

Language Arts 9 2018-2019 Course Outline

Teacher: Ms. Dinn

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Room Number: 220

Overview

"Grade 9 students examine ideas, experiences and information from points of view that differ from their own. They discuss how different people take away different meanings from the same material. Using different sources of information, they continue to develop their own opinions and impressions" (Alberta Education 2000, Program of Studies).

Assessment

Coursework - 70%

- Writing/Text Creation - 35%
- Comprehension - 35%

Midterm - 5%

Final Exam - 25%

Provincial Achievement Test Dates: Between January 24-31



JAWS goal is to "engage the entire school community in learning through focus, reflection, and collaboration."

Overarching Concepts

- Listening and Speaking
- Reading and Writing
- Viewing and Representing

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Time Frame	Focus*
September-January	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Writing Practices• The Short Story• Essay Writing• Novel Study (TBA)• Midterm
February-June	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Business Letters• Visuals and Cartoons• Poetry and Media• Literature Circle Novel Study• Review/PAT Preparation

* Order may change throughout the year

Materials

- Pen/Pencil
- Notebook (anything to write in/on)
- Journal (duotang)
- Textbook/book (if there is a textbook or book in use for the current unit)

Expectations:

- **Attendance** - Regular attendance is crucial in this course due to the majority of work done during class time. If you miss a class or are late coming you are responsible for getting the notes and doing the work that you missed during that time.
- **Arriving to Class on Time** - Everyone is late once and a while, but arriving on time is important to your learning. You will have three lates that I will excuse you for, but any after that is now a recurring issue and we will come up with a way to prevent this from happening any further.
- **Washroom/Drink Breaks** - It is important that bathroom or drink breaks are limited to one per class and 2-3 minutes so you do not miss much class time. You must sign out before you go and when you come back so I am able to keep track of who is gone. If you plan on bringing a bottled drink to class, please do so at the beginning of class because if you purchase food/drink during your trip to the bathroom it will not be permitted in the classroom.
- **Preparedness** - Always come to class with a writing utensil and paper. It is recommended to bring a binder or duotang.

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- **Bullying/Disrespect** - This is going to be a safe and caring environment for all students and staff. Any behavior that is intended to offend or insult another person, including disrespectful language, will be dealt with strictly and will not be tolerated. It is expected that you are courteous and polite.
- **Plagiarism** - We will discuss plagiarism as a class in the near future. Plagiarism is using the thoughts and words of others. It is to be taken very seriously and will not be tolerated on any level. Any student who hands in an assignment that shows evidence of plagiarism will be given an automatic zero on that assignment. You will be given an opportunity to redo the assignment under supervision.
 - **Cheating** - Similar to plagiarism, copying another student's work will result in an automatic zero. You may be able to do a different exam, at a different time under supervision.
- **Zero Days** - Throughout each semester the school will offer 3 zero days where students can sign up to write an alternate assessment for up to 3 academic courses that will be used by the teacher to replace missing assessments. Also, if I or the student feels that they need to re-demonstrate because of a previously unsuccessful attempt, I can allow this student to participate in zero days.
 - If you have a passing grade and want to do better on an assessment, it may be possible for you to participate in zero days. If you meet with me we can determine if it is necessary and if you have furthered your learning since the previous assessment.
- **Electronic Devices** - Electronic devices are allowed in class as long as they are used appropriately. I will allow you to sometimes listen to music during seatwork and will use them for activities every once and awhile. You will be made aware when it is an appropriate time to have your cell phone out, and any other time you will be given a warning and then it will be taken away until the end of class. If this issue continues the phone will be taken down to the office and the parent/guardian will have to come and retrieve the phone.
 - I will often allow you to listen to music but it is very easy to tell when you are just changing a song or are on your phone. If I find the class is abusing this and are using their phones for anything but music ALL phone privileges will be revoked.