

Course: Honors Language Arts I **Instructor:** Jan Snyder-Hess

Academic Year: 2008-09

Course Description: Students will continue the study of language arts: reading, writing, listening, and speaking. There will be opportunities to read short stories, poems, and novels and to write about what you have read. Understanding the connection between real-life and literature is an important component of the English curriculum. Students will continue to study grammar concepts and have regular vocabulary lessons. It is important to participate actively in class discussions, sharing ideas, asking questions, and listening attentively.

Textbooks:

1. *Prentice Hall Literature*, Bronze Level
2. *Vocabulary for Achievement, Level 1*
3. *Prentice Hall Writing and Grammar*, Silver Level

Required Materials:

1. Large 3-ring binder with dividers
2. Lined paper
3. Pencils and blue or black pens
4. Composition journal or 1-subject notebook

Grading Procedure: Your trimester grade will be based on the following combination of assessments:

Tests 25% Reading Workshop 15%

Essays 25% Final Exam 25%

Quizzes 10%

Grading Scale:

1. to A+ 90-100 D- to D+ 60-69
2. to B+ 80-89 F 0-59
3. to C+ 70-79

Homework/ Classroom Policies:

1. Homework is generally not collected, but it **is** checked on a daily basis.
2. It is important to complete reading assignments on time, since a “reading check” may be given at any time to check for understanding.
3. A graded assignment must be submitted on the due date, or risk the penalty of losing 10% per late day.
4. Always be neat, using your best handwriting skills.

Classroom policies:

1. Be prepared! Come to class with your books and all materials, including homework.
2. You are responsible for any work or information that is given when you are absent.

Be pro-active! You may email me for information about missed work.

3. **Reading Workshop:** Each week during the hour-block class, you are expected to bring a book to class for our D.E.A.R. (**D**rop **E**verything **A**nd **R**ead) program. There is a selection of books in the classroom, or you may get books from the school library. Upon the completion of a book, you will complete a Story Map that outlines the important literary aspects of that work. Your completed Story Maps will be kept in your personal folder in the classroom. Also, you will record the number of pages you have read on the Reading Log that is also kept in your folder. There are a required number of pages to read to attain various grades for Reading Workshop. More information on this will be handed out on the first day of class.
4. Gum chewing is not permitted at Linden Hall.
5. Be on time.
6. Be respectful of others and their property.
7. Do not put trash in your desk. There is a trash can specifically for that purpose!

Honors Language Arts I Outline

This outline lists the major units that will be covered in class. Vocabulary, composition, essays, and tests will be added regularly. Our silent reading program, D.E.A.R., will be offered during the regular hour-long class. Daily edits are a common class starter! Quick Writes and journal writing will be interspersed as well.

Trimester 1

Week Topics

- 1 Introduction/Get-to-know-you activities; Short Story Unit 1
- 2 short stories; poetry
- 3 short stories; grammar (nouns/pronouns)
- 4 short stories; grammar (indefinite pronouns)
- 5 grammar test; Short Story Test, Unit 1
- 6 grammar (action and linking verbs); Literature Circle # 1 (*Number the Stars*)
- 7 short stories Unit 2; grammar (action and linking verbs)
- 8 short stories; grammar test
- 9 short stories; grammar (adjectives); poetry
- 10 short story test- Unit 2; tribute essay
- 11 grammar (adjectives); tribute essay
- 12 Final Exam

Trimester 2

Week Topics

- 1 grammar (adverbs)

Thanksgiving Vacation

- 2 *A Christmas Carol*; grammar (adverbs)
- 3 *A Christmas Carol*; grammar (prepositions)
- 4 *A Christmas Carol test*; personal narrative

Christmas Vacation

- 5 personal narrative; Literature Circle #2 (*Red Scarf Girl*)
- 6 grammar (conjunctions and interjections); poetry
- 7 literature- mythology
- 8 literature- mythology (projects)
- 9 grammar (parts of the sentence/ subject & predicate)

10 grammar (parts of the sentence/complements)

11 persuasive essay

Trimester 3

Week Topics

1 Short Stories, Unit 6; grammar (fragments and run-ons))

2 Short Stories, Unit 6; grammar (punctuation)

3 Short Stories, Unit 6; grammar (capitalization)

4 Literature Circle # 3 (*The Giver*); poetry project

Spring Break

5 *The Giver*; poetry project

6 *The Giver*; poetry project

Easter Break

7 grammar (subject/verb agreement); poetry

8 Short Stories, Unit 7 (non-fiction); grammar (agreement); poetry

9 Short Stories, Unit 7 (non-fiction)

10 Short stories, Unit 7; grammar (effective sentences)

11 Literature test; grammar test

12 Comprehensive Review/ Final Exam

Honors English 7 Outline

This outline does not represent a chronological listing of the works to be studied, but rather lists the specific titles of works and areas of focus within each unit of study.

I. Vocabulary

1. Lesson Format
1. Workbook exercises
1. Writing words correctly
2. Using words correctly
3. Choosing the best word
4. Using different forms of words
5. Reading comprehension

II. Grammar

1. Parts of speech
1. Nouns
1. Common
2. Proper
3. Collective
4. Compound
2. Pronouns
1. Personal
2. Demonstrative
3. Interrogative
4. Indefinite
3. Verbs
1. Action
2. Linking
4. Adjectives
5. Adverbs
6. Prepositions
7. Conjunctions

1. Correlative
2. Coordinating
8. Interjections
2. Parts of the Sentence
 1. Subject
 2. Predicate
 3. Complements
 1. Direct object
 2. Indirect object
 3. Predicate nominatives
 4. Predicate adjectives
3. Phrases and Clauses
 4. Sentence types
 1. Declarative
 2. Imperative
 3. Interrogative
 4. Exclamatory
 5. Subject/verb agreement
 6. Pronoun/antecedent agreement
7. Capitalization
8. Punctuation

III. Literature

1. Major literary elements
 1. Setting
 2. Theme
 3. Characterization

4. Conflict

5. Plot

6. Language

2. Short Stories

1. "The Cat Who Thought She Was a Dog..."

2. "Two Kinds"

3. "My Furthest Back Person"

4. "A Day's Wait"

5. "Seventh Grade"

6. "Melting Pot"

7. "Mother to Son"

8. "The Courage that my Mother Had"

9. "Rikki-tikki-tavi"

10. "After Twenty Years"

11. "Papa's Parrot"

12. "Suzy and Leah"

13. "Ribbons"

14. "The Treasure of Lemon Brown"

15. "Stolen Day"

` D. Poetry

1. Elements of language

2. "Song of Myself"

3. "I'm Nobody"

4. "Me"

5. "Washed in Silver"

6. "Winter"

7. "The Pasture"

8. "Fog"

3. Drama

1. *A Christmas Carol*

4. Novels

1. *Number the Stars*

2. *Red Scarf Girl*

3. *The Giver*

IV. Composition

1. Personal Narrative

2. Tribute essay

3. Persuasive essay

4. Journal writing

