

LANGUAGE & LITERATURE

The Language and Literature course is designed to address the Common Core English Language Arts standards. This course will prepare our students to become powerful communicators, as well as creative and critical thinkers. We read a wide range of texts, and write on a near-daily basis in a multitude of forms and modes, from poetry and journaling to longer essays and responses to literature.

GRADE 6 (MYP YEAR 1):

READING

- *Word Recognition*
- *Vocabulary and Concept Development*
- *Structural Features of Informational Materials*
- *Comprehension and Analysis of Grade-Level-Appropriate Text*
- *Expository Critique*
- *Structural Features of Literature*
- *Narrative Analysis of Grade-Level-Appropriate Text*

WRITING

- *Organization and Focus*
- *Research and Technology*
- *Evaluation and Revision*

WRITTEN LANGUAGE CONVENTIONS

- *Sentence Structure*
- *Grammar*
- *Punctuation*
- *Capitalization*
- *Spelling*

GRADE 7 (MYP YEAR 2):

- Students will use novels to analyze the elements of literature. Possible novel titles include:
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 - *The Giver* by Lois Lowry
 - *The People Could Fly* as told by Virginia Hamilton
 - *The Hunger Games* by Suzanne Collins
 - *Maus* written and illustrated by Art Spiegelman.

- Within the novel units, students will also be exposed to poetry that connects to the themes and concepts covered by the novels. Possible poems include:
 - “I Hear America Singing” by Walt Whitman
 - “I, Too Sing America” by Langston Hughes
 - “The New Colossus” by Emma Lazarus
- Within the novel units, students will also be exposed to informational texts that connect to the themes and concepts covered by the novels. Possible titles include:
 - “Moonwalking with Einstein: The Art and Science of Remembering Everything” by Joshua Foer
 - Runaway Slave Notice
- Students will engage in three different genres of writing:
 - Narrative- Students will write narratives to develop real or imagined experiences or events using effective technique, relevant descriptive details, and well-structured event sequences.
 - Argument- Students will write arguments to support claims with clear reasons and relevant evidence
 - Informative-Students will write informative/explanatory texts to examine a topic and convey ideas, concepts, and information through the selection, organization, and analysis of relevant content.

We will also be supplementing novel studies with StudySync, an online language arts program.

GRADE 8 (MYP YEAR 3):

- Students will use short stories, poetry, and novels to analyze the elements of literature. Possible novels include but are not limited to:
 - *Chains*
 - *Milkweed*
 - *Lord of the Flies*
 - *Outsiders*
 - *Diary of Anne Frank*
 - *Night*
 - *Because of Romek*
- Students will engage in three different genres of writing;
 - Narrative
 - Argument
 - Informative

We will also be supplementing novel studies with StudySync, an online language arts program.