



## English Language Arts

**PLEASE HAVE PARENT SIGN AND RETURN.**

**Instructor: Mrs. Catherine Dozier**

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Meetings: by appointment through email

The focus of this course is to use literature from around the world to develop students use of the English Language and comprehension of text while broadening their worldview. Students will learn to use language effectively through literature, speech, and writing. The goal is to provide the framework students need in order to communicate their intellect, thoughts, and emotions along with information and academic content.

**Strands:** English, literature, writing, grammar, mechanics, and usage, explain, inform, narrate, quote accurately, analyze, compare and contrast, historical perspectives, global connections, individual identity and development, cultures and diversity

### Hints and Advice for this Course

1. TAKE NOTES! (buy index cards)
2. You can **keep track of your points**, percentile, and grade in this course easily. If you have questions about your grades, see me.
3. I recommend that you find a partner or group with whom you can study the material in this course. Talk about the information, read each other's work, study together, share notes, etc. on a regular basis so that you can keep up with the syllabus and assignments.
4. **I expect all students to abide by the honor code.** Plagiarism and cheating will not be accepted and all suspected cases will be taken to the headmaster. If confirmed, you will receive an F for this course

5. This Syllabus is subject to change. Please keep it for the entire year in your binder. We may mark key changes on the syllabus in class.

**Grades: 90-100% = A; 80-89% = B; 70-79%= C; 60-69% = D; and below 59% = F.**

The Midterm is worth 25% each

The Final is worth 30%

**Quizzes:** There is a quiz at the end of each chapter worth a total of 15%. Anyone going into the final exam with a score of 95% or higher in the class, they may exempt the final. **My quizzes will usually be on a Wednesday.**

**Papers:** Papers are worth 20%. There will be four assigned papers in this course. Rubrics and due dates will be provided six weeks prior to due dates. There will be writing workshops in class in order to insure understanding of the assignment.

**Classwork:** 10% Your classwork grade will include your ability to take notes and participate in classroom discussion

**Homework:** Homeworks is very important to this class. Homework will be **your** opportunity for feedback. If you do **not** complete homework assignments, it will show up in your quizzes, your classwork, and your papers. **\*\*\*You will not pass this class without homework.\*\*\*** I do not assign homework needlessly. **READ CLASS NOTES AND THE BOOK ASSIGNMENTS EVERY NIGHT.** In addition, any student who turns in all homework assignments will receive the opportunity to gain up to five points on his/her final grade. This could be the difference between a 75 and an 80 or an 85 and a 90. **DO NOT TAKE THIS OPPORTUNITY LIGHTLY!!!!!!!!!!**

Date	
August 14-18	Unit 1 Part 1: World Literature Introduction/Building Background
August 16	First Day of School
August 21-25	<i>The Epic of Gilgamesh</i> : Understanding a Quest Story (Reading, Vocabulary, and Analysis)
August 28 -September 1	The characteristics of a quest
September 4	<b>Labor Day NO SCHOOL</b>
September 4-8	Brainstorming and Opinion and Narrative Writing Review
September 6	<b>Teacher Work Day</b>
September 11-15	Writing a Quest Story/Opinion Essay: "What is a Hero?" Quiz Week! Epic of Gilgamesh/Characteristic of a Quest
September 14	<b>Science Fair Topics Due</b>
September 15	Parent Teacher Conferences <b>Early Dismissal 11:30</b>

September 18-22	Ancient Egyptian Literature/Literary Analysis Class Novels Assigned (See above for titles)
September 25-29	Introduction to class novel Beginning of Writing Lab for “Ancient Civilization Report”
October 2-6	writing and Grammar Practice (Ancient Civilizations)
October 6	<b>Teacher Work Day</b>
October 9-13	<b>Fall Break</b>
October 16-20	Creation Literature: <i>Genesis/Popol Vuh</i>
October 18	<b>Progress Reports</b>
October 23-27	Writing: Guide for Living Comparison Pg. 75
October 30- November 3	Part 1 Quiz: <i>Gilgamesh-Popol Vuh</i>
October 31	<b>Halloween Party</b>
November 6-10	Quiz week for comprehension of class novels.
November 13-17	Reminders of Ancient Civilization Report
November 17	<b>Teacher Work Day</b>
November 20-24	<b>Thanksgiving Break</b>
November 27- December 1	Review for Midterm
December 4-8	Reminders of Ancient Civilization Report
<b>December 11-15</b>	<b>*****MIDTERM EXAM THURSDAY 14TH*****</b>
December 18-22	Unit 1 Part 2: Introduction to Literature of Ancient India/Building Background Knowledge Writing lab for “Ancient Civilization Report” (Bring a complete paper to class this will be your opportunity to receive one-on-one feedback from me. This will count as a classwork grade.)
December 20	<b>Holiday Party</b>
December 25-29	<b>Holiday Break</b>
January 1-5	<b>Holiday Break</b>
January 8-12	<b>Students Return/Progress Reports</b>
January 15	<b>MLK DAY NO SCHOOL</b>
January 15-19	<i>Rig Veda</i> : The Importance of Hymns to Ancient People (Possible Due Date for “Ancient Civilizations Report”. CHECK AGENDA!!!!!!!!!!)
January 22-26	The Development of the Epic: <i>The Mahabharata</i>
January 29- February 2	Assigned Novel Quiz <b>Begin Book Review Assignment</b>
February 12-16	<i>The Bhagavad-Gita</i> and <i>Ramayana</i>
February 19-23	Part 2 Quiz: Literature of Ancient India

	TURN IN ROUGH DRAFT OF BOOK REVIEW <b>THIS IS YOUR OPPORTUNITY TO RECEIVE FEEDBACK!!!!!!!</b>
February 26 March 2	Unit 2 Part 1: Introduction to The Classical Age of Greece/Building Background Knowledge
March 2	<b>Dr. Seuss Day</b>
March 5-9	Possible Due Date for Book Review for class novel CHECK AGENDA!!!!!!!!!!!!!! Epic Conventions/The Importance of Honor, Fate, a Limitation <b>(Possible Due Date, Check Agendas!! Ancient Civilizations Report)</b> <i>Iliad/Homer</i>
March 12-16	Writing: Ancient Values Essay
March 14	<b>PI Day</b>
March 16	<b>Teacher Work Day</b>
March 19-23	<b>21-23 ITBS Testing</b>
March 26-30	Unit 5 Part 1 Europe in Transition: Literature of the Middle Ages
April 2-6	European Literature: Understanding the Heroic Quest <i>The Song of Roland</i> <i>The Story of the Grail</i> <b>Arthurian Legend!!!!!!!!!! That means Merlin Stuff!!!!!!!!!!!!!!</b>
April 6	<b>Field Day</b>
April 9-13	Learning what Romance really means: Romantic Literature from the Middle Ages Writing Workshop: Which aspect of Arthurian Legend appeals to you the most? Why? Use examples from class texts to illustrate your chosen aspect.
April 16-20	<b>SPRING BREAK</b>
	Finishing up Arthurian Legend
April 30 - May 4	Final Exam Reviews
May 7-11	This is the week before finals! Study your notes!
<b>May 14-18</b>	<b>*****FINAL EXAM WEDNESDAY 18TH*****</b>

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I have read and understand the above syllabus, the dates for the midterm and final exams, as well as when the paper is due. My quizzes will usually be due on Wednesdays. There will be no exceptions or extensions without a doctor's excuse.

PARENT SIGNATURE \_\_\_\_\_

STUDENT SIGNATURE \_\_\_\_\_