



Grade 8
English Language Arts
(Resource Room)
School Year 2011-2012

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Course Description:

This course is designed to provide instruction on basic reading and writing skills supported by the National Reading Panel and the Common Core Standards. Students will develop and strengthen effective comprehension strategies for application in all subject areas. An emphasis is placed on building vocabulary through explicit word study and with various means of encountering words within their texts. Students will receive instruction on effective writing skills by focusing on sentence and paragraph structure. Ela 8 is geared to the individual learner's needs and programming goals.

Text book:

- *AMP Student Guide, Unit 1 – Volume 1-2*
- *AMP Library Book*

Required Materials:

- Student must bring the following to every class:
 - Binder
 - Pencil
 - Correcting pen
 - *AMP Student Guide/Library Book*
 - Homework planner

Grading:

- 40% Homework/Class work
- 30% Test/Quizzes
- 30% Class Participation/Effort

Course Expectations:

- All students will come to class prepared and on time
- Respect will be shown to peers, teachers, and learning at all times
- Absent work is to be collected by the student on the first day of their return to school (orange ASSIST sheet in working folder)

Curriculum:

Quarter 1:

Language:

- Identify, recognize and correct fragment and run-on sentences
- Review subjects, verbs and objects
- Differentiate the four kinds of sentences (imperative, interrogative, declarative, and exclamatory)
- Recognize relationships of word pairs; complete and write analogies

Reading:

- Review finding main ideas and writing summaries
- Preview text clues to set a goal for reading
- Identify, write and answer goal-setting questions
- Ask who, what, when, where, why and how questions about important details of the text

Writing:

- Descriptive writing essay
- How-to essay

Quarter 2:

Language:

- Identify and write prepositional phrases
- Use Latin roots to understand the meaning of words
- Apply suffixes to change a word's meaning and usage
- Consider context clues to determine the meanings of words

Reading:

- Read between the lines by connecting ideas and information in the text
- Combine prior knowledge with new information in a text

Writing:

- Personal narrative essay
- Persuasive writing essay

Quarter 3:

Language:

- Compare antonyms, synonyms and homonyms
- Choose the correct word based on shades of meaning
- Identify the meanings of words in the same word family

Reading:

- Preview a text to make predictions
- Use prior knowledge to make predictions
- Consider details before and during reading to make a prediction
- Preview the table of contents and skim fiction/nonfiction to make predictions
- Make, revise and elaborate on predictions

Writing:

- Compare and contrast essay
- Poetry writing

Quarter 4:

Language:

- Write effective compound sentences
- Understand idioms

Reading:

- Use clues to determine text structures
- Identify problems and solutions in fiction and nonfiction texts

Writing:

- Biography writing
- Research writing