

## **8<sup>th</sup> Grade Language Arts Syllabus**

**Mrs. Susan Yadon**

### **Novel Studies:**

And Then There Were None

The Giver

Lord of the Flies

Night

We will be reading at least one more novel during the year.

### **Writing:**

Daily Writing

Use of writing process and correct mechanics

Research project using MLA style

Expository writing projects

Essays are included in major tests

Creative writing producing stories and poetry

Detailed analysis of different types of literature and poetry

Vary writing style according to purpose

Refine the five steps of the writing process

Respond to fiction and non-fiction writing

### **Literature:**

Read and discuss a variety of genre

Explore world cultures

Use of text in studying literary elements, figurative and sensory language

### **Vocabulary:**

Study of vocabulary in context of reading material

Explore word etymology

Expand analytical sense of word meaning (prefix, suffix, contraction, synonym, antonym)

### **Grammar and Usage:**

Reinforce through daily writing and proofreading

English textbook assignments

Use of correct writing mechanics

**Oral Presentations:** Students will be presenting projects to the class individually, as well as in small groups throughout the year. All students will also participate in the Woodmen Speech Contest. Students will be given the opportunity to present the school-wide morning announcements to enhance their public speaking skills throughout the year.

**Outside Reading/Extra Credit:** Students will be expected to have a book to read in class. Students may take 2 AR tests PER QUARTER and earn 25 homework points per test for extra credit. **They must pass the AR test with 80% or higher to earn extra credit.** They must print out their results & turn it in for credit. AR extra credit deadlines will be posted near the end of each quarter. If a book does not have an AR test available, students may write a short book review following an approved format.

**Absences:** There is a crate for 8<sup>th</sup> Grade Language Arts containing file folders for each month. A copy of the lesson plans are in the crate, as well as worksheets and handouts if you are absent.

**Students** are responsible to check there for work missed if they are absent and then with me for clarification of assignments. A student with an excused absence has as many days to make up the work as they were absent. If the work is turned in during this time period, students have the opportunity to receive full credit.

**If you have an assignment due and you are absent on the turn-in day, it is due on the day you return.**

**Late Work:**

Students will be receiving a 6-Pass/Semester for daily homework. If a daily assignment is late the student may forfeit 1 of the 6-Pass and turn the assignment in the next day with no penalty on grade. If an assignment is not turned in the next day the student will be graded according the following schedule:

- 1<sup>st</sup> Quarter: 10% will be taken off all late assignments/day
  - 2<sup>nd</sup> Quarter: 25% will be taken off all late assignments/day
  - 3<sup>rd</sup> Quarter: 50% will be taken off all late assignments/day
  - 4<sup>th</sup> Quarter: No late work accepted (unless you use a 6-pass)
- The 6-Pass may NOT be used on any long term assignments.

**Grading:**

**A** 93-100    **B** 86-92    **C** 78-85    **D** 70-77    **F** 69 and below

**Grade Weights:**

- Tests – 30%
- Quizzes – 20%
- Projects – 30%
- Homework – 20%
- Extra Credit – 20%
- In-Class work – 20%
- Preparation & Participation – 20%

**Contact Me:**

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