

All about English Language Arts

Mrs. Paine

rm. 118

cpaine@pineesd.org

928-476-3283

Goal: With an emphasis on critical thinking and analysis, and empowering readers through an engaging approach of looking at classic and modern texts, students will discuss, read, and write frequently. They will learn to question, analyze, and argue their thinking through varied reading, writing, listening and speaking opportunities.



Materials

Bring to class daily

- ☐ **Backpack**
- ☐ **ELA Pocket folder**
- ☐ **Pencils and erasers**
- ☐ **Independent Reading Book**



Course Description

Students will:

- Research various topics
- Read and respond to a variety of literature and informational texts
- Write arguments to support claims with clear reasons and evidence
- Write informative/explanatory essays
- Write narratives
- Read, write, and analyze poetry
- Listen and speak collaboratively
- Use grade appropriate vocabulary, conventions, and grammar
- Practice skills on IXL
- Read independently daily and AR test on books read



Progress Monitoring

Student progress will be monitored throughout the year through standardized testing and class work. Students will take a STAR test each quarter; AR goals will be based STAR results. AR grades will be based on percentage of goal met . Students will also monitor progress through IXL practice weekly and benchmark assessments quarterly. The focus of IXL is learning and practicing skills. Students should strive for a smart score of 80 or higher on IXL skills. . Students will have a number of writing assignments culminating on one big project each quarter Students will participate in AASA state testing. Grades will be based on weekly assignments, class participation, homework, tests, quizzes and projects.



Late Work

Students will receive a zero if work is not turned in on time. Students may submit late work and replace the zero, however the grade will reflect a 10% penalty per day that it is late.



Absences and Makeup Work

Students absent from class are responsible for getting and making up any missing work

- See Mrs. Paine to get help, ask questions about missing work, or make up tests/quizzes
- Get work from the "While You Were Out" folder and check Google Classroom
- Check with peers about activities or group work missed
- Students will have two days for every day that they are absent to make up work
- Assignments that are given out prior to a student's absence are not considered make-up work, and will be due on the designated date or the first day they return.



Procedures and Expectations

→ Be prepared, care for all class materials-

- Turn in assignments on time
- Check Google classroom and whiteboard notes
- Write assignments in agenda
- Read your independent or class novel daily

→ Participate in class daily

- Work hard
- Ask questions
- Limit distractions
- Have all necessary materials

→ Be respectful and understanding of classmates and me

- Listen when others are speaking
- Follow our social contract



Homework

Students should be actively reading at home at least 20 minutes per day 5 days per week. They will AR test in class on independent reading.

Reading outside of class is essential to their academic success.

In class students have word work and IXL weekly. They will also have ongoing reading and writing assignments. You may see some of this as homework.

Any work that students are unable to finish in class will go home as homework as needed.



AR Policy

- Students should always have an AR book to read in class if extra time allows and to read for homework. Students should choose books at or near their documented reading level. Students must test on at least one novel per quarter. They may need more than one to meet their goal.
- Students may supplement their AR goal by earning points on articles read on the AR website. They are limited to one article per week as I don't want it to replace their novel reading.
- Students will have an AR goal due date near the end of each quarter. They will receive full credit for points earned by the due date. They will have an additional week to make up points if they did not meet their goal. After the due date students will only be able to earn up to 90% of their AR grade.
- Student may earn awards for AR reading at the end of the year awards assembly for going above and beyond.



Class Library

Students have access to books daily through our class library. The books have been inherited, donated, and collected over many years. I have not read all the books in the class library and cannot ensure the appropriateness of each book for your child. Please discuss with your child the books they choose to read. If you find anything that does not align with the your family values encourage them to find a different book. Independent reading books can come from home, the public library, the school library, etc... They do not have to choose books from the class collection, however students should always have an independent reading book during the school year.

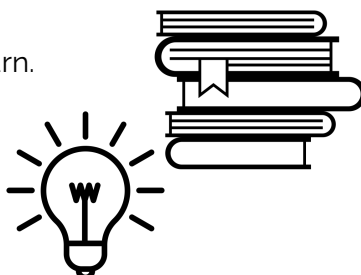
Class work is based on Arizona's English Language Arts Standards. The current version can be found on the Arizona Department of Education website
<https://www.azed.gov/standards-practices/k-12standards/english-language-arts-standards>.

We use the *HMH Into Literature* textbook, EB Academics print and online resources, and CommonLit.org curriculum with other supplemental materials occasionally .

Thank you for reading! Please sign and return.

Student _____

Parent _____



Plagiarism/Cheating

→ I expect student work to be original; plagiarism/ cheating will not be tolerated

→ Students will receive a zero for any assignments that are plagiarized and a parent will be notified.

Always cite your sources!

Created by Meghan Weaver
 edited by Candi Paine