

WELCOME!
6th Grade Advanced Language Arts Syllabus
2011-2012
Mr. Deree

MY EXPECTATIONS

Welcome to 6th grade Language Advanced Arts. I expect that each student in my classroom will give his or her best effort. As long as I see that you are applying yourself and showing responsibility for your class assignments, I will do my very best to work with you so that you are successful in this class. I will expect that you complete your assignments and that you communicate with me if you need assistance. I am here to help you in any way I can. HOWEVER, if I see that you are not putting effort into this class, there will be consequences.

The Textbooks that we will use include the following:

- _ *HOLT: Elements of Literature—OUR TEXTBOOK IS ALSO AVAILABLE ONLINE AT: <http://my.hrw.com/>, USERNAME: dereejames, PASSWORD: ssastigers*
- _ *Writing and Grammar, Communication in Action, Copper Edition*

The Novels that we will read include the following:

- _ *The Cay* by Theodore Taylor
- _ *Loser* by Jerry Spinelli
- _ *Mrs. Frisby & the Rats of Nimh* by Robert C. O'Brien
- _ *Lord of the Flies* by William Golding
- _ Various Greek Mythology books including *Edith Hamilton's Mythology* and *Scholastic's Greek Gods and Monsters*.
- _ Three additional choice novels for each quarter's book reports. Students may choose a book that is within the assigned genre for that quarter.
- _ *Advanced classes will be assigned one additional book report each quarter.

Please keep in mind that every classroom has novels available for children to read and check out. If those books are lost or misplaced, it drastically reduces the number of relevant, readable literature for every student. If a classroom novel is not returned within a timely period, the minimum cost of replacement is \$7; however, if the actual price is available the student's families are responsible for the full cost of the misplaced class novel. Please keep in mind that it is the parent/guardian's responsibility to approve what the student checks out of the classroom libraries as well.

Periodically throughout the 2011-2012 school year, your child will be reading novels, watching films, and using equipment here at SSA+S. Some novels and films may have mature content with themes relevant for our students. We can provide you with a copy of the novels and please feel free to pre-view the films.

_L.A. Films for 6th grade: *Lord of the Flies* (1963), *The Cay*

CLASSROOM RULES

1. Treat each other with respect, and respect others' property & space.
2. **No** food, gum, or drinks allowed in class.
3. Remain in your assigned seat.
4. Come to class on time, ready to work, with the necessary supplies.
5. There will only be one speaker at a time in this class. Please raise your hand.

CLASSROOM PROCEDURES

1. Enter class - begin bell work immediately. (Listed on the board every day)
2. Copy homework in agenda book (on homework board)
3. Complete bell work assignment. (Listed on the board every day)
4. Sit quietly and wait for further instruction.
5. Always obey the "Give Me Five" signal - [1) Eyes on Speaker, 2) Quiet, 3) Be Still, 4) Hands Free, 5) Listen in class] when given by the teacher.

LATE ASSIGNMENTS

Please complete your assignments on time. Late assignments will result in a grade reduction. If you are absent, you will have the number of days missed to make up your assignment, unless special circumstances apply. (Example: Two day absence = two days to submit make up work). It is the responsibility of the student to retrieve his or her make-up assignments. Late assignments will be placed in the classroom homework bin. Please do not leave on my desk or give to me directly.

If a student does not do his or her homework he or she will have one day to make it up.

DISMISSAL

Please remember that the teacher, not the bell, will dismiss students from class. The bell is not an indication that you may leave. This is for everyone's safety and to avoid overcrowding in the hall and doorways. This rule will be strictly enforced by all teachers with no exceptions. Stay in your seat until the class is dismissed by the teacher.

SUPPLIES YOU WILL NEED

- _ One three-subject divided spiral notebook
- _ Pens (blue or black ink only)
- _ Pencils/Pencil sharpener (please bring your OWN!) - Thank you. :)
- _ Colored pencils or markers
- _ Loose-leaf paper
- _ Highlighters
- _ Yellow duo-tang folder with pckets

GRADING

_ TESTS/BOOK REPORTS 35%

All tests & major projects/book reports will be announced approximately one month in advance. If a student will be absent on the due date, you should plan to hand in early, if possible. If a test is missed due to absenteeism, it will be made up the day the student returns to class. Major tests & quizzes that receive a failing grade will require parent/guardian signatures.

_ QUIZZES 30%

If a student is absent and misses a quiz, he or she will also be expected to make up the day they return, unless special circumstances apply.

_ HOMEWORK/CLASSWORK 30%

All homework **MUST** be neat, on loose-leaf paper. **NO SPIRAL NOTEBOOK EDGES PLEASE!!** All homework assignments must be completed in blue or black pen, unless otherwise specified. Late homework will be accepted within a reasonable time frame, subject to a grade reduction. Each student will keep notes in his or her notebook. Notes are an important part of this class, and I will be checking your notebooks periodically to make sure you are completing them as they are assigned.

_ BELLWORK 5%

You will complete bell work **EVERY DAY** when you enter this class. Bell work will be graded and part of your overall grade. Please do not leave any answers blank. You must keep your bell work **NEAT** and **CLEAN**. You will be using this book all year so **TAKE GOOD CARE OF IT!** Bell work notebooks **NEVER, EVER, EVER, EVER** leave the classroom.

CONTACT INFORMATION

Mr. James Deree - ext. 131

EMAIL ADDRESS:

JamesDeree@ssas.org

AFTER READING THIS SYLLABUS COMPLETELY,
PLEASE SIGN AND RETURN THIS PAGE ONLY

Student Name _____

Student Signature

Class Period

PARENT CONTACT INFORMATION

NAME: _____

ADDRESS: _____

HOME PHONE: _____ CELL PHONE: _____

EMAIL: _____

I give my permission for my student

_____ to watch the
above-mentioned films and read the above listed novels. I understand that the
teachers will monitor the content of the movies and censor any inappropriate
sections. I also understand that this list may be expanded at teacher discretion,
with appropriate notification within a fitting time frame.

I have marked any items that I feel are inappropriate for my child.

I know that if my student misuses the technological equipment, class novels, texts
or any other item of SSA+S property, in any way, I/my family will be financially
liable to replace such equipment, as required by school officials.

Please remember that you can always contact us with any questions or concerns.

Signature

Date