



Language Arts 7 Course Outline 2021-2022

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Welcome to Language Arts! I am very excited for our year together and getting to know you. I know we will have a fantastic time and that with hard work and regular attendance, you will be successful!

What is Language Arts?

The aim of English language arts is to enable each student to understand and appreciate language, and to use it confidently and competently in a variety of situations for communication, personal satisfaction and learning.

Language Arts 7

In our language arts 7 class, we will explore various units that have unique mediums, genres, and styles of texts. These units will allow us to improve our grammar, our abilities to respond to texts and forms, and express our thoughts, opinions, and emotions. We will explore our own personal interests and find ways to express them through the various facets of language. The timeline of the course is as follows, but is tentative.

Unit 1: Introduction to Language Arts 7 and Fairview High School

Beginning to Mid-September

This unit will include an introduction to the course and an orientation into the life of a student at Fairview High School. We will learn about each other, the importance of relationships, and the expectations of a junior high student in Language Arts 7.

Unit 2: The Write Way

Mid-September-November

Our second unit is focused on strengthening our written communication skills and providing a foundation for the remainder of the course. We will review sentence structure, parts of speech, and subject-verb agreement. We will learn about the four types of paragraphs, useful transition words, and writing strategies. We will conclude the unit with an autobiography project.

Unit 3: Fractured Fairy Tales

November-December

Using what we learned in unit two, we will study classic short stories. We will read them and analyze relationships between plot, setting, and characters. We will learn the elements of a short story and study the film “Hoodwinked” to explore perspective and point of view. We will then use the information we have learned to ‘fracture’ a fairy tale and make it our own, unique tale.

Unit 4: Novel Study

January-Mid-February

In this unit, we will study Canadian author and playwright Jennifer Dance’s novel “Hawk,” set in Northern Alberta. We will focus on narrative perspective, plot development, and theme. We will conclude the unit writing a persuasive letter to our provincial or federal government addressing Indigenous rights.

Unit 5: Poetry

Mid-February-End of March

During our poetry unit, we will explore figurative language and poetic form through a variety of poems. We will learn to identify different poem styles, word classes, and respond to poetry. Students will complete poetry reading comprehensions and write their own poems.

Unit 6: Film Study

April-May

Our film study will be an examination of the film “The Truman Show.” We will study perspective, point of view, reality and the power of media.

Unit 7: Novella Study

May-June

For our final unit, we will be reading the novella “Fatty Legs” authored by Christy Jordan-Fenton and Margaret-Olemaun Pokiak-Fenton. We will be reading about the author’s experience as a child at a residential school in the Northwest Territories. We will conclude the unit with a group research project and presentation.

Review

June

We will use the last month of the year to review course content and prepare for the final exam.

Throughout the Year

Students will be expecting to partake in silent reading and comprehensive literacy activities. Students will have class time to spend in the library to silently read and take out new books. It is recommended that students always have a book. As well, students will partake in journaling activities where they have freedom to express themselves and answer prompts. These activities will happen frequently throughout the year and will be integrated into the units.

Supplies

Students will need the following for every class: binder, pens/pencils, loose-leaf paper, their one-to-one device, pencil crayons and a book to read.

Evaluation

Assignments	15%
Projects	50%
Quizzes	15%
Final Exam	20%

Evaluation of student learning is reported in four terms. Term marks will be based on “Assignments,” “Projects” and “Quizzes.” The final course mark will be a blend of four term marks (80%) plus the final exam mark (20%).

Classroom Expectations

Students are expected to:

- Arrive to class on time with all required materials
- Show respect to all classmates, educational assistants, the teacher and to themselves
- Submit all assignments on time
- Make up for work missed. Students who are absent are responsible for finding out what they missed and completing it. This can be done by asking classmates or emailing the teacher.
- Respect the voices of others and contribute to a safe learning environment for all
- Come to class with a positive attitude and a willingness to participate

Cell Phones

We will regularly use technology in the classroom to enhance and facilitate learning, but having and using cell phones is a privilege. Cell phones are not to be used in class without the permission of the teacher. If a phone is used without permission, it will be confiscated by the teacher and returned at the end of the day. A second offence will result in the phone being confiscated and only returned to the parent or guardian.

My classroom expectations and rules align with the Fairview High School student handbook. For any questions, comments or concerns you may have, please refer to the hand book or feel free to contact me directly.