



2017-2018 7th Grade English Language Arts Syllabus

Contact Info:

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Course Description

The 7th grade Language Arts curriculum at Mar Vista Academy is based on Common Core Standards. *SpringBoard*, the CollegeBoard’s official Pre-AP program, is our foundation. Reading, writing, speaking, listening, and collaborative strategies are used purposefully to build knowledge and skills and to help students become independent critical readers, writers, and thinkers.

Unit	Texts	Major Assignments
What Influences My Choices?	Advertisements, magazines, print ads, videos, newspapers	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Writing an argumentative essay• Creating an advertisement
Our Choices and Life’s Lessons	<u>The Outsiders</u> by S.E. Hinton, poetry, informational text, non-fiction text excerpts	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Writing a literary analysis essay• Participating in a mock trial
How We Choose to Act	Poetry, monologues, informational texts, film “Twelfth Night”	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Performing a Shakespearean dialogue• Writing a compare/contrast essay
The Choices We Make	Poetry, personal narratives	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Writing & revising a personal narrative• Creating a three word memoir

Portfolio Requirement:

Students will keep a wide range of work in a classroom portfolio. The portfolio will include:

- **Embedded Assessments** that comprise all steps in the **writing process**; student **reflection** on process and product; teacher assessment; and student reflection on assessment.
- **Global revision and reflection** that reveals one’s growth as a writer
- Assignments that demonstrate a variety of **learning strategies**, various stages of the **writing process**, and reading, writing, speaking and listening skills.

Daily Materials Required

- **Independent Reading Book**
- **9x11 Notebook**
- **Fully charged iPad in case**
 - 3-Ring binder for all classes, with a divider/section devoted to English 7;
 - 2 pencils, 2 pens;
 - 1-3 highlighters of varying colors;
 - iPad stylus (Optional, but **HIGHLY recommended**)
 - Single Subject Notebook or lined paper

Textbooks

Student should leave their Springboard textbook at school. They should keep their Holt Literature book at home.

Independent Reading Book

Students are required to have an independent reading book that they read at least 20 minutes every day. The book should be grade-level or higher, may be any genre, and should be brought to class EVERY day. Students may also choose to read an academic magazine or newspaper..

Grading Policy

Assignment grades are based on students' mastery of the content and skills.

Grades assigned to coursework:

Grade	Descriptor
A	Exceeds Standards Student work exceeds expectations as outlined in the rubric or task requirements.
B	Meets Standards Student work meets expectation as outlined in the rubric or task requirements.
C	Approaches Standards Student work is <i>developing</i> into a product that meets expectation, <i>but is missing elements and/or requires some revision.</i>
F	Emerging Student work is in the <i>beginning stages of developing</i> into a product that meets expectation, <i>but is missing key elements and/or requires <u>extensive</u> revision.</i>

Course grades:

Categories	Weights
Standards Mastery <ul style="list-style-type: none">Includes tests, essays, major projects, district performance tasks, district final exams, etc.	60% of overall course grade
Standards Practice/Academic Enrichment <ul style="list-style-type: none">Includes classwork, homework, student's class preparation/participation, and academic practice.	40% of overall course grade

Note to Parents About Monitoring Grades:

You can monitor your child's progress through **Jupitergrades.com** and/or through their child's iPad using the **Jupiter Grades app icon**. Periodic emails will be sent home regarding progress; we strongly encourage you to provide a current email address to the school if we don't already have one on file.

Academic Support for All Students:

We believe that all students can and will meet minimum academic competencies at Mar Vista Academy. To strive for this, every two weeks, students will be assessed on the skills and knowledge (concepts) taught in English 7 and an after school re-teaching/re-learning/re-assessing session will be provided to students who need additional support in meeting minimum competencies and to improve their academic grade in English 7.

I have read and understand all of the requirements for my child's English 7 class.

Parent Name (print)

Parent Signature