



**KENOSHA UNIFIED SCHOOL DISTRICT NO. 1
CURRICULUM AND INSTRUCTIONAL SERVICES**

**MIDDLE SCHOOL COURSE SYLLABUS
8TH GRADE ENGLISH LANGUAGE ARTS (100810)**

Course Description

Eighth grade English Language Arts is the study of reading literature, writing and presentation skills. Students will apply reading skills by utilizing word knowledge, reading strategies and evaluating nonfiction texts and literature. Written skill will be enhanced for a variety of writing purposes. The writing will focus on expanding vocabulary development and correct grammar usage in written products. Students will demonstrate appropriate presentation skills, as well as listen to, view, and evaluate information.

Relevance

This course will foster student's ability to read critically, write effectively, and communicate efficiently, providing the foundation for career opportunities.

Course Standards

Standard A: READING/LITERATURE
Standard B: WRITING

Standard C: LISTENING/VIEWING
Standard D: SPEAKING

Most essential benchmarks may be viewed at: www.kusd.edu.

Lifelong Learning Standards

- Knowledgeable person
- Complex thinker
- Effective communicator
- Self-directed learner
- Quality producer
- Contributing citizen

Lifelong learning benchmarks may be viewed at: www.kusd.edu.

Course Outline

Quarter 1

- Persuasive Response-convincing others
- Reading Strategies- Nonfiction text

Quarter 2

- Expository-Cause and Effect Essay
- Reading Strategies- Nonfiction text

Quarter 3

- Creative Writing piece
- Reading Strategies- Fiction text

Quarter 4

- Response to Literature
- Reading Strategies- Fiction text

Board-Approved Instructional Materials

Beers, De Lange, et al. Elements of Literature Second Course. Austin: Holt, Rinehart and Winston, 2005.

(ISBN H68374-2)

Beers, De Lange, et al. Elements of Language Second Course. Austin: Holt, Rinehart and Winston, 2004.

(ISBN H68666-0)

Parents as Partners

For additional support visit <http://go.hrw.com>

Methods of Assessment

District Common Assessment

Scholastic Reading Inventory (SRI)

Classroom Assessment

Board-Approved Grading Scale

Excerpts taken from School Board Rule 6452

GRADING SCALE

A+=98-100 percent

B+=86-89 percent

C+=76-79 percent

D+=66-69 percent

A=93-97 percent

B=83-85 percent

C=73-75 percent

D=63-65 percent

A-=90-92 percent

B-=80-82 percent

C-=70-72 percent

D-=60-62 percent

F=0-59 percent

MAKE-UP WORK

Students submitting work up to ten school days late without prior approval may receive up to two grades lower on the work than they would have received if the work had been submitted on time (i.e., B+ lowered to a D+). Student work submitted after ten school days without prior approval shall not be accepted for credit and shall be recorded with a score of zero.

Upon returning to school after an absence, a student has the responsibility within the number of days equal to the length of the absence or suspension to meet with the teacher to develop a plan for making up missed work, quizzes, and examinations. A truant student has the responsibility on the first day he or she returns to the course/class to meet with the teacher to develop a plan for making up missed work, quizzes, and examinations. Lower grades may not be given for late work due to excused absences, suspension, or truancy unless the work is submitted later than agreed upon deadlines.

See Rule 6452 in its entirety at: www.kusd.edu.