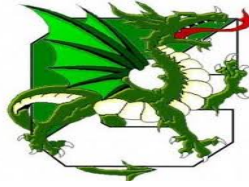


# Grade 7 English Language Arts Syllabus

Ms. Nolan

Cornwall Central Middle School



## Course Description:

- ★ Seventh grade English Language Arts is a combination of lesson plans and activities in reading, writing, listening, speaking, and viewing. This course is divided into four Thematic Units. The Workshop Model of Instruction will be utilized to deliver engaging, student centered lessons and tasks. English Lessons are standards based, using the Next Generation Learning Standards for English Language Arts. Reading Workshop includes reading short stories, poetry, nonfiction texts, and class novels. Writing Workshop incorporates prompt writing, the writing process, and mini lessons that focus on voice, style, adding details, grammar skills, and revision skills. Students will create a writing portfolio that contains the following types of writing: literary responses, research report, argumentative essays, informational writing, poetry, narrative writing, and others.

## Required Daily Material:

- English Binder
- Dividers
- Two-pocket folder
- Marble Notebook for Reading Log
- Pen, Pencil, Highlighter

## Thematic Units and Central Texts Grade 7 English: General Ed. and Advanced

- ★ Unit 1 Facing Adversity/Short Story Unit-
  - **Anchor Text:** *Raymond's Run*- Toni Cade Bambara; a variety of short stories, non-fiction, poetry.
- ★ Unit 2 Turning Points and Transformations-
  - **Anchor Text:** *A Christmas Carol (Novela-Advanced) Scrooge and Marley (Play-Gen Ed)*-Charles Dickens; *Gift of the Magi*- O. Henry, *The Treasure of Lemon Brown*- Walter Dean Myers, other excerpts/selections.
- ★ Unit 3 Argumentative Writing/Making a Claim-
  - **Anchor Text:** *Gathering Blue-Lois Lowry (Advanced), Freak the Mighty- Rodman Philbrick (Gen. Ed)*; nonfiction articles with argumentative topics.
- ★ Unit 4 Folktales and Fairytales: A Cinderella Story, Multicultural Unit- Cinderella (The Little Glass Slipper)-Charles Perault, a variety of multicultural Cinderella Stories, and a variety of short stories, non-fiction, poetry.

### Absences:

If a student is absent, it is expected that they will reach out to their teacher or a peer to obtain the assignment(s) missed in class that day to be turned in as soon as possible.

Handouts will be kept in a specific location in the classroom for absent students to pick up when they return to class.

### Grading Scale:

→ Writing Assignments and Projects\*- 40%

→ Quizzes and Tests\*- 40%

→ Classwork and Homework \*\*-20%

- ◆ \*Students may choose to make corrections/revisions to improve their grade after teacher conference
- ◆ \*\*Homework will only be assigned when there is a need to complete classwork activities and/or readings **or** if there is a particular skill or concept that needs reinforcement.

### What is the Twenty Five Books Campaign?

★ The 25 Books Campaign is a school-wide initiative encouraging all students to read twenty-five books during the academic school year. The campaign encourages students to read a wide variety of texts and topics across different genres. **Staff and family members are welcome to participate as well!** The purpose of this initiative is to:

- Improve vocabulary knowledge and usage
- Encourage a love of reading
- Introduce students to a variety of genres and authors
- Improve reading and writing skills.

### The Young Novelist Project:

★ The Young Novelist Project is a year-long writing project modeled after the NANOWRIMO writing project. This project is a fun and empowering approach to creative writing that challenges students to write a 10,000 word novel over the course of the school year. Each month, students will be guided through the process of narrative writing. Students will brainstorm, draft, revise, edit, and publish their novels. The end of the school year will include a YNP celebration in which students will receive a bound copy of their novel.

### Contact Information:

❖ **I can be contacted at [knolan@cornwallschools.com](mailto:knolan@cornwallschools.com).** I check my email at the beginning and end of each school day and always respond within 24 hours!

### Google Classroom:

★ Please add our English Google Classroom to your school Google account **by Friday, September 8th.**

English Period: \_\_\_\_\_ Google Classroom Code: \_\_\_\_\_