

# LANGUAGE ARTS

## Class Rules

1. Follow directions quickly.
2. Raise your hand for permission to speak.
3. Raise your hand for permission to leave your seat.
4. Make smart choices.

## Class Expectations

1. Be in seat when tardy bell rings.
2. Put proper heading on all papers.
3. Do not use electronic devices in class without teacher permission.
4. Use restroom during passing breaks.
5. Maintain a clean and orderly work area.
6. Bring all of your supplies to class daily.
7. Complete all of your work and turn it in on time.
8. All AFJUSD rules and policies shall be observed within the classroom.

Welcome to Middle School Language Arts! Our focus this school year will be learning and developing our skills as critical thinkers, readers, writers, speakers, and listeners. The development and mastery of these essential literary skills are important to achieving success in the Language Arts classroom, they are a critical component of achieving success in other school subjects, they help to build strong relationships with others, and they are needed to attain a flourishing career as an adult. Basically, the quality of life you experience now through adulthood will depend a lot on how well you read, write, and communicate with others.

### What do I get if I follow class rules and expectations?

Your appropriate behavior in class assures everyone of an environment conducive to learning. Some possible rewards for continuous appropriate behavior are the satisfaction of learning, improved skills, verbal praise, positive note to parents, tangible trinkets, and special class activities/privileges.

### What are the consequences if I don't follow class rules?

1. Lunch Detention: short time spent during lunch to contemplate conduct. Parent will be contacted.
2. Referral to Administration: a student will be immediately referred to administration for severe behavior problems.

### Where do I go to find agendas and assignments?

Google Classroom is where many class assignments, discussions, and projects will be posted and turned in.

Agenda your homework should be written in your agenda daily.

### What happens if I turn in an assignment late?

Work (this includes homework) not completed and turned in **by the assigned date** is considered late. If a student is absent on the date work is due, the assignment is due the first day the student returns to school. **COMPLETED LATE WORK** will only receive partial credit (70% of the assignment total). **INCOMPLETE LATE WORK** will not be graded and will result in a zero for the assignment.

## Grade Scale

A	100-90%
B	89-80%
C	79-70%
D	69-60%
F	59% and Below

## Grade Breakdown

Benchmarks=25%

Writing Assignments=25%

Assessments=20%

Quizzes=15%

Class Work =10%

Homework=5%

## How will I check my grade in class?

Parents and students are strongly encouraged to check **Power School** on a weekly basis to view the most current grades for EVERY class.

## What do I do if I am absent?

Always check google classroom room and agendas for assignment due dates. A student has two extra days to turn in any work **assigned** on a day a student was absent. If a quiz was administered on a day a student was absent, the quiz must be made up on the **first** day the student returns. If previously assigned work was due on the day of the absence, the work is due on the **first** day the student returns otherwise it is considered late and will only receive 70% credit.

## Do I have to read outside of class?

All students will be expected to read independently on a daily basis both in the classroom and at home. Students must bring their required reading book to school so they are prepared for independent reading during class.

## What types of writing will I do this year?

**Writing Time** refers to the daily creative writing students will complete on their Google Drive account and in their writing notebooks.

**Process Pieces** refer to essays that students will complete on their Google Drive account. Numerous process pieces will be completed throughout the year (at least one per quarter).

## What is an Interactive Student Notebook?

The **Interactive Student Notebook** (ISN) is a portfolio of student work. The majority of classwork, notes, study guides, AND vocabulary, will be completed in the ISN, so it is imperative that it be complete and up to date.

## COURSE OUTLINE

Quarter	Reading	General Goals
<p>1<sup>st</sup> Quarter- Over the course of 1<sup>st</sup> quarter your child will participate in reading units 1-3. Unit 1 covers short stories, unit 2 covers informational text on Pre-America, and unit 3 will be the novel Tom Sawyer</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• “Eleven”</li> <li>• The Tale of the Mandarin Ducks</li> <li>• The People Could Fly</li> <li>• Sorry, Wrong Number</li> <li>• Letter on Jefferson</li> <li>• The Declaration of Independence</li> <li>• The Boston Tea Party</li> <li>• Tom Sawyer</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Making and analyzing inferences</li> <li>• Identifying and analyzing themes</li> <li>• Identifying and analyzing main ideas</li> <li>• Summarizing</li> <li>• Analyzing plot</li> <li>• Write a five-paragraph essay</li> </ul>
<p>2<sup>nd</sup> Quarter- Over the course of 2<sup>nd</sup> quarter your child will participate in reading units 4-6. Unit 4 covers poetry, Unit 5 covers informational text on the Civil War, and unit 6 will be the novel Narrative of the Life of Frederick Douglass</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Paul Revere’s Ride</li> <li>• O Captain, My Captain</li> <li>• I, Too, Sing America</li> <li>• The Song of Wandering Aengus</li> <li>• The Road Not Taken</li> <li>• Jabberwocky</li> <li>• A Nation Divided</li> <li>• The Emancipation Proclamation</li> <li>• The Battle of Gettysburg</li> <li>• Last Diary Entry of John Wilkes Booth</li> <li>• Narrative of the life of Frederick Douglass</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Analyze how details in a text are related</li> <li>• Analyze rhythm and rhyme in poetry</li> <li>• Analyze figurative language</li> <li>• Analyze context clues</li> <li>• Analyze a text’s organization</li> <li>• Write a five-paragraph essay</li> </ul>
<p>3<sup>rd</sup> Quarter- Over the course of 3<sup>rd</sup> quarter your child will participate in reading units 7-9. Unit 7 covers famous speeches, Unit 8 covers informational text on immigration and unions, Unit 9 will be the novel Dragonwings.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The Gettysburg Address</li> <li>• Shut The Door</li> <li>• Blood, Toil, Tears, and Sweat</li> <li>• The Perils of Indifference</li> <li>• The Rush of Immigrants</li> <li>• From Lithuania to the Chicago Stockyards</li> <li>• America and I</li> <li>• The Triangle Shirtwaist Factory Fire</li> <li>• Dragonwings</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Analyze an author’s point of view</li> <li>• Analyze an author’s purpose</li> <li>• Analyze an author’s argument</li> <li>• Analyze an author’s choice of details to support a purpose</li> <li>• Compare and contrast two texts</li> <li>• Write a five-paragraph essay</li> </ul>

As can be seen, the course outline this year focuses on American History. The purpose of this year’s literature focus is to create a learning environment that encourages your child to think on a deeper level. To do that, I have partnered with Mr. Wood, who will also be teaching US history this year. Your child will be able to use the knowledge they’ve learned from both of our classes and apply that knowledge on a deeper and more meaningful level for class assignments and discussions.

**PLEASE READ THE COURSE INFORMATION, SIGN, AND RETURN THIS  
SHEET TO MRS. BROEHM.**

**Students:**

Please sign below to signify that you have read the course sheet for Mrs. Broehm's class, will keep it in your folder, and will be responsible for the information throughout the year.

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Student printed name

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Student signature

**Parents/Guardians:**

Please sign below to indicate that you have read the course sheet for Mrs. Broehm's class and that you will help your student be accountable for the information. If you have questions about the course or your student's work, please do not hesitate to contact me; **email is the best way to reach me quickly**. See the front of this sheet for my email address.

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Parent/Guardian printed name

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Parent/Guardian signature

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Parent/Guardian **e-mail**  
(please print)

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Parent/Guardian **daytime** phone number

**Parents and guardians, please CIRCLE the best way for me to contact you:**  
**e-mail** **phone**