

8th Grade Language Arts

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Class Description and Objectives: During the school year we will be working diligently in ELA to cover a wide array of standards. A copy of these standards can be accessed on our district website. The areas we will cover will range from reading and analyzing the elements of literature, expository texts, vocabulary, functional texts, persuasive writings, and novels. We will also be incorporating writing into much of what we do in class on a daily basis. We will be composing mostly argumentative and informational pieces of writing to be used across all curriculums.

Text Book: Collections (Grade 8) Houghton Mifflin Harcourt. The book will be accessible through Canvas module links.

Supplies:** On a daily basis students will need their school planner, their Chromebook, charger, and a pleasure reading book. Paper and writing utensils should also be available in their backpack for class use. Donations of facial tissue, hand sanitizer, and Clorox wipes are always greatly appreciated.

***Arizona law requires that public schools provide supplies required for academic success. This list represents optional, supplementary items which you may supply, at your discretion.*

Classroom Expectations: Students should be on time, prepared for class, and respectful to all others in the classroom. Students should ask appropriate questions when they arise and listen when others are speaking. The use of cell phones and personal music devices is **prohibited** in the classroom unless special permission is given. Chromebook usage will be at teacher discretion. Failure to follow any of these expectations will result in discipline ranging from verbal warnings, detentions, up to referrals to the office. All students have the right to learn and no student will impede that right.

Assignments and Late Work: Assigned work must be completed and prepared to turn in to the teacher at the end of class on the assigned day. 90% of the work done for the class is done within the school day. Homework is only assigned for preparing final copies of essays or if a student has been absent and needs to make up work. Parents of students who repeatedly fail to complete work will be contacted and informed of the current issues in the classroom.

Absent Work: Students are responsible to pick up absent work upon returning to school. They will have 1 day for every day they were absent to complete the work. Absent work will be posted on Canvas at the end of the school day for completion. In cases of long term absences, special arrangements will be made by the teacher.

Grades: Grades will be updated weekly in the online Powerschools system. It is important that you and your student have access to their current grades in all classes. Students' grades are divided into two main categories: Assessments 80%, Coursework 20%. Grades are updated in Powerschools on a weekly basis.

I'm looking forward to another amazing school year. Please feel free to contact me at any point if you have questions or concerns.

Mr. Eric Axelrod

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