



Grade 6 English Language Arts - 2023-2024

Mrs. Palamittam

Course Description

This course will target students' growth in the areas of reading, writing, listening, speaking, discussion, reflection, and viewing. Reading strategies, critical thinking skills, personal response, and vocabulary building comprise the main elements of reading instructions. Through fiction, non-fiction, and poetry reading, students will practice reading strategies, mechanics, and comprehension skills. The focus of writing will be on narrative, expository, and argumentative writing. The overall goal of the class is to increase the literacy and writing ability of students.

Units of study will include the following:

Writing

1. Write and Response to an Email
2. Narrative Writing
3. Expository Writing
4. Argumentative Writing

Grammar

1. Nouns and Pronouns
2. Sentence Variety and Structure
3. Verbs
4. Subject-Verb Agreement

Literature

1. *Island of the Blue Dolphins*
2. *The Call of the Wild*
3. *Treasures of Lemon Brown*
4. Poem -
From Brown Girl Dreaming
5. Poem - *The Road Not Taken*

ELA will focus on the skills - Reading, Writing, Speaking, and Listening

Textbooks

Sadlier Grammar for Writing Grade 6
Sadlier Vocabulary Workshop Level A
Pearson My Perspectives Grade 6
The Call of the Wild - Jack London
Writing Our Catholic Faith Grade 6

*Please note that this is a tentative syllabus, and the items above may be subject to change.

Required Materials/Supplies

- ⇒ Notebook with dividers
- ⇒ Folders
- ⇒ School-issued iPad (charged)
- ⇒ Pen, pencil, eraser, and highlighters

Organization

- * Maintaining notes during class, and after teaching
- * Copies of additional notes will be provided and **must be** filed
- * Worksheets, classwork, formative and summative assessments **must be** filed and used to review before exams
- * Outline of planning sheets will be given for clarity of form and structure
- * Rubrics for writing will be provided while the skills are taught to have clarity of skills
- * All assignments will be presented neatly in the following manner:
Name:
Student Number:

Class:
 Date:
 Subject:
 JMJ (Jesus Mary Joseph)

Accelerated Reader (AR)

Library/Media Skills is an ELA subskill on MTC Diocesan Report Card. The grade earned in Library/Media skills is based on the Accelerated Reading (AR) goal percentage achieved. For grades 3-8, AR goals are based on the STAR Reading assessment, average percent correct and selected minutes of daily reading.

The Library/Media Skills Grading Scale:

- 4 = Student achieved 90 - 100 percent of their AR Goal
- 3= Student achieved 80 - 89 percent of their AR Goal
- 2= Student achieved 70 - 79 percent of their AR Goal
- 1= Student achieved below 69 percent of their AR Goal

Children are encouraged to “reach for the stars” by going beyond the Renaissance Learning Accelerated Reading Goal. Students in grade 4-8 must earn a grade of “3” or “4” in Library/Media skills to be eligible for Honor Roll. Students may take AR quizzes in the morning from 7:00 – 7:30 a.m. on the assigned day and time. They can also take quizzes during library time and open library time. (Open library time schedule to follow). Children in grades 4-8 are not to take quizzes in the classroom. They must have their AR log with them so the teacher can sign off on the grade and points.

Handwriting

Handwriting is an ELA subskill on the MTC Diocesan Report Card. The grade earned in Handwriting is based on work from the *Writing Our Catholic Faith* workbook. Students must earn a grade of “3” or “4” in Handwriting to be eligible for Honor Roll and will be graded according to the following rubric.

Quality Feature	4 Terrific	3 Good Job	2 Pretty Good	1 Needs Work
On the line	All letters are on the line	Less than two letters per sentence over or under line	No more than four letters per sentence over or under line	Many letters over or under line
Good form	All letters are correctly formed	Less than two letters per sentence are incorrectly formed	No more than four letters per sentence are correct	Letters are not formed correctly in most words
Even Spacing (Words & Letters)	Even spacing between letters and words	No more than two examples of uneven spacing between letters or words	No more than four examples of uneven spacing between letters or words	Uneven spacing between letters and most words
Even Slant	All letters and words show consistent slant in one direction	Letters show slant in one consistent direction at least 90% of the time	Letters show slant in one consistent direction at least 75% of the time	Letters slant to the left, to the right, or go up and down
Neat Work	Demonstrated all the above qualities and has no erasures or cross-outs	Work is all within margins, and there are fewer than two cross outs or erasures	Work is generally aligned within margins, and fewer than five erasures or cross outs	Many erasures, cross outs, and/or work unevenly sprawled all over the paper

Scoring for Penmanship Rubric

20 – 18 = A (4)

17 – 15 = B (3)

14 – 12 = C (2)

11 – 9 = D (1)

Behavior and Classroom Expectations

The MTC middle grades conduct expectations and point sheet will be utilized to cultivate good behavioral and learning habits, as detailed in the family handbook. Demerits will be recorded on the point sheet in front of the planner, as well as on RenWeb.

Communication

- Email: mpalamittam@mtctampa.org
Emails are returned within 24-48 hours during school days.
- Educator Pages: Homework assignments will be posted/updated regularly. Tests and quizzes will be posted one week in advance.
- RenWeb: Grades will be updated weekly.