

Sterling Middle School

444 Granite St. Quincy, MA 02169

(617) 984-8729

SYLLABUS

TEACHER Noreen McDonagh

COURSE/GRADE LEVEL Seventh Grade Language Arts

INSTRUCTIONAL MATERIALS

Write Source 2000, Short Stories, Novels, Literature Excerpts and Poetry, John Collins Network Folders

MAJOR TOPICS*

I. Composition

5 Step Writing Process: Previewing, Drafting, Revising, Editing and Publication

Formal and Informal Language Comparison /Contrast

Creative (e.g. poetry) Descriptive

Expository Friendly letter/Business letter

Narrative

II. Composition / Literature Connection (Students will analyze and/or apply the following literary elements

to student writing)

III. Elements of Fiction

Setting Theme

Character Plot

Narration Conflict

Mood Tone

IV. Elements of Nonfiction

Autobiography

Biography

Other (e.g. Essays, Newspapers, Speeches)

V. Elements of Poetry

Figurative Language (e.g. simile, personification)

Form (e.g. haiku)

Sound Devices (e.g. alliteration, assonance)

Imagery

VI. Literary Devices

Flashback, Foreshadowing, Point of View

VII. Literature

Vocabulary

Genres: Novels, Short Stories, Drama, and Poetry

VIII. Oral Presentations / Speaking and Listening Skills / Discussion Skills

IX. Conventions & Structures of English Language

Parts of Speech

Grammar

Usage

Types of Sentences

Sentence Development

Paragraph Development

Mechanics (e.g. Capitalization, Punctuation)

***ASSESSMENT TOOLS**

Portfolios

Rubrics

Peer-gradings
Teacher observations
Projects
Notebooks
Interdisciplinary activities
Open ended questions
Co-operative learning projects
Open note tests and quizzes
Take home tests/writing assignments
Journal/Diaries
Objective Tests/Quizzes
Exams
Presentations
FCAS for long essays
Homework
High Five/Class Participation

***See Individual Student Education Plans or 504 Plans for modification where applicable.**

HOMEWORK EXPECTATIONS

Students are responsible for completing homework assignment.

GRADING POLICY

Students are graded on essays, exams, projects and homework.

MAKEUP PROCEDURE

Students are welcome to make up any missed assignments until the grades close each quarter. If a student does

poorly on an assignment, they can make it up after school for partial credit.

GENERAL INFORMATION

Each student will need a folder, an assignment book and a pencil for every class.

***Adjustments may be made in this syllabus to meet student needs**