

## 8<sup>th</sup> Grade English Language Arts: 2023-2024

*This syllabus may be changed, depending on time and/or need to share materials, library, and/or technology.  
Topics may not be covered in the exact order that is listed.*

8<sup>th</sup> grade Language Arts focuses on literary analysis in reading, writing, speaking and listening. The content of this course will be organized to include the in-depth study of major ideas, problems, and themes that integrate knowledge and systems of thought. The development and application of productive thinking skills through Socratic methods will enable students to reformulate existing knowledge and/or generate new knowledge. Part of the program will allow for the integration of multiple disciplines as they relate to literature. The use of technology is incorporated throughout the year. Students will be given instruction incorporating the Texas Essential Knowledge and Skills in Language Arts and Reading (8th grade TEKS ).

### Overview of Units and Concepts:

- ❖ **Reading and making connections across a variety of Genres**
- ❖ **Analysis and Composition of Informational Texts (Nonfiction)**
- ❖ **Learn to compose, revise, edit different types of writing Narrative, Descriptive, Persuasive, Expository, & Creative**
- ❖ **Literary analysis and composition of Poetry and Drama**
- ❖ **Demonstrate command of the conventions of standard English grammar, capitalization, punctuation, and spelling when writing and speaking.**
- ❖ **Multimodal vocabulary development**
- ❖ **Accelerated Reader Program**

### Applications that are helpful:

**Google Classroom:** many assignments will be assigned through Google Classroom.

**Ascender Parent Portal;** parents and students can monitor grades with this program. Go to the school website and find the link under the parent tab. You will need a username and password from the office to log in initially. (This is on the Jim Ned CISD app)

**Jim Ned CISD App:** communicates to parents and students about happenings in the district

### Assignments

Assignment due dates will be posted on the assignment whiteboard located at the front of the room and on Google Classroom. It is the student's responsibility to get assignments following/before an absence. Students will have access to the make-up work files anytime in class. Students have one day for each day of absence to turn in work. **No late work will be accepted.**

### Tests:

Students will be given tests and quizzes throughout the grading period. They will be given notice and will usually have a review sheet/notes before a test/quiz. Students will also be assigned lengthy written assignments that will be a test grade.

### ELA Notebooks:

Students will keep an ELA notebook in class. This will help them keep most of their materials (notes, daily work, and writing assignments) in one spot while also working on organization skills.

### Grades:

Daily Work/Homework 40%

Tests/Written Assignments 40%

AR Test Points and Test Average 20% (2 grades)

### Late Work:

No late work will be accepted.

### Class Expectations:

-Come prepared to class everyday

-Have your materials & be in your seat when the bell rings

-Be courteous/polite to EVERYONE in the class

-Think Before YOU Speak

-Keep Your hands to yourself

-Clean up after yourself

-Be on time

-No Cell phones

-Good Attitude :)

### Supplies:(You need to bring these supplies daily to class)

-1 inch binder/notebook (Dividers to organize notes, daily work/homework, tests, and writing samples)

-Pencils & pens (Blue/Black/Red ink) for assignments, different color of ink for grading and/or annotating

-highlighters

-Notebook paper

-Composition Notebook

### **AR Point Requirements:**

Students will need to read daily to earn their AR points. They will need to read at home as a part of their homework routine. Students will earn two test grades every grading period. One grade will be earned by how many points the student has earned, and one grade will be earned by the overall AR test average for the grading period. Bonus points will be given for every point over 10 points read, but no points will be given after 20 points. For example, if a student earns 15 AR points he/she will be given a 105 for the AR point grade. This is one of the only ways a student can earn bonus points in 8th grade Language Arts.

#### **Student earns:**

#### **The grade they will earn will be:**

0- .9	0
1.0-1.9	10-19
2.0-2.9	20-29
3.0-3.9	30-39
4.0-4.9	40-49
5.0-5.9	50-59
6.0-6.9	60-69
7.0-7.9	70-79
8.0-8.9	80-89
9.0-10	90-100

### **AR Due Dates:**

- 1st grading period due date Sept. 21
- 2nd grading period due date Nov. 2
- 3rd grading period due date Dec. 19
- 4th grading period due date Feb 15
- 5th grading period due date April 4
- 6th grading period due date May 20

### **Behavior chart and consequences**

<p><i>Level 1</i> <i>1st, 2nd, 3rd offenses</i></p> <p><b>-Morning Detention for each Offense</b></p>	<p><i>*Tardy</i> <i>*Dress Code Violation</i> <i>*Class disruption/Arguing with teacher (interrupting teacher, incessant talking, etc)</i> <i>*Putting hands on another person or person's belongings</i> <i>*Bringing food/drink to class (only clear water bottles allowed)</i></p>
<p><i>Level 2</i> <i>4th offense or Immediate office referral</i></p> <p><b>-Written Office Referral</b></p>	<p><i>*Cussing/Inappropriate Language</i> <i>*Defiance (ex. Refusing to put phone in door pocket)</i> <i>*Getting physical with teacher or students</i> <i>*Cheating of school work/test/AR</i> <i>*Continued tardies, dress code violations, and class disruptions</i></p>

### **Cell Phone policy**

Students will not be allowed to have cellphones in class. They will be asked to place their phones in pockets on the door as they enter the classroom. If they refuse to abide by this rule, their phone will be confiscated and turned into the office.

### **Go Pass**

Each student will get one "go pass" per week. They may use it to leave the room for whatever reason (bathroom, locker, water fountain, etc). Once that pass is used, they will no longer be allowed to leave the room during class (unless it is an emergency).

### **STAAR Tests: 8th grade Reading Language Arts Window April 9-19, 2024**

*Every child deserves a champion – an adult who will never give up on them,  
who understands the power of connection and insists that they become the best that they can possibly be.*  
~Rita Pierson~