

7th Grade English Language Arts Syllabus

Instructors: Ms. Kynnedi Gordon Room 17 Kynnedi.Gordon@magnoliaschools.net

Mr. Glenn Wootton Room 9 gwootton@magnoliaschools.net

Course Description

The English Language Arts course is designed to academically enrich students in grammar, writing, and reading through the study and use of the written word. Students will take part in test preparation throughout the year in order to be ready for the ACT-Aspire test at the end of the school year. Students will become well versed in a wide variety of writing styles and platforms, including, but not limited to essays, journals, research papers, poetry, and presentations. This year will introduce students to making multiple drafts and extensive editing procedures.

Reading will be a corner stone of the course, with texts coming from fiction, non-fiction, and poetry. The reading assignments will be challenging, and are designed to build comprehension, analyzing, and evaluating skills. With the implementation of Arkansas English-Language Arts Standards, students will be required to read from several pieces of text and formulate answers to research style questions.

H.A.C. – Home Access Center

Assignments and grades will be diligently uploaded to H.A.C. on a weekly basis for parents and students to track grades and assignments. Your attention to your child's progress will be greatly enhanced through this system. If you have any problems accessing HAC, please don't hesitate to contact us. This is a valuable tool, and we encourage you to use it.

Class Website

Every week a new section will be added to the [Class Website](#). It will contain all the materials and information plus dates for assignments/quizzes/tests. This will help parents and students keep track of what is happening in class on a daily basis.

Office 365

Every student will have an [Office 365](#) account. Their log in information is their email address and their student ID. This is where parents can find graded quizzes and tests and also view their student's writing ability.

Between H.A.C, the class website, and Office 365, parents can avoid any surprises in regard to due dates, quiz & test dates and grades.

Homework Policy

Homework is recognized as a beneficial part of the instructional program in the Magnolia Public Schools. Proper use of homework can aid in developing self-discipline and good study habits. The teacher only gives homework assignments that are relevant to in-class material. These assignments are designed to strengthen skills necessary for academic success in the classroom. Students are expected to complete homework assignments promptly and satisfactorily. The following guidelines will be followed:

- A. Homework will be relevant and appropriate.
- B. Homework will not be excessive.
- C. Homework will ALWAYS be graded.

Make-Up Work Policy

The 7th grade teachers follow the Magnolia Junior High School policy on make-up work. It is the responsibility of the student to ask for, and attain, any make-up work. Students will be instructed about the procedures for getting and completing any missed assignments. We would much prefer assignments be done (even if only for a percentage of credit). Eventually though, all grades must be turned in, and a grade of 0 will be marked for any assignments not completed.

Class Expectations

We expect students to be respectful to themselves, their peers, and their teachers at all times. We expect students to come to class prepared and with their materials every day. Failure to meet these expectations will result in swift and appropriate consequences.

1st Offense- Verbal warning and review of rule broken.

2nd Offense- Parent notification.

3rd Offense – Referral to administration.

First Semester Schedule

First Quarter Tentative Timeline –

Week 1 (Aug. 19-23) – Simple Sentences Instruction, Elements of Plot Instruction and
Diagram

Week 2 (Aug. 26-30) – Simple-Compound Sentences Instruction & Quiz, *The Outsiders* begin Ch.1-5

Reading with Questions, *The Outsiders* 1-5 Part 1 Vocabulary Quiz, Reciprocal

Reading with Response, **PRE-AP** (Group planning for Novel Projects: Conflict Poster, Facebook Page, Dallas Winston Narrative, Post-Mortem of a Protagonist)

Week 3 (Sept. 3-6) – Complex/Compound-Complex Sentences Instruction/Quiz, *The Outsiders* finish Ch.1-5 Reading with Questions/Quiz, *The Outsiders* 1-5 Part 2 Vocabulary Quiz, Reciprocal Reading with Response, **PRE-AP** (Group planning for Novel Projects)

Week 4 (Sept. 9-13) – Sentence Types Test, *The Outsiders* begin Ch.6-8 Reading with Questions, Introduce *The Outsiders* 6-8 Vocabulary, Reciprocal Reading with Response, **PRE-AP** (Group planning for Novel Projects, Conflict Movie Posters DUE)

Week 5 (Sept. 16-20) – Giggles in the Middle 1-4, *The Outsiders* finish Ch.6-8 Reading with Questions/Quiz, *The Outsiders* 6-8 Vocabulary Quiz, Reciprocal Reading with Response, MSLI 2.01 Writing, **PRE-AP** (Group planning for Novel Projects, Facebook Profile Posters DUE)

Week 6 (Sept. 23-27) – Giggles in the Middle 5-8, *The Outsiders* begin Ch.9-12 Reading with Questions, Introduce *The Outsiders* 9-12 Vocabulary, Reciprocal Reading with Response, MSLI 2.02 Writing, **PRE-AP** (Group planning for Novel Projects, Dallas Winston Narratives DUE)

Week 7 (Sept.30-Oct.4) - Giggles in the Middle 9-12, *The Outsiders* finish Ch.9-12 Reading with Questions, *The Outsiders* 9-12 Vocabulary Quiz, *The Outsiders* Novel TEST, Reciprocal Reading with Response, MSLI 2.03 Writing, **PRE-AP** (Group planning for Novel Projects, Post—Mortem Poster DUE)

Week 8 (Oct. 7-11) – Giggles in the Middle 13-16, *The Outsiders* Select Movie Scenes,
Rough Draft Character Comparison Essay, MSLI 2.04 Writing, **PRE-AP** (More
detailed/lengthier Essay)

Week 9 (Oct. 15-18) – Giggles in the Middle 17-20, Peer Editing and Final Draft of *Outsiders*
Character Comparison Essay, MSLI 2.05 Writing, **PRE-AP** (More
detailed/lengthier Essay)

Second Quarter Tentative Timeline

Week 10 (Oct. 21-25) – Giggles in the Middle 21-24, *The Raven* with Questions/Quiz, *The Raven*
Vocabulary Quiz, *The Raven* Stanza Summaries, MSLI 2.06 Writing

Week 11 (Oct. 28-Nov. 1) – Giggles in the Middle 25-28, *The Raven* Stanza Imitations, Literature
Terms Instruction/Quiz, MSLI 2.07 Writing, **PRE-AP** (TWO Stanzas)

Week 12 (Nov.4-8) – Giggles in the Middle 29-32, Privacy Articles Reciprocal Reading,
Privacy Articles Vocabulary and Reading Quizzes, **PRE-AP** (Newspaper Project
Group Status Report 1: Assigning Responsibilities) **REGULAR** (Differentiated
Newspaper Project Group Status Report 1: Assigning Responsibilities), MSLI
2.08 Writing

Week 13 (Nov. 11-15) - Giggles in the Middle 33-36, Religion Articles Reciprocal Reading,
Religion Articles Vocabulary and Reading Quizzes, **PRE-AP** (Newspaper Project
Group Status Report 1: Assigning Responsibilities) **REGULAR** (Differentiated
Newspaper Project Group Status Report 1: Assigning Responsibilities), MSLI
2.09 Writing

Week 14 (Nov. 18-22) – Giggles in the Middle 37-40, Speech Articles Reciprocal

Reading, Speech Articles Vocabulary and Reading Quizzes, **PRE-AP** (Newspaper Group Status Report 1: Assigning Responsibilities) **REGULAR** (Differentiated Newspaper Project Group Status Report 1: Assigning Responsibilities), MSLI 2.10 Writing

Week 15 . . . Wait . . . This is THANKSGIVING BREEEEEAAAAAAK!!!!!! ☺

Week 15 (Dec.2-6) – Giggles in the Middle 41-44, Arms Articles Reciprocal

Reading, Arms Articles Vocabulary and Reading Quizzes, **PRE-AP** (Newspaper Group Status Report 1: Assigning Responsibilities) **REGULAR** (Differentiated Newspaper Project Group Status Report 1: Assigning Responsibilities), MSLI 2.11 Writing

Week 16 (Dec. 9-13) – Giggles in the Middle Test, MSLI 2.12, Writing,

PRE-AP (Newspaper Project Group Work) **REGULAR** (Differentiated Newspaper Project Group Work)

Week 17 (Dec. 16-20) – **PRE-AP** (Newspaper Project Group Presentations) **REGULAR** (Differentiated

Newspaper Project Group Presentations), Semester Test Study Guide, Semester Test

MERRY CHRISTMAS! *<:0{ }

Third Quarter Tentative Timeline –

Week 18 (Jan. 6-10) - Giggles in the Middle 52-55, MSLI 2.13 Writing, The

Underground Railroad Scholastic WebQuest

- Week 19 (Jan. 13-17) – Giggles in the Middle 52-55, MSLI 2.13 Writing, Reciprocal Reading Response, *Harriet Tubman* Ch.1-3 Reading and Vocabulary Quiz, **PRE-AP** (Desiree’s Baby Reciprocal Reading/Response)
- Week 20 (Jan. 21-24) – Giggles in the Middle 60-63, MSLI 2.14 Writing, Reciprocal Reading Response, *Harriet Tubman* Ch.4-6 Reading with Vocabulary Quiz, Ch.1-6 Test, **PRE-AP** (“A Child Slave in California” Reciprocal Reading/Response)
- Week 21 (Jan. 27-31) – Giggles in the Middle 64-67, MSLI 2.15 Writing, Reciprocal Reading Response, *Harriet Tubman* Ch.7-9 Reading with Vocabulary Quiz, **PRE-AP** (Selection from Incidents in the Life of a Slave Girl Reciprocal Reading/Response)
- Week 22 (Feb. 3-7) – Giggles in the Middle 68-71, MSLI 2.16 Writing, Reciprocal Reading Response, *Harriet Tubman* Ch.10-11 Reading with Vocabulary Quiz, Ch.7-11 Test, **PRE-AP** (*Uncle Tom - The Martyr* Reciprocal Reading/Response)
- Week 23 (Feb. 10-13) – Giggles in the Middle 72-75, MSLI 2.17 Writing, Reciprocal Reading Response, *Harriet Tubman* Ch.12-15 Reading with Vocabulary Quiz, **PRE-AP** (*Fredrick Douglas* Ch.1 Reciprocal Reading/Response)
- Week 24 (Feb. 18-21) – Giggles in the Middle 76-79, MSLI 2.18 Writing, Reciprocal Reading Response, Booker T. Washington & W.E.B. DuBois Articles Vocabulary/GRQs & Quizzes, **PRE-AP** (*Fredrick Douglas* Ch.10 Reciprocal Reading/Response)
- Week 25 (Feb. 24-28) – Giggles in the Middle 80-83, MSLI 2.19 Writing, Reciprocal Reading Response, Maya Angelou Articles Vocabulary/GRQs & Quizzes, **PRE-AP** (*Fredrick Douglas* Ch.10 Essay Rough Draft)

Week 26 (Mar. 2-6) – Giggles in the Middle 84-87, MSLI 2.20 Writing, Reciprocal Reading Response, Tyson & Gates Articles Vocabulary/GRQs & Quizzes, **PRE-AP** (*Fredrick Douglas* Ch.10 Essay Final Draft)

Week 27 (Mar. 9-13) – Giggles in the Middle 88-91, MSLI 2.21 Writing, Katherine Johnson Articles Vocabulary/GRQs & Quizzes, **PRE-AP** (Runaway Slave Project)

Week 28 (Mar. 16-20) –MSLI 2.22 Writing, Review for Act-Aspire, **PRE-AP** (Runaway Slave Project)

Week 29 (Mar.30-Apr.3) – Review for Act-Aspire MC & CR and Essay

Week 30 (Apr.6-10) - Review for Act-Aspire MC & CR and Essay

Week 31 (Apr.13-17) - Act-Aspire TESTING, Giggles in the Middle 92-93, Reciprocal Reading Response, Anne Frank House Virtual Tour

Week 32 (Apr.20-24) - Giggles in the Middle 94-97, Reciprocal Reading Response, *Diary of Anne Frank* Act 1 Scenes 1-2 Reading and Vocabulary Quiz **PRE-AP** (*Anne Frank: Diary of a Young Girl* p.16-21 Reading/Response)

Week 33 (Apr.27-May 1) – Giggles in the Middle 98-101, Reciprocal Reading Response, *Diary of Anne Frank* Act 1 Scene 3 Reading and Vocabulary Quiz **PRE-AP** (*Anne Frank: Diary of a Young Girl* p.24-34 Reading/Response)

Week 34 (May 4-8) – Giggles in the Middle 102-105, Reciprocal Reading Response,
Diary of Anne Frank Act 1 Scenes 4-5 Reading and Vocabulary Quiz,
MSLI 2.23 Writing, **PRE-AP** (*Anne Frank: Diary of a Young Girl* p.120-125
Reading/Response, Auschwitz Virtual Tour)

Week 35 (May 11-15) – Giggles in the Middle 106-109, Reciprocal Reading Response,
Diary of Anne Frank Act 2 Scenes 1-2 Reading and Vocabulary Quiz,
MSLI 2.24 Writing, **PRE-AP** (*Anne Frank: Diary of a Young Girl* p.131-132 & 141-
143 Reading/Response)

Week 36 (May 18-22) – Giggles in the Middle Test, Reciprocal Reading Response,
Diary of Anne Frank Act 2 Scenes 3-5 Reading and Vocabulary Quiz
PRE-AP (*Anne Frank: Diary of a Young Girl* p.244-247 & 266-268
Reading/Response)

Week 37 (May 25-29) – Semester Test Study Guides and Testing

Summer Break ☺