

# McDonough High School

## Intensive Reading and Writing I Syllabus

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### Course Description:

Basic Reading and Writing I will use Read 180 Universal, a research-based reading intervention program designed to meet the reading and writing needs of students to accelerate them to grade-level proficiency. The program addresses individual student needs using adaptive instructional software, high-interest fiction and nonfiction books, and systematic direct instruction in reading skills, vocabulary, writing, and grammar.

- This course is designed to improve reading skills in every part of your life that involves reading. We'll explore various strategies and skills to improve your reading comprehension throughout this class.
- If you make an effort in this class, you should see improvement in every other class you take this year, and throughout high school.
- There will be little homework, but the trade-off is that you will make a consistent effort to be an outstanding student while you are here.
- The characteristics of an outstanding reading student are similar to the characteristics of an outstanding reader: you will be an active member of the class; you will be thinking about your work and not just going through the motions; you will be open-minded and curious.

### Method of Instruction:

READ 180 organizes class time to provide a balance of teacher-led instruction, scaffolded practice, and small-group interaction. Students will engage with their teacher in **Whole-Group Learning** and participate in three daily rotations: **Small-Group Learning**, **Student App**, and **Independent Reading**. Each rotation will last approximately 20 minutes.

In **whole-group instruction** students will work on close-reading strategies, academic vocabulary, writing, and academic discussion with the entire class using an interactive work text called the ReaL Book.

In the **small-group rotation**, students will receive targeted instruction in language development, comprehension, vocabulary, writing, and fluency using the ReaL Book and Differentiation Lessons.

In the **Student App rotation**, students will work independently on the READ 180 Universal software, following a personalized path to accelerate learning. Students will work on reading comprehension skills, word fluency and automaticity skills, spelling, and writing.

In the **Independent Reading rotation**, students will have their choice of engaging, content-rich texts to read from a library of over 100 paperbacks, eBooks, audiobooks, and eReads.

## **Course Outline:**

### **Workshop 1: At First Sight**

Skills: Identify Central Idea and Details; Read Critically; Analyze Point of View; Analyze Literary Elements; Analyze Character; Make Inferences; Identify Text Structure; Cite Text Evidence; Use Word Strategies; Summarize

Writing Focus: Informative Essay

### **Workshop 2: Who Am I?**

Skills: Identify Central Idea and Details; Use Word Strategies; Analyze Literary Elements; Analyze Visual Content; Analyze Plot; Make Inferences; Cite Text Evidence; Analyze Figurative Language; Analyze Character; Analyze Figurative Language

Writing Focus: Literary Analysis

### **Workshop 3: It's Your Right**

Skills: Identify Central Idea and Details; Read Critically; Make Inferences; Identify Text Structure; Analyze Point of View; Analyze Literary Elements; Summarize; Identify Author's Purpose

Writing Focus: Argument Essay

**Grading:**

Grading will follow the policy of the Henry County School District.

A = 90% - 100%; B = 80% - 89%; C = 74% - 79%; D = 70% - 73%; F = below 70

80% of the student's grade will be determine by course work, assessments, and projects assigned in the class.

20% of the student's grade will be determined through a final exam.

**I do not “give” you a grade. The grade you will receive is the grade that you have *earned*.**

*Grading will be done on a point scale with daily assignments ranging from 5-20 points each.*

*Quizzes, tests and projects scores will be entered based on actual scoring.*

Daily Work – consists of homework if assigned, class participation, class work, and other daily instructional components. You are expected to participate in class discussions and complete all assigned work.

Journals/Quick Writes/Warm-Ups/DGP/Wrap Ups and other daily assignments – will be graded according to their completeness, evidence of comprehension and insight.

Tests/Quizzes – weekly quizzes and tests will be administered during the Student App rotation and grades for “zones” will be recorded as assessment grades.

Projects – will be graded using a rubric provided and will be entered as a test.

**General Expectations:**

- Respect yourself, others and their property.
- Listen carefully. Do not interrupt the teacher or other students.
- Put litter in the trashcan, return borrowed items, do not write on desks or walls, etc.
- Exercise kindness, self-discipline, and self-control at all times. (Crude and offensive language will not be tolerated.
- Do not throw or toss any item inside the classroom.
- Tone and volume of voice must be appropriate at all times.

**Three things that are absolutely not tolerated in this instructional setting:**

- Rudeness and disrespect (profanity)
- Personal electronic devices unless otherwise approved
- Touching any item in, on or around my desk

**Consequences of Misbehavior:**

- 1<sup>st</sup>--Warning
- 2<sup>nd</sup>--Phone call to parent
- 3<sup>rd</sup>--Detention – Before lunch.
- 4<sup>th</sup>--Referral – The above steps may be skipped depending on severity of misbehavior.

## **Procedures:**

### **Before Entering the Classroom**

- Turn off your phone and put it in your bag or purse
- Make sure you have paper, pen/pencil, complete assignments

### **When You First Enter the Classroom**

- Gather items needed for daily instruction
- Place your book bag out of the aisle
- Be seated in your assigned seat
- Begin Warm up

### **When the Bell Rings to End the Period**

- Stay in your seat
- Pick up all books, papers, folder, trash, etc.
- Leave only when I dismiss you (normally at the bell).

### **Tardy Policy**

- Any student who is late for class without prior approval is required to obtain a pass from the attendance office.

### **Late Work & Make-up Work**

- A student with an excused absence has three school days to make up missed assignments. The **STUDENT** is responsible for requesting any missed assignments. Please do not interrupt instructional time to get missing work; see me before or after class.
- Students with ISS should see me in advance to obtain work for ISS.

### **Computer Use**

- When finished working, log off, replace the headphones and push and in your chair quietly.
- Computer games are strictly prohibited in the classroom and computer lab.
- Do not pound on the keyboard or repeatedly click the mouse.
- Food or liquids are never allowed in this area.

## **Helpful Hints:**

Remember, I am here to help you in any way I can. If you need extra help, you are welcome to ask me any questions you might have or arrange to see me before/after school for help.

However, I will not use time before or after school to reteach content you chose not to complete during class as a result of inattentive and off task behavior. I am happy to answer all of your questions to the best of my ability and will do my best to make things clear for you. It is up to you to make the first step.

**Situations may arise that are not covered in this syllabus. The first rule is always use common sense. If you think that doing something might get you in trouble, don't do it. If you are not sure, play it safe and don't do it.**

Please sign and complete the information requested below.

We have read and understand the contents of the **Intensive Reading and Writing I Syllabus**.

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Student Name (please print)	Student Signature	Date
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Period \_\_\_\_\_

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Parent Name (please print)	Parent Signature	Date
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Please print clearly the following information:

\_\_\_\_\_ Phone: \_\_\_\_\_ Best time to call: \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_ Phone: \_\_\_\_\_ Best time to call: \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_ Phone: \_\_\_\_\_ Best time to call: \_\_\_\_\_

Parent email address: \_\_\_\_\_

Student email address: \_\_\_\_\_

Comments/Concerns: \_\_\_\_\_

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