



7th Grade English Language Arts 2025-2026 Syllabus

Teacher: Ms. Kelly Hale

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Plan Period: 2nd Hour

Monday - Friday: 9:34 AM - 10:22 AM

Early Release Monday: 9:18 AM - 9:52 AM

Phone: 405-947-6272

Textbook: *Houghton Mifflin Harcourt: Collections 7*

Course Description:

7th Grade English focuses the scholar's attention on reading comprehension, writing skills, expanded vocabulary, and creative writing processes. Scholars will write several short essays following fiction and some nonfiction readings. Assigned writings will be structurally based on the Schaffer Method. Scholars conduct research, prepare outlines, prepare rough drafts and submit final drafts of work. Such writings will allow scholars to give attention to detail on spelling, grammar, punctuation, vocabulary choice, and creativity. Overall, scholars will develop a more complex vocabulary and the ability to write clear and concise works while comprehending the written word.

Course Objectives:

1. Reading and Writing Process: Use a variety of recursive reading and writing processes. With writing, scholars will focus on mastering the Schaffer Method paragraph.
2. Critical Reading and Writing: Apply critical thinking skills to reading and writing.
3. Vocabulary: Expand their working vocabulary to effectively communicate and understand texts.
4. Language: Apply knowledge of grammar and rhetorical style to reading and writing.
5. Research: Engage in inquiry to acquire, refine, and share knowledge.

Required Materials:

- Composition Notebooks – one per class; additional notebooks may be needed later in the year..
- #2 pencils and pens - replenished during the year
- One handheld pencil sharpener with a shaving catcher
- Loose-leaf, lined paper. 500 Count to start. Students must replenish as needed.

Attendance Policy and Classroom Expectations:

- All scholars must attend class with the required materials, be on time, and participate.
- Scholars must be present 90% of class time each semester. This means scholars can not miss more than eight days a semester per class.
- Three tardies will equal one absence.
- All scholars are expected to be respectful to all individuals in the classroom at all times.
- There is to be no gum in the classroom.
- Scholars are to come to class prepared with all materials, including notebook paper, pens, and assignments.
- Any scholar absent from class has the same number of days as they are absent, plus one day to turn in missed assignments. The scholar must find out what assignments were missed (check Google Classroom or ask the teacher as soon as possible). Failure to turn in missed work will result in a zero. Any assignment or project due on the day of absence must be turned in the following school day in attendance.

- Scholars have one week to meet with their teachers to set a date to make up a test. Scholars have until the quarter ends to take a test missed due to absence. Only tests not made up will receive a grade of zero.
- All assignments must be completed by the day they are due.
- Academic Dishonesty: Plagiarism and cheating will not be allowed in this classroom! Zeros will be given for plagiarism and cheating, parents will be called, and further disciplinary actions may be taken. Plagiarism and cheating include copying another scholar's work.

Academic Meaning of a Grade:

The grades reported to parents and students will be divided into two parts. A traditional "A through F" grade will be given to reflect the percentage assigned to the academic work attempted by the scholar. It DOES NOT reflect the scholar's mastery of the content. In addition, scholars will be given a Mastery-Based Learning grade. The last grade of the year will express how well the scholar has mastered the state-required content.

For example, a scholar may be given an "A" for the traditional grade but a "2" on the Mastery-Based Grading system and would be reported as "A/2." Ideally, these grades will match up as "A/4."

- Grades should accurately reflect individual scholar achievement about course evidence outcomes related to Oklahoma Academic Standards / National Standards for the subject taught.
- A "3" on a task/assessment is considered proficient or meeting grade-level standards, while a "4" is considered advanced or meeting grade-level standards with high excellence.
- Extra credit is not applicable, but an extension or alternative assignments/assessments may be offered to show proficiency or advanced proficiency.
- Scholars are given timely feedback and reteach/relearn/reassessment opportunities are provided to promote proficiency in the standards.

Weighted Category:

Formative: 25%
Summative: 45%
Classwork: 20%
Participation: 10%

Grading Scale:

A 90-100%
B 80-89%
C 70-79%
D 60-69%
F Less than 60%

Formative Versus Summative Scores: "Teachers record and track *formative scores* from individual assessments as indicators of students' knowledge or skill at particular moments in time. In comparison, *summative scores* are final scores based on the pattern of students' responses over time. Teachers may base each score on several common assessment forms, such as obtrusive, unobtrusive, and student-generated assessments. However, formative scores are used for tracking progress. In contrast, summative scores express students' mastery of a topic, generally at the end of a unit." -Robert Marzano

Enrichment/Remediation: Students who struggle on an assessment with one or more standards may be assigned enrichment during the school day and required to attend Saturday morning enrichment. When students have completed enrichment, they are given a reassessment to show their understanding of the standard. The grade on the reassessment will replace the original grade.

Scholar Progress:

- Progress reports for scholars are prepared three times each year, midway through each 9-week grading period *except for the first quarter*. Parents MUST come onsite to pick up and sign for the progress report on the day they are issued. Parents/guardians of scholars making a “D” or “F” grade must meet with teachers then. If a parent/guardian does not attend this important meeting, their scholar will not be allowed back in class until the progress report is picked up and the meeting is attended. The conference will be scheduled according to the teacher's work schedule.
- School dismisses at 3:35 pm. Students not making adequate progress may be required to attend Saturday school and be assigned to Personalized Learning instead of an elective.