



## 8<sup>th</sup> Grade Language Arts Syllabus

Mrs. Roth

[croth@pasco.k12.fl.us](mailto:croth@pasco.k12.fl.us)

Welcome to 8<sup>th</sup> grade Language Arts! Students will read and analyze different literary genres including fiction, non-fiction, poetry and drama. Students will write expository, narrative, argumentative, and persuasive essays, as well as learn to develop ideas fully, organize them effectively, and express them clearly. Students will use speaking strategies effectively and understand the nature and power of language. Critical thinking is integrated into all components of the course therefore, students will engage in the learning process as critical and creative thinkers.

### **Supplies:**

- 1½ -inch binder
- 5 binder dividers
- paper
- mechanical pencils or regular pencils with a pocket silent pencil sharpener
- ear buds (plug-in type)
- highlighters
- colored pencils
- post-it notes.

Students must have a book with them at ALL times for designated silent reading time or in the event that work is completed early. If students do not know what they should read, Mrs. Roth can provide book suggestions.

### **Standards**

The new Florida B.E.S.T. Standards are integrated consistently throughout all units. Students will work with complex texts, (informational and literary) to write and support claims citing textual evidence. Students will identify, compare and analyze theme, author's craft, text structure, central ideas, and text features. Students will develop sophisticated writing skills, demonstrating mastery of language conventions, narrative techniques and organizational structures. Students will engage effectively in a range of collaborative discussion and present their findings in a focused, coherent manner. Students will navigate texts with challenging vocabulary and take ownership of vocabulary through word study.

### **Controversial Issues-** Per Board Policy 2240

*The Board recognizes that a course of study or certain instructional materials may contain content and/or activities that some parents find objectionable. If after careful, personal review of the program lessons and/or materials, a parent indicates to the school that either the content or the activity conflicts with his religious beliefs or value system, the school will consider a written request for his/her child to be excused from a particular class for specified reasons. The student, however, will not be excused from participating in the course and will be provided alternate learning activities during times of such parent requested absences.*

**Grading:** Grades will be assigned using a points system. All assignments will be divided into two categories: assignments or assessments. Everything is weighted the same, although the points for assignments will vary, depending upon the assignment. Please refer to the MyLearning Gradebook to track student grades and assignments.

**Assignments:** The assignments category will include classwork and homework.

**Classwork:** Students will have in-class assignments that will vary. For the majority, students will either complete the assignment directly in MyLearning or by scanning/taking a picture of their written work and uploading it until the assignment in MyLearning. Assignments will have specific instructions for how a student should submit them.

**Homework:** Students will be expected to read for at least 20 minutes each evening. In addition to reading, students can expect to have homework **up to four times a week**. Homework could include reading, written assignments, reviewing notes, online practice, and/or studying or completing work not finished in class. Please check MyStudent and MyLearning each night for homework assignments. Students are responsible for keeping up with and recording their homework assignments.

**Assessments:** Students will have assessments throughout the year to determine their proficiency level of a concept. These could be in a variety of formats, like a performance task, short response, essay, multiple choice, project, etc. Throughout the year, students will be given writing assignments and/or projects.

**Late Work:** Students are expected to have their work in on time. Late work will be penalized with a reduction of points. Some assignments, depending upon the nature of the assignment, cannot be turned in late at all and will result in the student receiving a 0%, without the opportunity to make up the assignment.

**Make-Up Work:** Students who are absent will have two days per day of *excused* absence to complete their work. Please note that any work assigned prior to an absence is not considered make-up work and is due at the start of class upon the student's return. All assignments and material are available in MyLearning for any students. It is the student's responsibility to monitor their assignments and ensure they are staying caught up while they are out, whether it is one day or an extended period of time. The student needs to reach out to Mrs. Roth if they have any difficulties accessing the assignments.

**Grade Scale:** A=90%-100% , B=80%-89% , C=70%-79% , D=60%-69% = D, F=below 60%

**Contact Information:** Call the school at 813-346-1200 or e-mail me at [croth@pasco.k12.fl.us](mailto:croth@pasco.k12.fl.us)

**Student Rules and Behavioral Expectations:** Students are expected to follow the code of conduct as outlined in the Rushe planner on MyLearning.

**BYOD:** If students plan on bringing a device to CSRMS please complete and sign the B.Y.O.D policy.

### **Online Requirement**

Students in Language Arts will be required to have online access to complete their assignments each week. Most assignments will be submitted in MyLearning. If a student is having trouble accessing the internet at home, it their responsibility to reach out to Mrs. Roth to get help finding a solution.

### **Staying Connected**

*We have many opportunities to stay connected with what is going on at school and in class. Here are some ways to keep connected.*

**MyStudent:** Parents and students should access daily to see upcoming assignments, missing work and scores on graded assignments.

**MyLearning:** Upcoming assignments will be listed on the calendar on the home page. The majority of all assignments will be in MyLearning. Students should never have any doubt as to what their assignment is, when it is due or whether or not they have turned it in. All work for students on quarantine will be available in real-time and be submitted via MyLearning.

**Text Reminders** – I've signed up for an account on Remind.com that will allow me to send a text out to students and parents who sign up. This will be used to send important reminders about tests and/or quizzes, projects, homework, or other important news. Please see directions for signing up at the bottom of this document. ALL STUDENTS AND PARENTS/GUARDIANS MUST SIGN UP FOR REMIND

**Weekly Agenda** I will post a tentative agenda on the board in class on Mondays and in MyLearning. It is the student's responsibility to write down their assignments and monitor their assignments/grades continuously on MyStudent. If a student is absent on a Monday, it is their responsibility to retrieve the assignments on MyStudent, MyLearning and/or confer with a classmate.

**E-Mail** – Students may e-mail me at [croth@pasco.k12.fl.us](mailto:croth@pasco.k12.fl.us) if you have a question or concern.

**Please note:** I will **not** notify parents of missing work or a drop in a student's grade. Parents, I encourage you to have your student be the one to contact the teacher to ask any questions or get clarification about something. In 8<sup>th</sup> grade, we are preparing your child for high school. Part of that is teaching them how to be responsible for their own learning.

**Teacher reserves the right to amend the syllabus at any time.**

Dear Parent/Guardian(s),

I am honored to have your son/daughter in my class this year. It is my goal to expand their depth of knowledge in literary and informational text analysis and writing skills and show them the joys of being a life-long learner. Please read over the course syllabus and then print and sign your name, provide an e-mail address, and the best number to reach you during school hours on the lines provided. Have your student take a picture of the completed form and upload it into MyLearning, under the assignment named *Syllabus*. It is **due August 20<sup>th</sup> 2021**.

Thank you,  
Mrs. Roth

\_\_\_\_\_ signature \_\_\_\_\_ phone number  
Print parent/guardian name

\_\_\_\_\_ @ \_\_\_\_\_  
e-mail address

\_\_\_\_\_ Period \_\_\_\_\_  
Print student name

Have you signed up for Remind? Yes \_\_\_\_\_ No \_\_\_\_\_ (If not, PLEASE do so right away)

# Advanced ELA

## Sign up for important updates from Mrs. Roth.

Get information for Charles S. Rushe Middle School right on your phone—not on handouts.


Pick a way to receive messages for Roth Advanced ELA:

**A** If you have a smartphone, get push notifications.

On your iPhone or Android phone, open your web browser and go to the following link:

[rmd.at/rothadvela](https://rmd.at/rothadvela)

Follow the instructions to sign up for Remind. You'll be prompted to download the mobile app.




**B** If you don't have a smartphone, get text notifications.

Text the message @rothadvela to the number 81010.

If you're having trouble with 81010, try texting @rothadvela to (813) 699-3462.

\* Standard text message rates apply.



Don't have a mobile phone? Go to [rmd.at/rothadvela](https://rmd.at/rothadvela) on a desktop computer to sign up for email notifications.

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# Basic ELA

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**A** If you have a smartphone, get push notifications.

On your iPhone or Android phone, open your web browser and go to the following link:

[rmd.at/rothbasic](http://rmd.at/rothbasic)

Follow the instructions to sign up for Remind. You'll be prompted to download the mobile app.



**B** If you don't have a smartphone, get text notifications.

Text the message @rothbasic to the number 81010.

If you're having trouble with 81010, try texting @rothbasic to (813) 699-3462.

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Don't have a mobile phone? Go to [rmd.at/rothbasic](http://rmd.at/rothbasic) on a desktop computer to sign up for email notifications.