

The Saints Academy

ELA Curriculum

GRADE SEVEN: LANGUAGE ARTS

Purpose

The purpose of the grade seven language arts curriculum is to further develop life-long readers through personal growth in the skills of independent readers who can communicate effectively in both written and oral language. The program explores high-quality, appealing, traditional, and contemporary literary selections both in the literature text and in notable young adult literature.

LITERATURE/READING

The student will:

- Develop and hone the four levels of comprehension: the personal response, the literal, the interpretive, and the applied
- Understand literary concepts
- Appreciate writer's techniques
- Apply selected writer's techniques to their own writing
- Develop critical reading skills for understanding literature
- Use literature as a springboard for creative, analytical, or process-oriented writing
- Develop a vocabulary and understanding of literary terms
- Practice pre-writing, drafting, revising, proofreading and publishing

SPEAKING/LISTENING

The student will:

- Prepare and present power-point presentations
- Prepare and present reader's theater
- Listen to selections on SmartBoard
- Prepare and present book reviews

LANGUAGE MECHANICS/GRAMMAR/CORRECT USAGE

The student will:

- Identify sentences and sentence fragments
- Use subjects and predicates correctly
- Identify nouns
- Understand and use correctly case and syntax
- Understand and use correctly verbs and verb tense
- Understand the purpose and correct usage of pronouns
- Understand and use adjectives and adverbs correctly
- Identify prepositions, conjunctions and interjections
- Know and use all rules of punctuation and capitalization

SPELLING/VOCABULARY

The student will:

- Become familiar with words, definitions and sentences that place words in context
- Review words that will appear in the lesson
- Self assess the understanding of each word's meaning

- Create a complete sentence by matching word with the correct definition
- Start to embed words and meaning in memory
- Read sentences that incorporate phrases that define words
- Replace phrases and sentences with the words they define
- Consider words in specific context
- Use word knowledge built in previous activities to answer questions that depend on understanding word meanings in specific context
- Explore grammar concepts, meaningful word parts, Greek and Latin roots and homophones
- Complete activities that deepen and extend word knowledge
- Read original passages that contain vocabulary words in context
- Answer open-response comprehension questions
- Demonstrate comprehension of the text and mastery of the words they have learned
- Use Wordly Wise 3000 study sets in Quizlet to practice learning words and definitions
- Test themselves on their knowledge
- Play motivating games to reinforce long term retention of words

Teaching Strategies

- Motivation through prior knowledge
- Purpose setting questions
- Thematic focus
- Modeling of active reading skills: ask questions, summarize, predict, make connections
- Clarification and discussion
- Focus on writer's techniques (John Collins writing)
- Focus on literary concept
- Group literature response
- Writing workshops
- Graphic organizers
- Small/whole group instruction

Assessments

- Tests, teacher-created and text-created
- Written and oral work, group or individual
- Multimedia projects and presentations
- FCA's - John Collins Writing Program
- MAP testing

Materials and Resources

- Internet
- Prentice Hall Literature and Literacy
- Pearson Successnet
- Wordly Wise
- Variety of grammar resources. IE - Grammar Bytes, Holt Elements of Language etc.
- Chromebooks
- Trade books to supplement across the genres of young adult literature
- Online Journals - CNN, Newsela
- Smartboard
- NoodleTools
- Google Classroom and Google Docs