



Seventh Grade ELA Course Summary

Course	Teacher	Conference	Time	Telephone	Room	E-mail
English 7 Pre-AP/GT	Mr. Luke Bonura	Period 1B 3A	8:30-9:50 12:20-1:40	(956)381-5522	136	Luke.bonura @stisd.net

Welcome to 7th Grade ELA! Together, we will make this a great and fruitful year.

Purpose: Our goal is to help you, the student, become a stronger writer, reader, and thinker, using Pre-AP strategies in preparation for future AP course work.

Objective: Through this intensive study of grammar, composition, vocabulary, and analytical reading, you will be better prepared to communicate more effectively.

Expectations:

1. Respect each others' space, property, and person.
2. Be prepared to work and learn.
3. Turn in all work on time.

Rewards:

1. Praise
2. Prizes
3. Listen to music while working

Assignments:

1. Daily work and homework may include, but is not limited to, vocabulary workshop assignments, dialectical journals, grammar activities, and writing pieces.
2. Quizzes will be given over assigned reading material and daily activities.
3. Accelerated Reader tests will be required each grading period. Reading an AR book is a daily homework requirement.
4. Compositions will be classwork and/or homework. Some will be timed.
5. Tests will involve multiple choice, matching and short answer questions over material covered (grammar, reading, voc.) and one final exam at the end of each semester.
6. Expect some literature-related research and/or culminating literary unit assignments. Plagiarism will earn you a zero.
7. Summer reading will be the first novel studied, analyzed, and discussed.

Needed Supplies:

If you did not get a supplies list on Meet the Teacher Night, let me know. I will give it to you.

Class Binder Organization:

Include Cover Sheet with Name, Teacher name, and Team # centered. Organize material by date. Tabs should read:

- Reading/Voc.
- Writing
- Grammar
- Tests and Quizzes
- Notes/Misc. (miscellaneous)

AR Tests:

Students are required to read novels within their reading range and test on them using the Accelerated Reading program in the library. AR grades will be averaged as Quiz grades in the grading period average. Failure to complete the required reading assignments will result in appropriate intervention. Deadlines and the point value grade-equivalent scale will be given.

Formative Assessment

Throughout the year, formative assessments will be given to help plan and shape instruction. These will

be in the form of homework, written or oral quizzes, readings and discussion, or student writing and will give me feedback as to what material must be covered before tests or grades are given.

Grading Procedures & Weights:

- 1. Test/Major Projects: 35%
- 2. Essays 20%
- 3. Quizzes/ AR Tests 15%
- 4. Classwork/ Homework 30%
100%

Due Dates and Late Work

All work is due at the assigned time. All homework is due at the beginning of the class hour unless otherwise stated. Assignments submitted electronically are due before the beginning of class time on the scheduled due date. If work is late, detention will be assigned as a consequence the following afternoon, and work will be completed during the detention from 4:05-5:05. (Students absent when work is due shall be given one school day for each day of excused absence to make up missing assignments.) Late work will receive no higher than a 70. If you do not understand an assignment or the material, please ask during class, so that I can clarify the matter.

Provisions will be made for students needing support during after-school tutorial for 4:05-5:05. (Days will be announced.)


The semester average includes two nine-weeks averages and the final exam grade. The semester final will be worth 25% of the semester average.

Retesting procedures: Students may retest upon receiving a grade below 70. A student needing to retest will be required to 1) make corrections and 2) to get the test and the corrections signed by a parent/guardian. The time and date for all retests is determined by the teacher. The highest grade recorded for a retest will be 70. Retests will not be given for quizzes, projects, Accelerated Reader tests, or semester final exams.


Pyramid of Interventions:

The objective of this class is for every student to successfully demonstrate mastery of the Texas Essential Knowledge and skills (TEKS) and the South Texas ISD Essential Learning Outcomes (ELO's) for Pre-AP English 7. Students not successfully progressing will be assisted by the in-class pyramid of interventions and the campus pyramid of interventions. These interventions may include additional class activities and assignments, required after school tutorial, and other interventions specifically designed to address student needs.

I am excited about all that we will learn this school year and will do all I can to make it a great one. Please help me to prepare you for your future. It will be challenging but well worth it!



Elva Figueroa, ELA Teacher and Dept. Head



Ana Castro, Principal