

SCHOOL: Point Webster Middle School
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SYLLABUS

TEACHER Mrs. Kimberly L. DeLisle

COURSE/GRADE LEVEL Eighth Grade English Language Arts

INSTRUCTIONAL MATERIALS

Houghton Mifflin English, Write 2000, Holt Elements of Literature, Holt Vocabulary Workshop Second Course, Houghton Mifflin Work Book Plus, various worksheets and vocabulary packages

MAJOR TOPICS

1. Composition

- 5 Step Writing Process: Previewing, Drafting, Revising, Editing, and Publication
- Formal and Informal Language Comparison/Contrast
- Creative (e.g. poetry) Descriptive
- Expository Letter Writing
- Narrative
- Persuasive

2. Conventions and Structure of the English Language

- Parts of Speech
- Grammar
- Usage
- Sentence Structure
- Mechanics (e.g. Capitalization, Punctuation)

3. Elements of Fiction

- Setting Theme
- Character Plot
- Narration Conflict
- Mood Tone
- Symbolism

4. Elements of Nonfiction

- Autobiography
- Biography
- Other (e.g. Essays, Newspapers, Speeches)

5. Elements of Poetry

- Figurative Language (e.g. simile, personification)
- Form (e.g. ballad, haiku)
- Sound Devices (e.g. alliteration, assonance)
- Imagery

6. Literary Devices

- Genres: Novels, Short Stories, Drama, and Poetry
- Flashback,
- Foreshadowing
- Point of View

7. Vocabulary Development

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

ASSESSMENT TOOLS

Teacher Observation	Notebooks	Projects	Word Problems
Writing Assignments	Open Ended Questions	Journals	Essays
Homework	Tests	Quizzes	Class Participation

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

HOMEWORK EXPECTATIONS

Homework is given regularly. Homework includes overnight writing assignments, long term writing assignments, vocabulary exercises, grammar exercises, reading, studying, and other activities related to the class instruction for that standard. Full credit is given for homework completed for the beginning of class on the assigned due date.

GRADING POLICY

Grades are based upon the following formula. Extra credit will be available at the teacher's discretion for students in good standing.

Writing Assignments	30%	Class Participation	10%
Journal	20%	Homework	10%
Test/Quiz	30%		

MAKEUP PROCEDURE

Students' must complete missed work, in a timely fashion. It is the students' responsibility to ask for missed assignments as well as schedule any missed test or quiz.

GENERAL INFORMATION

Students are expected to come to class prepared with their notebooks, pen and or pencil, and completed homework.

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