

Seventh Grade Language Arts & Advanced Language Arts
Mr. Ruud
aruud@murrieta.k12.ca.us

Welcome to room 614, my name is Mr. Ruud, and I will be your Language Arts teacher this year. Below I have outlined a general overview of 7th grade curriculum, as well as our classroom policies, procedures, and expectations. Students will receive homework for the week on Monday. Assignments will usually be due Tuesday and Thursday night and will be turned in on the "Assignments" page in Haiku. Late assignments will be accepted for partial credit up to two days after the due date and will need to be turned in directly to the Dropbox on Haiku. Students will also record all assignments in an agenda binder; assignments will also be posted on the class homepage. I will keep parents informed of what we are doing in class, of student progress or other areas of concern. Progress reports give parents an indication of student performance for the reporting period. Internet access to student progress will also be available on Aeries and will be updated regularly. I feel that parent involvement in their child's education is key to student success, and I look forward to developing a partnership with parents to help ensure the success of every student.

The students will be using chromebooks in the class this year and will benefit from having a gmail address to use the different program and applications as well as save their work. The students can open their own gmail addresses or parents can open one for their child. The gmail account will only be used in school for collaboration and work with Google Docs and Apps. We will not be using them for email. I can also open a class account for a student(s) if you do not want them having a personal one or one that you open for them.

Class Expectations:

1. Be respectful.
2. Be prepared.
3. Follow directions and listen carefully.
4. Be engaged in learning.

Class Rules:

1. No food, gum, or drinks in class.
2. No swearing or teasing
3. Keep hands, feet, and objects to yourself.
4. Raise your hand to speak.
5. No yelling, or screaming.

Consequences:

1. Conference with Mr. Ruud
2. Time out
3. Parent contact
4. Detention (After School)

Daily Supplies

1. Three-ringed notebook with white notebook paper.
2. Pencil and eraser
3. Pen
4. Spiral notebook

Curriculum

Language Arts skills:

- Listening
- Spelling
- Grammar
- Vocabulary
- Speaking
- Reading

Essays:

- Informative/Explanatory
- Argumentative
- Narrative
- Expository
- Analytical
- Research

Novels, Literature & Expository:

- Prentice Hall, Literature
- *Roll of Thunder, Hear my cry*
- *The Giver*
- *The Trumpeter of Krakow*
- *UBD units & ERWC modules*

Writing:

- Sentence Structure
- Transitional Devices
- Editing & Revising
- Pre-writing Strategies
- Elements of Style
- *Rhetorical Strategies*

Class Standards:

1. Assignments will be typed unless there are circumstances which make that not possible.
2. Typewritten work will be double-spaced and in a font no smaller than 10 and no larger than 12 with one inch margins. Essays will be composed in MLA format.
3. Assignments will have a name, date, period, and title.
4. Assignments without names will not be graded.
5. Assignments will be turned in on time. A phone call or email will be sent to notify parent(s) of missing assignments.

Parent Calls:

A parent may receive a call or text from their child when they choose to not turn in an assignment. The student will document the call in a message booklet. If the parent is not home, the student will leave a voicemail. In some cases, parents may receive an email instead of a phone call to notify them of missing work. In this case parents may simply reply to the email.

Late Work:

Depending on the assignment, students will be penalized anywhere from 10%-50% for up to two days after the original due date.

*Extensions may be given in the event of an emergency

Make up Work:

If a student is absent on a Monday, he/she must check Haiku for assignment details. Students have one day for each day of absence to make up work.

Test make up will be scheduled on an individual basis. It is the student's responsibility to make up a missed test or quiz. Students will also be afforded three retakes on assessments per semester.

Extra Credit Policy:

No extra credit work will be given at any time.

Substitute Policy

I consider a substitute to be a guest in my class and therefore misbehavior will not occur. If a student's name is given in a substitute's report for misbehavior, one hour of detention will be assigned to that student.

Grading Policy:

All assignments will be assigned a point value out of 5. Grades in my class are therefore figured on a 5 point rubric scale. When you receive a progress report, it will contain number grades for some assignments (5,4,3,2 or 1). The 5 point rubric works like letter grades (A,B,C,D and F). The final marks for grades will be as follows:

4.25-5	A
3.25-4.24	B
2.25-3.24	C
1.25-2.24	D
0-1.24	F

I encourage you to respect yourself and your education by giving your best effort in all you attempt. The classroom is a learning environment where students have the right to learn without disruption. Therefore behavior problems will not be tolerated, if a student chooses to be a behavior problem, then he/she chooses to be removed from the class. I look forward to having you in my class and getting to know you this year.

Mr. Ruud

Syllabus Sign Off Sheet

Student's Signature: _____

Date: _____

Parent's Signature: _____

Date: _____

Parent's Name: _____

Phone number: _____

Email: _____