

Syllabus Outline for Language Arts Literacy 2011-2012

Course Title: Language Arts Literacy, Grade Seven

Teacher: Ms. C. Schmidt

Program Description: This program integrates reading, writing, speaking, viewing and listening. A process approach is used to teach students self-improving strategies for effective reading and writing skills. Varied materials for reading, including children's literature and informational text, are employed to ensure that students learn strategies to read and understand all text types they face as fluent readers. Language arts classes are heterogeneously grouped.

Course Content

Trimester One: Overcoming Personal Challenges

Reading	Writing
Selections from <i>Language and Literature</i> , including: "Homeless" by Anna Quindlen, "Growing Up" by Russell Baker, "Immigrant Kids" by Russell Freedman and "Exploring the Titanic" by Robert D. Ballard	Open Ended Questions Personal Essay: Challenges
Literature Circles - Historical Fiction	Fact v. Fiction open ended questions
Self-Selected Reading	Response to literature - Reader's Notebook, journal responses, and Videos, VanGoghs and Virtuosos.
	Word Study
Test As A Genre - Tips for Reading Passages on Standardized Tests	Test As A Genre - Tips for Writing Passages on Standardized Tests

Trimester Two: Tolerance

Reading	Writing
<i>The Pearl</i>	Research: Compare Contrast Essay Argument/Lit Analysis: Is <i>The Pearl</i> a good book?
Self-Selected Reading	Response to Literature - Reader's Notebook, journal response, and Quotations from the past
Test As A Genre - Tips for Reading Passages on Standardized Tests	Test As A Genre - Tips for Writing Passages on Standardized Tests
	Word Study

Trimester Three: Learning From Experiences

Reading	Writing
<i>Roll of Thunder, Hear My Cry</i>	Argument: Should <i>Roll of Thunder</i> have won the Newbery Medal?
Selections from <i>Language and Literature</i> , including: "Seventh Grade" by Gary Soto, "Thank You, Ma'am" by Langston Hughes, "Lazy Peter and His Three-Cornered Hat" retold by Ricardo E. Alegria, and "War of the Wall" by Toni Cade Bambara	Short Story
Self-Selected Reading	Response to Literature - Reader's Notebook, journal response, and One Significant Quotation
	Word Study

Sample Learning Outcomes (what the student should know and be able to do):

The student will be able to (from Bloom's Taxonomy)

1. Knowledge: Define
2. Comprehension: Describe the main events in a text
3. Application: Write an essay
4. Analysis: Proofread a piece of writing
5. Synthesis: Revise a piece of writing
6. Evaluation: Interpret theme

Sample Teaching Strategies for Instruction:

1. Cooperative Learning Activities
2. QARs
3. Writing in Journals
5. Oral Presentations
6. Teacher Demonstration and Modeling
7. Lecture/Group Discussion
8. Conferencing
9. Video Streams

Sample Evaluation and Assessment Tools (grading procedures the teacher will use to assess learning for a marking period grade):

1. Tests and Quizzes
2. Graded Homework Assignments
3. Evaluation of Oral Presentations
4. Evaluation of Journals
5. Evaluation of Completed Essays

List Resources to be Used for Instruction:

1. Curriculum Guide
2. Student Selected Novels
3. *McDougal Littell Language of Literature*
4. *Roll of Thunder, Hear my Cry* by Mildred Taylor
5. Student Writing