ENGLISH LANGUAGE ART STRANDS:

- Listening and Oral expression
- Reading and Viewing
- Writing and Representing

Students will engage in both assessments of learning and for learning. Assessment for learning helps teachers and students know where they are and where they need to go in order to meet the expectations. Assessment of learning happens at the end of particular section of study and demonstrates how thoroughly a concept is understood. As such, students are provided with multiple opportunities to show their learning through activities.

Students' achievement of the outcomes will be assessed using a 1-4 point rubric. This information will be used to calculate a percentage grade for each strand at the end of each term.

- 4 Advanced understanding
- 3 + Competent
- 3 Demonstrates expected understanding
- 2 + Developing Understanding
- 2 Initial understanding
- 1 + Limited understanding
- 1 No evidence of understanding

The outcomes are addressed through three components:

Writing and Other Ways of Representing: Students will learn various strategies for writing effective texts in various forms. Students will participate in writer's workshop, writing various forms of texts, activities centered on the writing process and on the comprehension of various grammatical notices.

Listening and Oral expression: This component will be evaluated throughout the year as speaking and listening are essential to language enrichment. The students will have multiple opportunities to participate in class discussions, give their opinions, participate in skits, presentations and debates.

Reading and Viewing: In this component of the course students will learn various strategies to help them to read, analyse and critique written and visual texts. Students will be exposed to independent reading, reading workshops, book talks, as well as activities based on viewing of films and radio broadcasts.

Homework may be assigned so that students can practice their skills and improve their understanding of concepts studied in class. It is not directly graded; however, completion of homework will help students when it comes to future assignments. Please note that some graded in-class assignments may also need to be completed at home. Due dates and assignments will be posted on my website.

Resources used:

- Curriculum guide
- Various articles and books
- Anchor Novel Study
- Independent novel selections
- Google Classroom

Powerschool Grading System

Students and their parents are strongly encouraged to keep track of their progress by using the Parent Portal of PowerSchool which is accessible on the Parent tab of the OPA website.

Please contact the main office if you need information to access this portal. Please contact Ms. Nicky Golding at 902 889-4300 to obtain your username and password.