

Twin Falls School District

Language Arts Syllabus

7th Grade



Course Description: The study of grammar, usage, sentence structure, writing skills, effective communication skills, and library usage (media and reference materials) is included in this course. This course will develop and maintain basic reading skills (word attack, comprehension, and vocabulary development). The course will adapt to different genres of reading and extend the students' skills in functional, recreational, and critical reading. The Accelerated Reading program will create growth in student reading ability and help students become independent and self-directed readers.

Instructional Philosophy:

Writing and reading are the basics. Language skills such as usage, spelling, punctuation, vocabulary, and sentence structure will be taught through the individualized reading and writing of the student. I will provide an atmosphere in my classroom where natural and purposeful reading, writing, speaking and listening take place. The classroom will be a place where students become more articulate users of language, both written and spoken.

In addition to in-class reading time, students will be expected to read 20-30 minutes daily outside of class.

Power Standards:

Reading

Standard 1: Word Recognition/Vocabulary Development

Students increase word recognition and vocabulary using synonyms, antonyms, analogies, and ISAT word lists.

Standard 2: Interpretation

Students develop a deeper understanding of literary text focusing on character, plot, and setting.

Standard 3: Comprehension

Students apply literal, interpretive, and evaluative strategies to create greater meaning from a variety of text.

English

Standard 1: Writing Process

Students apply all steps of the writing process to major writing pieces.

Standard 2: Writing Applications

Students write in a variety of forms with emphasis on descriptive and expository writing.

Standard 3: Research Writing

Students conduct research to write a paper summarization and one source of citation.

Standard 4: Writing Components

Students apply the 6-Trait Writing Process with emphasis on spelling, capitalization and commas.

Major Course Projects and Assignments:

Reading

Accelerated Reader

Vocabulary Drills

Reading Comprehension

English

Essence of Success - (Writing Process)

Direct Writing Assessment

Research Paper- (Cite one source)

Descriptive Writing Portfolio Piece

Assessment and Grading Plan:

AR Goals and Comprehension Tests

Rubrics based on the 6-Trait Writing Process will be used to assess the student writing process.

Grading Scale:

“A” = 90-100%

“D” = 60-69%

“B” = 80-89%

“F” = 0 -59%

“C” =70-79%

“I” = Incomplete

*All work will be turned in. There will be a point reduction for all work not turned in on time.

Components of the Grade:

Reading

Quarterly Vocabulary Units

AR Goals and Comprehension

Jamestown Comprehension Series

Assigned reading from literature anthology

English

Writing Projects

Skills Assessments

Classroom participation, daily work, homework

Policy for Re-Doing Work:

All assessments can be retaken after completion of reteaching activity.

If completed, student may receive a grade of up to 80%.

Opportunities for Extra Help:

In addition to the assistance provided in the regular classroom, students may make arrangements with the teacher to receive additional assistance before or after school.

Grading Rubrics:

Students receive rubrics addressing specific expectations at the beginning of each unit.

Supplies: