

**Course:** Honors Language Arts I **Instructor:** Judy Conlin

**Academic Year:** 2009-2010

**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. *McDougal Littell-Grammar for Writing*
2. *Vocabulary Power Pack –Book G*
3. *Prentice Hall Literature*

**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 a point system.

**Grading Scale:**

90-100	A- to A+	First Trimester – 15%
80-89	B- to B+	Second Trimester – 25%
70-79	C- to C+	Third Trimester – 35%
60-69	D- to D+	Midyear cumulative exam – 10%
0 – 59	F	Final cumulative exam – 15%

**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. 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. You will record the number of pages you have read on the Reading Log. This Reading Log will be 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**

- 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,
- 6 Grammar (action and linking verbs); Literature Circle # 1(*Time of Angels*)
- 7 Short stories; grammar (action and linking verbs)
- 8 Short stories; grammar test
- 9 Short stories; grammar (adjectives); poetry
- 10 Short story test- tribute essay
- 11 Grammar (adjectives); tribute essay
- 12 Grammar (adverbs)

#### **Trimester 2**

- 1 Parts of the sentence/subject & predicate

##### ***Thanksgiving Vacation***

- 2 Drama - grammar (adverbs)
- 3 Drama -grammar (prepositions)
- 4 Drama-personal narratives

##### **Christmas Vacation**

- 5 Personal narrative; Literature Circle #2 (*Falling Leaves*)
- 6 Grammar (conjunctions and interjections); poetry
- 7 Literature- mythology
- 8 Literature- mythology (projects)
- 9 Review/Midyear Exams
- 10 Grammar (parts of the sentence/complements)
- 11 Persuasive essays

12 Short Stories; grammar (fragments and run-ons)

### **Trimester 3**

1 Short Stories; grammar (punctuation)

2 Short Stories; grammar (capitalization)

### **Spring Break**

3 Literature Circle # 3 (*Hang a Thousand Trees with Ribbons*); poetry project

### **Easter Break**

4 *Hang a Thousand Trees with Ribbons*; poetry project

5 *Hang a Thousand Trees with Ribbons*; poetry project

6 Short Stories; (non-fiction) grammar (agreement); poetry

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

8 Short Stories; grammar (effective sentences)

9 Literature test; grammar test

10 Comprehension Review/ Final Exam

11 Review/Final Exam

## **Honors English 7 Outline**

### **I. Vocabulary**

#### **A. Lesson Format**

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

#### **B. Reading comprehension**

### **II. Grammar**

#### **A. Parts of speech**

1. Nouns – common, proper, collective, compound
2. Pronouns –personal, demonstrative, interrogative, indefinite
3. Verbs – action, linking
4. Adjectives
5. Adverbs
6. Prepositions
7. Conjunctions – correlative, coordinating
8. Interjections

#### **B. Parts of the Sentence**

1. Subject
2. Predicate
3. Complements- direct objects, indirect objects,  
Predicate nominatives, predicate adjectives
4. Phrases and Clauses
5. Sentence types –declarative, imperative,  
Interrogative, exclamatory
6. Subject/verb agreement

7. Pronoun/Antecedent agreement
8. Capitalization
9. Punctuation

### III. Literature

#### A. Major literary elements

1. Setting
2. Theme
3. Characterization
4. Conflict
5. Plot
6. Language

#### B. Short Stories

#### C. Poetry- Elements of language

#### D. Drama

#### E. Novels

1. *Falling Leaves*
2. *Time of Angels*
3. *Hang a thousand Trees with Ribbons*

### IV. Composition

#### A. Personal Narrative

#### B. Tribute essay

#### C. Persuasive essay

#### D. Journal writing