

Hallettsville Junior High School
ELA Course Syllabus
2015-2016

Eighth Grade PAP English Language Arts
Mrs. Stephanie Rainosek
Conference Period: 7:55 – 8:44
Contact #: 361-798-2242 ext. 200

Both in class and out, I promise to do my all to support your education and help you excel to your highest potential. In order to have a successful learning year, we need to have some guidelines. Please read this document carefully to ensure full understanding of the requirements and expectations for my class. I value honest, respectful communication. There is an open-door policy for both parents and students. Through my class page on the school website, I will keep you informed of class activities, projects and tests/quizzes. Communication is the key for a successful educational experience. Students in my PAP class will be expected to think and rationalize on a higher level, actively involved in class discussion, and work cooperatively on projects throughout the year. Together, let's make it a great year as we are "Constructing our Future!"

Year at a Glance:

- 1st Six Weeks: Analyzing Fiction and Drama
- 2nd Six Weeks: Analyzing Literary Nonfiction and Poetry
- 3rd Six Weeks: Analyzing Informational Text
- 4th Six Weeks: A) Creating Connections Across Literary Texts and Informational Texts
- 5th Six Weeks: A) Creating Connections Across Genre & Media Literacy
- 6th Six Weeks: Producing Research - you will write a research paper & present it
- Fall Semester we will read a novel
- Spring Semester we will read a novel

Materials Required:

One composition notebook, homework folder, notebook paper, No. 2 pencils, red pen, blue/black pen, highlighter, USB drive, daily planner (optional but strongly recommended)
Supplies will need to be replaced or replenished throughout the year – please take care of this as needed.

Students are required to bring all materials and an AR book to class each day.

Textbook:

Prentice Hall *Literature Language & Literacy*

Replacement Cost:

\$72.74

Textbooks must be covered at all times throughout the school year. Please respect school property.

Tutoring Days/Times:

Monday - Thursday 3:30 – 4:00 Tutoring is as needed or by teacher request. Please don't hesitate to ask for help!

Homework Policy/ Late Work Policy:

- Students may also be assigned homework, projects, or daily work to complete at home on a per day basis.
- Deadlines will be written on my whiteboard in the same location throughout the year, they will be discussed in class, and they will be posted on my class page. I strongly recommend each student have and maintain a planner of some sort.
- No late work will be accepted unless the student has an excused absence, illness or note from the parent/guardian that was turned into the office.
- **It is the responsibility of the student to ask for any missed assignments.**

Grading Policy:

Daily Grades - 60%

Test Grades - 40%

If a project is not turned in on the assigned date, the grade recorded will be a "0".

Cheating/Plagiarism:

Cheating is NOT tolerated; Plagiarism is considered cheating. Sharing answers of any kind will NOT be tolerated. BOTH/ALL guilty students involved will receive a ZERO on the assignment, "N" in conduct, and a discipline referral to the office that will result in disciplinary action.

Each six weeks will consist of but not limited to:

~writing workshop

~grammar tests / quizzes

~spelling assignments / spelling quizzes on Thursdays

~vocabulary (from SAT word bank) on Fridays

~Each six weeks you are required to read a Classic novel & take the AR test which will count as a test grade

~computer lab / laptop assignments

~STAAR warm-ups/ practices

~Projects

~Novels

~Vocabulary Words/Quiz - These words will consist of Pre-SAT words. We will define them in class together and then you will have to write sentences using the words correctly. These sentences must be typed in Google Docs and shared with me at

stephanie.rainosek@hisdbrahmas.org in order to receive credit. No handwritten sentences will be accepted. The sentences are due every Friday and will count as a daily grade.

Class Rules/Expectations:

- Be Prompt – 3 tardies = warning, 4th tardy results in detention
- Be Prepared – With all materials and supplies
- Listen Carefully & Work Quietly
- Follow Directions – Oral and/or Written
- Respect Others – Be kind with your words and actions
- Respect Yourself - this is YOUR education! You get what you make of it!

(Cut here & return the bottom portion & return this page to Mrs. Rainosek by: Friday, August 28, 2015 to receive a free 100 daily grade! Failure to return by Friday, August 28, 2015 will result in a 0 daily grade!)

I have read, understand, and agree to the course syllabus for Eighth Grade PAP English.

Student name: _____

Student signature: _____ **Date:** _____

Parent/Guardian signature: _____ **Date:** _____