



## 6th Grade Language Arts Course Syllabus

Ms. X. Shannon, Instructor (LC6)

[xshannon@atlanta.k12.ga.us](mailto:xshannon@atlanta.k12.ga.us)

Ms. K. Pettway, Instructor (LC5)

[krose@atlanta.k12.ga.us](mailto:krose@atlanta.k12.ga.us)

Ms. G. Couben, Instructor (LC5 & LC7)

[gcouben@atlanta.k12.ga.us](mailto:gcouben@atlanta.k12.ga.us)

Martin Luther King, Jr. Middle School

Telephone Number: (404) 802-5400

Welcome! I am so excited to have you as a member of learning community six (LC6) for the 2013-2014 school year. I trust that we will have a fabulous year exploring the various writing and literary genres.

**Class Description:** This language arts class is designed to increase your communication skills through reading, writing, speaking, and the study of the English language. Atlanta Public Schools utilizes the Common Core Curriculum which emphasizes rigor. Our primary focus in language arts class will be reading texts critically and using those texts as a springboard for various writing styles, demonstrating the rules of grammar, and oral expression.

This year you can expect to read a variety of fiction and non-fiction including novels, short stories, dramas, poetry, and essays. These writing pieces will model the different writing styles we will be working on ourselves. Writing assignments will include timed responses, journal writing, essays, critiques, and creative pieces. Vocabulary, spelling, and grammar assignments will also be an important part of this class.

### Content Topics:

- Narrative writing\*
- Informational writing (descriptive, explanation, comparison and contrast, problem/solution)\*
- Technical writing (friendly letters, thank-you notes, instructions, web pages)\*
- Argument writing/Speech writing and delivery\*
- Reading Comprehension (through poetry, short stories/ novels and a variety of science fiction, and non-fiction, and vocabulary)
- Standard grammar and mechanics (including Sentence Fluency and Construction)

*\*Throughout all of our writing, we will also utilize the multi-step writing process to develop, revise, evaluate, and improve our products. In our course of study in all the units, we will address the various elements of specific genres (including but not limited to organization, purpose, audience, narration, conflict, sound, graphics, tone, and theme).*

### Infinite Campus:

You are able to see your up-to-date class average at any time on the Infinite Campus website. Your parents must obtain a username and password from the main office. Check this site often to see if you are missing assignments in Language Arts.

### Textbook(s):

Literature Language and Literature- Prentice Hall 2010      79.47

### Workbooks:

All-in-One Workbook – Prentice Hall 2010

Reader's Notebook- Prentice Hall 2010  
 Writing and Grammar: Grammar Exercise Workbook –Prentice Hall 2010  
 Common Core Coach: English Language Arts- Triumph Learning 2010

<b>Materials:</b> 3-ring binder Notebook paper Dividers (5) Black or blue ink	<b>Grading Scale:</b> 90-100= A 80-89=B 70-79=C 0-69=F	<b>Grading Percentages:</b> Classwork =35% Test (Summative) 25% Quizzes(Formative)=15% Projects=15% Homework=10%
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*\*Material and notebook checks will be given randomly throughout the semester, please take note that notebook checks count as a classwork grade.*

**Homework:**

Homework will be given at a minimum of three nights a week to reinforce the skills that are introduced in class. If students do not have homework assigned for a particular day, please encourage your child to review class notes and/or spend 45 minutes reading a book, magazine, or newspaper.

**Projects:**

One major project will be given towards the end of the semester. All students are expected to complete a Language Arts project. Please keep in mind that the Language Arts project is separate from the district “One Fair” project and account for 15% of the student’s grade.

<b>Classroom Expectations:</b> <i>Students are expected the follow the rules and expectations outlined the student handbook and follow M. L. King’s 3R’s Policy</i>  <b>King 3R’s Policy:</b> Be <b>R</b> espectful Be <b>R</b> esponsible Be <b>R</b> eady to Learn	<b>Classroom Consequences:</b> 1. Verbal warning 2. Student Conference 3. Parental Contact (Phone call home or letter) 4. Team Discipline (detention, silent lunch, or behavior reflection) 5. Parent Conference 6. Discipline referral
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**Make Work Policy:**

- If a student is absent, he or she is responsible for all missing assignments.
- If an assignment was given during the course of the student’s absence, the student has as many days as were out to turn in the assignment(s) (i.e. 2 days absent, 2 days to turn in work).

**Tutorial:**

- Students can join the “After School All-Stars” tutorial program for extra assistance. The academic program is on Monday, Wednesday, Thursday and Friday from 4:20-5:30 pm. Academic assistance from certified professionals and transportation home is provided.
- Tutorial with Ms. Shannon is held every Wednesday from 4:20-5:20.

I have read and understand the contents of the 2013-2014 6<sup>th</sup> grade Language Arts course syllabus.

Student Signature \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_

Parent Signature \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_