

TAYLOR ROAD MIDDLE SCHOOL
EIGHTH GRADE LANGUAGE ARTS SYLLABUS
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Course Description: Students will continue to develop an appreciation of written and spoken language that now begins to extend beyond the school setting. Students broaden their reading experiences through the study and analysis of compelling literature while continuing to develop their own writing styles. They independently apply the steps of the writing process to produce, revise, and publish informational and literary essays drawn from research. Students will continue to use critical thinking and to integrate the sound use of technology.

Standards: The English Language Arts Georgia Standards of Excellence (ELA GSE) include standards for use in English language arts courses, as well as literacy standards in history/social studies, science, and technical subjects. The standards for English language arts describe expertise that students will develop in the areas of reading, writing, speaking and listening, and language. The standards also describe how students use and strengthen these skills-particularly reading and writing-in other subjects at their grade level.

English Language Arts Standards for Reading Literature: Students will cite textual evidence, determine themes, analyze incidents, determine the meaning of words, compare and contrast, and analyze points of view. **ELAGSE RL8.1, RL8.2, RL8.3, RL8.4, RL8.5, RL8.6, RL8.7, RL8.9, RL8.10 (RL8.8 not applicable to literature)**

English Language Arts Standards for Reading Informational Text: Students will cite textual evidence, determine a central idea, analyze text connections, determine the meaning of words, analyze the structure of a text, determine author's purpose, evaluate different mediums, delineate arguments, and comprehend nonfiction. **ELAGSERI8.1, RI8.2, RI8.3, RI8.4, RI8.5, RI8.6, RI8.7, RI8.8, RI8.9, RI8.10**

English Language Arts Standards for Writing: Students will write clearly developed and organized arguments to support claims, write informational texts appropriate to task, purpose, and audience through examination of topics, write stylistic narratives to develop experiences, both real and imaginary, and conduct research to answer a question. **ELAGSEW8.1a, b, c, d, e; ELAGSEW8.2a, b, c, d, e, f; ELAGSEW8.3a, b, c, d, e; ELAGSEW8.4, ELAW8.5, ELAW8.6, ELAW8.7, ELAW8.8, ELAW8.9a, b; ELAW8.10**

English Language Arts Standards for Speaking & Listening: Students will engage in collaborative discussions, analyze the purpose of information, delineate a speaker's argument, present claims & findings, integrate multimedia, and demonstrate command of formal English. **ELAGSESL8.1a, b, c, d; ELAGSESL8.2, SL8.3, SL8.4, SL8.5, SL8.6**

English Language Arts Standards for Language: Students will demonstrate command of conventions of grammar, punctuation, capitalization, and spelling. They will use knowledge when speaking, writing, reading, or listening. Students will determine the meanings of words and understand word relationships and nuances of word meanings. **ELALGSE8.1 a, b, c, d; ELAL8.2 a, b, c; ELAL8.3a; ELAL8.4a, b, c, d; ELAL8.5a, b, c; ELAL8.6**

Texts: *Prentice Hall Literature Grade 8: Common Core Edition (\$85.97)*
Prentice Hall Writing Coach Grade 8 (\$20.97)

Novels including: (\$14)

TAG: Night, To Kill a Mockingbird, The Hound of The Baskervilles, The Giver, Diary of Anne Frank, and The Book Thief. Summer novels include either Refugee or The Night Diary.

Advanced: To Kill a Mockingbird, The Giver, and Just Mercy

On-Level and IRR: The Giver, The Wave, and Touching Spirit Bear

Students are financially responsible for all books issued by TRMS. The issued copy must be turned in at the end of the course. Otherwise, students will be responsible for any damage as assessed by the media center.

*****Course standards for on-level and TAG classes are the same. However, the scope and volume of material, pacing, and products produced in TAG-level classes are more rigorous while the expectation is higher.

Grading:

In accordance with Fulton County Schools, grades will be assigned as:

A...90-100 B...80-89 C...70-79 F...0-69

Your grade will be based on the following assignments:

Major Assessments55%
Minor Assessments.....35%
HW/Practice.....10%

Students must maintain an 80 average for TAG courses.

Assignments: Students will be expected to turn in an assignment on the day that it is due. Homework and daily assignments are due at the beginning of class. If a student is in school at any point during the day when an assignment is due, that student must hand in the assignment. Essays and projects must be turned in on the day that it is due. Assignments can be viewed on the board in my class, on Teams, or in the student’s agenda.

Extra Help: I am available before school for extra help, after giving me one day’s notice. The student may also get help during REAL Time/homeroom.

Absences and Make-up Work: Upon returning to school following an absence, it is the student’s responsibility to get the work from the missing work folder, and/or contact the teacher. It is also the student’s responsibility to find out when he/she can make-up tests or quizzes. Please refer to the Student Handbook for the complete attendance policy.

Recovery: on Assignments/Assessments: All students will have one (1) opportunity each nine weeks to redo/retake one (1) major assignment/assessment.

- Eligibility for a redo/retake is for students who receive a 79 or below on a specific major assignment/assessment.
- Students are eligible to earn a replacement grade on a redo/retake no higher than 79.
- Student redo/retakes must be completed before the next major assignment/assessment is given or five school days before then end of a marking period if there is not another major assignment/assessment given (exceptions can be made for students who have excused absences during this five-day window).

Special Education Reporting: Within this course, accommodations and modifications will be implemented based on students’ current Individualized Education Plan (IEP). For specific goals and objectives and instructional levels, refer to your child’s IEP.

Parent-Teacher Communication: Methods of communication include email (raymonica@fultonschools.org), (zeiglerk@fultonschools.org), (hallame@fultonschools.org), (whitec8@fultonschools.org) (stiffler@fultonschools.org), progress reports, report cards and the student's agenda. Assignments can be found on Microsoft Teams.

Language Arts-Reading Website: www.fultonschools.org/dept/langarts

Classroom Procedures and Expectations:

- Follow the dress code and classroom rules
- No chewing gum
- No Air Pods/cell phones
- Be prepared with spiral notebook (or composition notebook), paper, blue/black pen, pencil, highlighter
- Stay on task/No talking during any assessment
- Arrive on time

Parents,

Please detach and return this page to your teacher.

MOVIES:

The movies listed below are the movies that I **may be** showing this year. Some are based on stories that we are reading, and some are to convey a concept such as theme, symbolism, etc. They have been approved by Mr. Parker and are in our library. You are welcome to research any further information about them on the internet. Otherwise, please circle any movies that you **DO NOT** want your child to watch. If you do not want them to watch the movie, then they will be given an alternate writing assignment. G movies have not been listed below.

To Kill a Mockingbird

The Giver

The Tell-Tale Heart

The Hound of the Baskervilles

The Book Thief

I have read and understood the syllabus for language arts for class, which contains:

Classroom expectations/policies, TRMS Recovery Policy, make-up work, assignments, permission for movies and standards.

Student's Name (Please print) _____

Student Signature _____ Date _____

Parent's Name (Please print) _____

Parent Signature _____ Date _____

Parent Email address _____

PLEASE PRINT EMAIL ADDRESS!