

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

September 2021

## Sixth Grade English Language Arts

**Teacher E-Mail:** jsuarez@nmprsd.org

### **Extra Help Days:**

Tuesday and Thursday 3:01-3:30

### **Course Content:**

This year we will be utilizing the reading and writing workshop model to study a variety of different writing and literature genres. Some books and stories will be read as a class. A large portion of the reading will be choice books that are read independently. The units of study are as follows:

#### **Reading:**

- Elements of Fiction
- Exploring Structures and Integrating Information Across Multiple Nonfiction Texts
- Evaluating Arguments in Nonfiction Texts
- Short Stories, Dramas, and Poems
- NJ-SLA Skills and Strategies: Multi-Genre Review
- Evaluating and Distinguishing Claims and Techniques in Persuasive Media: Commercials and Packaging

#### **Writing:**

- First Person Narrative
- Informational Essays: Synthesis of Multiple Texts on a Topic
- Argumentative Commentary Writing: Supporting Beliefs with Clear and Coherent Explanations
- Writing Literary Analysis: Comparing Two Works
- NJ-SLA Skills and Strategies: Multi-Genre Review
- Write-Your-Own-Commercial: Dramatic Writing with a Lens on Persuasion

### **Required Materials:**

- A folder OR a binder section
- Blue or black pens and/or pencils

### **Recommended Materials:**

- Multi-color highlighters
- Post-it notes

### **Grading:**

Homework	10%
Class work/Participation	25%
Assessments	65%

## Assignments and Assessments for this Class:

This year, we will be using Google Docs and Google Classroom for many assignments. While we will still be utilizing notebooks for note taking, drafting, and brainstorming. Depending on Covid-19 Safety protocols, notebook assignments may still be collected digitally for grading via Google Docs.

- **Reading Notebook and Writing Notebook tasks** are regular assignments in this class. It is **your** responsibility to keep up to date with the assignments. Your grade for these assignments will be based on the following:
  - All tasks should be completed. If you miss an entry because you are absent, make sure to ask me what you missed before class, after class, via email, or during extra help and complete the assignment!
  - Make sure you fulfill the length requirements.
  - Stay on topic.
  - Your responses should be well thought out and developed. For reading assignments, you should be engaging with the reading, thinking about what is happening in the text, and asking questions. For writing assignments, you should continually be striving to improve your writing in the genre being studied by trying new techniques and expanding upon your writing.
  - **Note: When working in your reading and writing notebooks, it is YOUR responsibility to remember to bring your notebook to and from class when you have an assignment. Keep your notebooks in a safe place when bringing them back and forth from home. YOU ARE STILL RESPONSIBLE FOR ALL OF THE ASSIGNMENTS IF YOU LOSE YOUR NOTEBOOKS OR GOOGLE DOCS.**
- **Do Now's** will be posted at the beginning of class. They may be a question to respond to, a reading assignment, or another task. It is your responsibility to complete the task posted at the beginning of the period.
- For each unit that we study, you will have a variety of assignments. You can expect to have tests, writing assignments, projects, and quizzes during each unit of study.
- If you are **absent** on the day of a test, a quiz, or an in-class writing assignment, it is **your responsibility** to meet with me before or after class to schedule a time to make-up the work.
- **Essays, projects, and writing assignments should be handed in on time.** If you are absent the day an assignment is due, you **must** submit the assignment on the day you return to class. **Failure to turn in an assignment on time will result in one or more of the following repercussions: a call/email home, a working detention during my extra help hours, and/or loss of points on the assignment.**
- Collected homework/class work that is not turned in will receive a zero until received. Late work will be accepted within a reasonable window of time.
- **Failure to complete class work will result in a mandatory extra help.**

## Retaking Assessments for this Class:

- You will only be able to complete a retake on tests or quizzes. Long term assignments that are completed in class over the course of multiple periods and receive feedback from the teacher and peers prior to submission, such as projects and writing assignments, are not applicable for retakes.
- Quizzes that address skills that will be re-assessed at a later time in the unit (for example, on the Unit Test) are not applicable for retakes.

- Applicable assessments (tests/quizzes) may be retaken in order to prove that you have learned the material. The following **MUST** occur in order to retake an assessment:
  - You must speak with the teacher within one (1) week of receiving the assessment to set up a retake.
  - The teacher will determine the window for the retake. No retakes will be allowed past the set window.
  - You must attend extra help or demonstrate evidence of studying and reviewing the material before you can retake an assessment.
  
- The above are the minimum requirements to retake an assessment. You may be required to complete other steps before being allowed to retake an assessment.