HONORS 6 LANGUAGE ARTS SYLLABUS

Discovery Middle School
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Course Description:	*Honors Language Arts 6 is an accelerated learning environment, which requires students to work more independently in class and at home. This class is for students who have a passion for reading and demonstrate an ability to communicate effectively, in both the spoken and written word. The honors class will continue students' growth in the areas of reading, writing, listening, speaking, discussion, and reflection. Reading strategies, critical thinking skills, vocabulary building, and a continued focus on writing comprise the main elements of reading instruction. The focus for writing instruction will be narrative, informational, and argumentative writing with requirements based on Alabama College and Career Ready standards. The overall goal of the class is to increase the literacy and writing ability of students, and to build the students' reading and writing stamina, which will propel the students' writing to more clear and concise prose. Outside reading and summer reading are required.*
Course Objectives:	- Utilize active listening skills during discussion and conversation in pairs, small groups, or whole-class settings, following agreed-upon rules for participation. - Use context clues to determine meanings of unfamiliar spoken or written words. - Use digital and electronic tools appropriately, safely, and ethically when researching and writing, both individually and collaboratively. Utilize a writing process to plan, draft, revise, edit, and publish writings in various genres. - Assess the formality of occasions in order to speak or write using appropriate language and tone. - Adapt speech to a variety of contexts and tasks, demonstrating command of formal English when indicated or appropriate.

Classroom Expectations:	Classroom Rules and Procedures: 　1. Have a positive attitude. 　2. Be responsible. 　3. Be respectful to others and their opinions. 　4. Set high expectations for yourself. 　5. Follow all school rules.
Textbook:	Unit Novels
Grading:	Test grades will account for 60% of the 9-weeks grade, with the remaining 40% being determined by quiz/daily grades. The grading scale is as follows: A (90-100), B (80-89), C (70-79), D (65-69), and F (below 65). Grades will be a reflection of mastery of the standards. Make sure all absences are excused as work can be made up and graded for excused absences only.
Make-up Work:	Under normal circumstances, it is expected that students will submit <u>previously</u> assigned work upon return to school after an excused absence. All work missed on the day(s) of excused absences must be made up within a timeframe determined by the teacher. **It is the responsibility of the student to ensure he or she makes up work following excused absences. Students will not receive credit for and will not be allowed to make up any assignments, tests, work, activities, etc., missed during unexcused absences.** (DMS 2021-2022 Student Handbook)
Late Work:	For work turned in late, the following policy will apply: 　• The assignment will drop one LETTER grade for each school day that passes. For example, if an assignment is turned in one school day late, the highest a student can receive is 89%; two days late, 79%, etc. 1 day late = maximum credit 89% 2 days late = maximum credit 79% 3 days late = maximum credit 69%H 4 days late = maximum credit 59% 5-10 days late = maximum credit 50% 　• Half credit is always better than no credit! Until work has been made up, "Missing" (which counts as a zero) will be put in the grade book. This will be updated once work is completed and turned in.
Accommodations:	Requests for accommodations for this course or any school event are welcomed from students and parents.

Turnitin Notice:	The majority of writing assignments in this course will be submitted to Turnitin via the Schoology learning platform. The primary focus of this software is to help students become better writers and scholars. Turnitin generates a report on the originality of student writing by comparing it with a database of periodicals, books, online content, student papers, and other published work. This program will help students discern when they are using sources fairly, citing properly, and paraphrasing effectively - skills essential to all academic work. Students will have the opportunity to review their Turnitin originality report and will have the opportunity to make revisions before submitting their work for grading. Once their work is submitted, teachers have the opportunity to view the student's originality report and grade accordingly.
Technology	Concerning laptop utilization: 1. Student laptops should not be hard-wired to the network or have print capabilities. 2. Use of discs, flash drives, jump drives, or other USB devices will not be allowed on Madison City computers. 3. Neither the teacher, nor the school is responsible for broken, stolen, or lost laptops. 4. Laptops and other electronic devices will be used at the individual discretion of the teacher.
Materials and Supplies:	**1 1/2**-inch binder, tab dividers (with pockets are best), composition notebook, pencils, colored pens & pencils, college-ruled paper, post-it notes, assorted highlighters, index cards, a pair of scissors, novels TBA

36 Week Plan *Subject to Change*
**Daily Grammar and DMS TIE Expectations

Week	Unit
1	Classroom Procedures and Student Handbook. Summer Reading Collaboration (*Fantasy: Percy Jackson & The Lightning Thief*)
2	Summer Reading Collaboration (Fantasy: *Percy Jackson & The Lightning Thief*)
3	*Narrative Poetry*
4	Narrative Poetry
5	*Historical and Contemporary Fiction* and paired Non Fiction
6	*Historical and Contemporary Fiction and Evaluating Websites*
7	*Historical and Contemporary Fiction and Research*
8	*Historical and Contemporary Fiction and Writing*
9	*Historical and Contemporary Fiction and Presentations*
10	Short Stories
11	Short Stories and writing
12	Drama and non-fiction
13	Historical Fiction
14	Historical Fiction and Research
15	Historical Fiction and Writing
16	Historical Fiction
17	Historical Fiction
18	Mid-Term Exams
19	Historical Fiction and paired Text
20	Historical Fiction and paired Text
21	Historical Fiction and paired Text
22	Historical Fiction and paired Text
23	Literary Circles and Writing

24	Literary Circles and Writing
25	ACAP Review and Non-fiction
26	ACAP Review and Non-fiction
27	ACAP Review and Non-fiction
28	Narrative Poetry
29	Narrative Poetry
30	Narrative Poetry
31	*Fantasy Fiction*
32	*Fantasy Fiction*
33	*Fantasy Fiction*
34	*Fantasy Fiction*
35	*Fantasy Fiction*
36	*Final Exams*