



Reading and Language Arts – Grade 7 Syllabus



2014-2015

Mrs. Laura Hatch, Room 202

Welcome to a time for new experiences in your life -- a new school, new teachers, new friends, and a newly found freedom – combining to create new opportunities for learning. Just believe and together we can work to create a culture for success. This syllabus provides important guidelines to help you achieve success in this class. **Please read it, sign it, and return it by Thursday/Friday, September 4th or 5th, 2014 (HOMEWORK).**

Course Objectives:

- Students will analyze plot development, characterization, and theme in a variety of narrative texts (SOL 7.5).
- Students will analyze language in fiction and informational texts, focusing on roots and affixes, figurative language, connotations, and word origins (SOL 7.4).
- Students will analyze informational texts, focusing on internal and external text structures, fact versus opinion statements, author's viewpoint and purpose (SOL 7.6).
- Students will continue to develop oral communication skills using verbal and nonverbal behaviors.
- Coursework is technology-infused through the use of SMART board, and associated presentation software. As well, students will have specific opportunities to use laptops and ipads in class and must abide by the SCPS i-safety pledge.

Each objective has several components or bullets. SOL tests will focus on the above three standards. A complete copy of the SOL's, the curriculum framework, and our SOL test blueprint can be obtained from the Virginia Department of Education website or my webpage. Cumulative benchmark tests will be given at 4 ½ and 9 week intervals.

Also, one endeavor of the language arts department is to build each student's vocabulary. One way of accomplishing this will be to work on vocabulary each week in class. Another means for accomplishing this is through required independent reading, which must be done **CONSISTENTLY** in order to produce the desired effect. (More details are given later.) For those of you who have access to a computer, a great website for building vocabulary is www.freerice.com.

Performance Activities: (include but are not limited to...)

- Independent Reading Comprehension Goals
- Reading and Writing Assignments
- Tests and Quizzes
- Checkpoints—will be given throughout each unit to check comprehension
- Benchmarks – given at 4 ½ weeks and at the end of each nine weeks (cumulative)
- Class Work, Discussion, Group work, Participation, and projects
- Warm-Ups —will be posted on the board when you arrive to class. You should begin working on the assignment immediately and will have 5 minutes after the tardy bell rings to complete the task.

Course Textbook: Literature Grade 7 by Holt McDougal. A set of textbooks will be kept in the classroom.





Supply Lists

Ear buds

Loose-leaf paper

ONE 3-Ring binder (1 1/2 inch)

Dividers

Pencils, erasers, and pens (blue or black)

Pencil sharpener w/case (no battery-operated)

Highlighters

2 small (fine tip) dry erase

Colored pencils, glue sticks

3x5 index cards (2 packages)

Blunt scissors (safety)

Optional supplies for classroom use:

Box of tissues, extra pencils for classroom use, Clorox wipes, paper

Independent Reading Book *Must bring a book to class everyday* (can be from home, public library, or school library.)

* **Agenda**- this will be provided by the school (Must bring **EVERYDAY** to each class)

*****NO PERMANENT MARKERS OR SHARPIES ARE ALLOWED at school. ****

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!
5. Keep your dear teacher happy!

GREAT EXPECTATIONS

- **Always do your best!** Arrive on time and be prepared. Make learning a TOP priority. Stay focused and on task.
- **Treat EVERYONE, and their property, with RESPECT.** Keep hands, feet, objects, and negative comments to yourself.
- Please use the restroom and/or get water between classes and/or during lunch. "Emergencies" will be addressed as needed.
- Wait to be dismissed by the teacher.

****Students are also expected to follow the guidelines set in the Southampton Middle School Handbook, including dress codes. Not knowing is NOT an excuse.***

Consequences for choosing not to follow rules:

1st Offense - Warning; **2nd Offense** - Note/Phone Call home; **3rd Offense** – Referral to Administration

****Certain actions can result in immediate referral to the administration.***

Examples of Rewards for good choices:

INDIVIDUAL

- Positive praise in class
- Notes or calls home about wonderful behavior or academic successes



GRADE WEIGHT DISTRIBUTION

Homework.....	10%
(includes independent reading goal)	
Classwork.....	35%
(Includes Notes, Group Work, Participation, Binder Work, & Warm-Ups)	
Quiz/Checkpoint.....	25%
Formal Assessment	30%
(Benchmark • Unit Test • Project • Writing • Notebook/Binder Check)	

GRADING SCALE

A (93 - 100)

B (85 - 92)

C (77 - 84)

D (70 - 76)

F (0 - 69)

Policies and Procedures

- Upon entering class, you should go immediately to your seat and:
 - Take out **Language Arts materials** including **Agenda** .
 - Place backpack in designated area.
 - Sharpen pencil if needed (use your own handheld sharpener or classroom sharpener)
 - Copy homework** ... *You are responsible for completing the homework assignment whether it is mentioned in class or not.*
 - Complete the Warm-Up posted on the board.
- If your pencil breaks, quietly raise your pencil and I will permit you to sharpen it when the time is appropriate or use your own handheld sharpener.
- No passes will be handed out for you to go to your locker. If you leave your homework in a locker, you may bring it to me at the end of the day (or after a time when you go to your locker). Habitual offenders will lose this right and will be given a 0 on their homework.
- If you finish your work early, you will read from your AR book until everyone has finished, or be given a remediation/extension activity. If you have surpassed your AR goal for the grading period, you may work on material from another class.
- You must wait until the end of class to throw trash in the trashcan. Empty your desk of all your belongings and pack up before leaving.
- All work expecting full credit should be done **"NACHO"** style!!!
Neatly - Accurately - Completely - Honestly - On time
- Absence Policy—if you miss school, it is your responsibility to view a friend's Notebook, or ask to view my own, to see what assignments/material you missed. You must obtain any makeup worksheets/material needed from me. ***From the day you return to school, you have 5 days to complete the missed work.***
- I expect all work to be handed in on time unless the student has an APPROVED or EXCUSED absence (please see handbook to determine what constitutes as an excused and approved absence). If the assignment is given prior to the student's absence, the student should turn in the assignment the first day he/she returns to class. If the assignment is given during the student's absence, the student will be given 5 days to complete the work. You may obtain any makeup worksheets/materials from me. For every day an assignment is late, the grade will drop 10 points.* Homework policy- In order to

be a successful student, a better reader, and to **build your vocabulary**, you **must read consistently**. Therefore, I expect you to read at least 20-30 minutes from your AR book every night. More often than not, reading your AR book will be your homework. Consequently, each student will be given an AR goal every grading period and will **receive two homework grades** (interim - 50% of their goal and 9 weeks - 100% of their goal). Individual rewards will be given when goals are met as well as a group reward if all students meet their individual goals.

9. Student hall passes are signed at teacher's discretion.

10. **ALL** papers should have **PROPER HEADING** in the upper right hand corner.

- **Name (first & last)**, #their assigned number **L.A.** (language arts)
- **Block Number** (1st, 2nd, 4th, 5th, 6th, 7th)
- **DATE**

11. Changing clothes/shoes, or addressing cosmetic issues, including lip-gloss, lotion, brushing/combing hair, etc., are **NOT** acceptable classroom practices.

Contact Information

❖ SMS Phone (757) 653-9250 or email me

❖ E-mail: lhatch@southampton.k12.va.us Web Page: www.southampton.k12.va.us

> Southampton Middle School > Faculty and Staff > Language Arts > Laura Hatch

Read, sign, and return by Thursday/Friday, September 4th or 5th, 2014.

**I have read the syllabus and have discussed the expectations with my child.*

STUDENT SIGNATURE _____ **Date** _____

PARENT SIGNATURE _____ **Date** _____

How to Receive Text Message and Email Updates

Throughout the year, I will send out reminders about upcoming important dates via text and email to parents AND students through a program called *Remind*. In order to receive these messages, please complete the following steps.

For text messages:

1. Text **@hatch7** to **(757) 849-0618**
2. A message will appear asking you to text your full name so that I can add you to the list of subscribers.
3. You can opt out of messages anytime by replying 'unsubscribe @hatch7'.

** Standard text rates apply.*

For emails:

1. Send an email to hatch6@mail.remind.com
You can leave the subject line blank.
2. To unsubscribe, simply send an email to the previous address with 'unsubscribe' as the subject.

What is Remind and why is it safe?

Remind is a one-way text messaging and email system. With Remind, all important information remains completely confidential. Teachers do not see parent and student numbers and vice versa. Please visit www.remind.com to learn more.

***Turn in to Mrs. Hatch, Language Arts, Room 202**
***Student and Parent Information due Friday, September 5, 2014**

* (Please Print)

STUDENT: _____ (Name you wish to be called: _____)
Last Name First Name

List any additional information if necessary:

Parents/Guardians and Students,

Please read and acknowledge that you have read and discussed these expectations with your child. This form should be signed and returned, as it will become a part of student's ISN Binder.

I acknowledge that I have read, understand, and accept the Language Arts 6 Syllabus. The syllabus included: course description, supplies needed, textbook, SOL's, absence/make-up work policy, expectations/consequences, classroom procedures, grading scale and weights, and how to contact teacher.

***Students should keep these materials in their notebooks for future reference.**

Student's Printed Name: _____
Student's Signature: _____ **Date:** _____

Parent or Guardian's Printed Name: _____
Parent or Guardian's Signature: _____ **Date:** _____

If your child does a super job, or could use and extra reminder to complete their assignments how would you like me to contact you? Please fill in any means that you would like me to use and number them in order of which means would reach you the quickest or be the most convenient for you:

_____ I have reliable internet at my house and would not mind if my child was assigned homework on the computer.

_____ I do not live in an area with reliable internet and homework on the computer would be a hardship.

Best Contact Information: *(If you have email please fill out your address)* Please mark your preferred contact

1. Parent/Guardian: _____
Last Name First Name relation (mom,dad,etc)

◆ Email: _____
◆ Cell #: _____ Best Time to Call _____
◆ Home #: _____ Best Time to Call _____
◆ Work #: _____ Best Time to Call _____

2. Parent/Guardian: _____
Last Name First Name relation (mom,dad,etc)

◆ Email: _____
◆ Cell #: _____ Best Time to Call _____
◆ Home #: _____ Best Time to Call _____
◆ Work #: _____ Best Time to Call _____

***I give permission for my child to be photographed. These photographs will only be used for educational records and data.**

****Please return this form to Mrs. Hatch by Friday, September 5, 2014.**