

Middle School
Developmental Language



Arts - Syllabus 2024-2025

The City of Hialeah Educational Academy

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Teacher Website: www.hialeaheduacademy.com

INTRODUCTION

Greetings to all students joining the Middle School Developmental Language Arts class! I am excited and honored to be your teacher for this course. This year promises to be filled with meaningful learning experiences. Our focus will be on building essential language skills to help you succeed in your studies and future learning. In this class, we will work together to improve your reading, writing, speaking, and listening abilities. Your active participation, cooperation, and dedication to learning are greatly valued. Every student contributes to our class community, and together we will foster an environment of growth and progress. I am here to support your journey as learners and individuals. Let's embark on this educational adventure with enthusiasm and positivity. Welcome aboard!

COURSE DESCRIPTION

In the Middle School Developmental Language Arts course, we will concentrate on enhancing your foundational language skills, especially in reading, writing, speaking, and listening. Throughout the school year, we will engage in various interactive activities to improve your language abilities. These activities will help you become more confident and proficient in English communication. Furthermore, throughout the course, we will cover topics such as: vocabulary building, basic sentence structure, simple paragraph writing, reading short passages and answering questions, and listening to spoken English and responding.

COURSE GOALS

- Develop basic reading comprehension skills by identifying key information in texts.
- Practice listening skills to understand spoken English in various contexts.
- Gain confidence in speaking English by participating in conversations and discussions.
- Improve your writing skills to communicate ideas effectively.

REQUIRED ONLINE PLATFORMS

-NoRedInk.com, vocabulary.com, Google Classroom, ellevationeducation.com, remind.com

REQUIRED SUPPLY

- (1) box of markers/colored pencils
- (4) pack of Index Cards
- (12) #2 Mechanical pencils
- (3) pens (one blue pen, one red pen, and one black pen)
- (1) glue stick
- (1) notebook
- (1) 3-prong plastic pocket folder (duo-tang) or binder (any color)
- (6) packages of college ruled paper to start the year
- (1) eraser
- (1) pair of scissors (no sharp points)
- (4) highlighters (a variety of colors)
- (1) pocket Dictionary
- (1) school purchased agenda or your own planner
- (1) headphones (**with auxiliary cable**)
- Laptop or tablet with charging cable

*Have access to the internet and have an active email address (**students must know and remember their usernames and passwords**)

WEBSITES

www.hialeaheduacademy.com

This website will be utilized as a means for communication. Assignments, home learning, etc. will be found on the site for both students and parents. To access:

Click on> Faculty/staff
>Faculty email
>Mesa, Jennilay

TYPE OF ASSIGNMENTS

- Reading (short stories, essays, poems)
- Journals
- Grammar
- Vocabulary
- Collaborative discussions/Integration of knowledge
- Group Assignments/Critical thinking
- Assessments/Projects/Presentations

STUDENT EVALUATION

Grades are based on the Miami-Dade County Grading Scale.

GRADING SCALE:

90 - 100 = A	4 pts.	3.5 - 4.0 average
80 - 89 = B	3 pts.	2.5 - 3.49 average
70 - 79 = C	2 pts.	1.5 - 2.49 average
60 - 69 = D	1 pt.	1.0 - 1.49 average
Below 59 = F	0 pts.	Below 1.0 average

Students are evaluated based on the following criteria below:

Test: 30%

Quizzes: 20%

Classwork: 20%

Home learning: 5%

Presentations/Projects/Essays: 25%

CLASSROOM RULES

1. Be respectful and listen to learn at all times
 2. Honor your parents, families, culture, and heritage at all times with your behavior
 3. Be prepared to learn and demonstrate your growth at all times
- **Adhere to the classroom procedures at all times; when in doubt, ask.**

In the event that the rules are broken, the student will be tracked in the HERO tracking system. The system works on a daily/weekly basis in this and all classes. The first step is a warning, the second is parent communication, the third will result in a detention, and the fourth a parent conference and referral to administration. This will affect the conduct grade in class.

PHONES AND OTHER ELECTRONICS

As per state law, all students are now required to place their phones in a designated location. In this class, phone pockets will be found when entering the classroom. Students will be assigned a number, and phones will be placed in your correct location when entering the class. Other electronic devices, such as Bluetooth headsets and smart watches, should remain in your bookbag or be used as watches only, unless directed by a teacher. Any student caught using these devices outside of designated times the device will be confiscated, documented in HERO, and sent to the front office. Students may not collect them until after school.

ATTENDANCE/ TARDY POLICY

Attendance plays a key role in your learning. It is your responsibility to be present and, in your seat, when the bell rings. Given that we only have a certain amount of time together, punctuality is a must. If you are tardy, you must have a written excuse on school official paper from the teacher who detained you or the administration. Tardiness will also be tracked in the HERO tracking system. Listed below are the consequences for unexcused tardiness:

- 1st tardy: Verbal warning.
- 2nd tardy: Call home.
- 3rd tardy: Detention.

- 4th tardy: Referred to administration, referral.
- 5+ tardy, administrative actions.

ASSIGNMENT/ MAKE UP POLICY

Adequate time is given to complete assignments. Therefore, late work will NOT be accepted, unless authorized by the teacher. It is the student's responsibility to manage their time effectively in order to meet the deadlines. A letter grade of Z will be given if the assignment is not turned in on the date of collection.

In the event that the student is unable to complete an assignment due to an absence, it is the student's responsibility to collect and complete any assignment that was missed. A grade will ONLY be received if the absence is EXCUSED. The student will have as many days as they were out to complete the assignment (example: if the student was absent for two days, they have two days, including the day they returned, to complete missing assignments). This does not excuse the student from assignments received when returned.

HOMELEARNING POLICY

Home learning will mostly be to study, take and revise notes, answer exit slip questions, enhance vocabulary, practice class concepts, and further research topics. The home learning is driven by the instruction that takes place in the classroom. Therefore, do not expect home learning to be in the form of specific assignments on a daily basis that must be turned in the next day; although they may take on this form on occasion. Parent communication will be made for missing assignments.

PLAGIARISM

Plagiarism is completely UNACCEPTABLE. The consequence for a student caught in the act of plagiarism is a letter grade of Z. Plagiarism is not taken lightly, so keep in mind that administration will be notified as well as the parent. Cheating is a derivative of plagiarism; the same consequences will apply to anything of that nature. Student work that is submitted to the teacher must reflect independent, original student thought and be an independent, original student composition and compilation; not copied from the internet, another student, or any other source.

REMOTE LIVE INSTRUCTION

Adhere to the respective guidelines for our online platform as discussed by administration and in keeping with school policies. Make sure that you are in proper attendance, attire, and in compliance of all rules and procedures. Our online platform is our classroom; and therefore, we must treat it with the same amount of respect. This will be in the event of quarantine or as deemed by administration.

COMMUNICATION

Allow between 24-48 hours for updates in gradebook and follow up to email communication. Google classroom is NOT the gradebook. Any "grade", percentage, or note on google classroom is intended for feedback purposes only. The best way to communicate with me about your concerns is via **email**; not during class time, and not via text or any other messaging platform. In your email, please include your full name, student ID number, class period, and the nature of your question or your concern. Class time is for instruction and learning.

Please sign and submit the student/parent contract on the next page

STUDENT/PARENT CONTRACT

PRINT, SIGN, AND RETURN THIS PORTION OF THE SYLLABUS. Upload/submit to google classroom.

STUDENT SECTION:

I have read and understood the student contract for Ms. J. Mesa's Language Arts class. I have thoroughly reviewed the rules and procedures with my parent(s)/guardian(s.) I understand and agree to all terms.

Student Signature	Please Print Name	Date	Period
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PARENT SECTION:

I (we) the parent(s)/guardian(s) have gone over this contract with my (our) child and I (we) understand and agree on all the terms.

Parent/Guardian Signature	Please Print Name	Date
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Parent/Guardian Contact Information:

Phone Number(s): _____

E-mail Address: _____

Comments: