



Rochester Community Schools

English Language Arts (ELA) Credit By Exam

Preparation for taking the Language Arts 9 exam

GRADE: 9 (Required)

PREREQUISITE: None

English/Language Arts 9 integrates composition and literature as students develop reading, writing, listening, speaking and viewing skills. Students read and analyze literature within a thematic context and write compositions based on the readings. Students read literature from a variety of genres including novels, short stories, poetry, drama and non-fiction. Major pieces of literature students read and analyze include Romeo and Juliet, and portions of the Odyssey. Other literary options include Speak, Lord of the Flies, All American Boys, Code Name Verity, Fly Girl, and The Curious Incident of the Dog in the Nighttime, and contemporary literary selections. Students write in a variety of formats: argumentative, narrative, and literary analysis. Students are introduced to the research process.

To prepare for the Credit by Exam (CBE) for this course, you will need to do the following:

Read and/or view the following texts and supplemental materials:

Romeo and Juliet by William Shakespeare

The Odyssey by Homer

“At Dusk” by Natasha Trethewey

“Button, Button” by Richard Matheson

Be prepared to discuss the following about the texts you read:

- How does the society of Elizabethan England impact the understanding of Shakespeare’s writing?
- How does the use of literary elements (setting, characterization, point of view, plot/narration, etc.) help shape a story?
- In what way do individual aspects of a text impact our understanding of the whole? (close reading skills)

The following skills/concepts should be understood/reviewed and students will need to apply them within the assessment and their writing task:

- Understand the use of ethos, pathos, and logos in the development of argumentation
- Overall purpose, audience, and rhetorical choices are necessary to deliver an argumentative speech with claims, evidence, concession/refutation, and source citations.
- Know and be able to identify the use of poetic devices such as: figurative language (repetition, imagery, sound devices, etc)
- Understand theme and how a writer uses literary elements to create them within a text.
- Know how to find, evaluate, and cite credible sources when conducting research.
- Grammar skills: sentence structure, parts of speech, punctuation.

On the CBE date, students will be expected to:

- 1) Write a speech using persuasive techniques as indicated on the provided instruction sheet. The speech must be outlined and should include MLA citations. Then, record yourself performing the speech. Email both the speech outline and the video to jreese@rcs-k12.us **by the start of CBE testing**. Slides must follow the [explicit instructions provided](#) and should focus on an understanding of the art of oration/argumentation. The outline must also be submitted to Turnitin.com. Use the following codes to enroll in the class:
 - a) Class ID: 43416707
 - b) Enrollment ID: CBE2024

****Late submissions will NOT be accepted.**

- 2) Prepare to take a Multiple Choice assessment covering the course material as stated above. Students will be asked to apply their understanding of the course concepts to topics related to our study of the literature.
- 3) Prepare to write an impromptu essay related to the course expectations of understanding literary analysis, narrative, and argumentation.

In order to earn credit for this course, students must earn a 77% or higher on each of the components of the exam. Failure to reach that standard on each section will result in no credit.