7th Grade ELA Syllabus

Miss Jennifer Parkinson

US 301

The seventh grade ELA curriculum emphasizes growing a love for English/ Language Arts and the core skills of reading and writing. We do so through Writer’s Workshop, fiction and non-fiction reading, vocabulary development and our Independent reading goals. The units of study include:

Unit 1: Sensitivity in Memoirs

Unit 2: Compassion in Classics

Unit 3: Lessons of Intelligence and Vitality in dystopian fiction

Unit 4: Courage and Sensitivity for troubling histories

Qingdao No1. International School has adopted the Common Core State Standards, which include the following Standards for English/ Language Arts. Students will do a variety of activities designed to develop these skills:

1. Cite textual evidence to support analysis and draw inferences

2. Determine author’s point of view and purpose

3. Write arguments to support claims with clear reasons and relevant evidence using multiple sources.

4. Produce clear and coherent writing in which the development, organization, and style are appropriate to task, purpose, and audience

5. Use proper conventions in writing

6. Engage effectively in collaborative discussions and present claims and findings.

More information is available at [www.corestandards.org/ELA-Literacy/RL/7/](http://www.corestandards.org/ELA-Literacy/RL/7/)

Expectations:

·         give and receive **respect**

·         **learn** from me, yourself, and each other

·         **work** mindfully and with a growth mindset

Grading Procedures:

A: Summative Assignments (40% of the final grade):

1. Key Assignments:

Students will not be able to retake Key Assignments, therefore it is very important that participate in the preparation phase, as well as the key assignment itself. Key Assignments are a culminating assessment on the students’ understanding of core concepts. They take place at the end of the unit. It is compulsory to attend Key Assignments, unless the student is exempt prior to the Key Assignment through a written validation with the parents. Key Assignment dates are announced at the beginning of the year and can be viewed on the School’s event calendar.

1. Assessed discussion grades:

At specific stages of the unit, students are assessed on their contribution and quality of contribution of a discussion which covers topics and concepts covered in the unit. The assessment criteria is based on the discussion rubric, which students are made aware of prior to the discussion. If the student is absent) during an assessed discussion, and was excused by parents prior to the assessment, he or she may make up for the missed grade through one-to-one discussion on the topic with myself, on an arranged time and date. The student must take the initiative to make up for this grade, him or herself.

1. Culminating writing assignments

Students will be assessed on a culminating writing task which covers the concepts covered in the unit, and is based on the department’s 6+1 Traits of writing rubric. Culminating writing tasks must be handed in on the due-date. Assignments may be handed in up to one week after the deadline, however, 10 points will be deducted from their writing score. Work handed-in after the deadline will be marked as zero points.

B: Formative Assessment (60% of the final grade):

1. Classwork:

Classwork assignments include formative class tasks and project work. These assignments are expected to be completed on time.

1. Homework:

Homework assignments are expected to be completed on time. Students will note their assignments daily homework planner. Students will receive a 0% on homework assignments that are not turned in and can earn up to a 70% for turning in late homework. Homework is considered late at the moment of collection in class.

1. Independent Reading and Word Work:

Students are expected to complete their Independent Reading goal each quarter. While some time is given in class each day, the expectation is that students actively participate in a minimum of 15 minutes of reading each night.

Please discuss this syllabus with your child, then sign and date below.

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Child’s Name Grade

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Student Signature Date

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Parent(s)/Guardian Signature Date