



Welcome to 7th/8th Grade Reading! Together, we will make this a great and fruitful year.

Purpose: The purpose of this class is to support the development of a student's working knowledge and understanding of the use of written and spoken English. This includes examining the function, use and purposes of language. This will include, but is not limited to, the use of English in various types of texts. Students will be evaluating literary and expository elements to support their English Language Arts knowledge.

Objective: The objective of Reading is for the student to use language effectively to gain and use knowledge through effective use of English literary elements and in the study of fiction and nonfiction texts, and to develop skills and concepts needed for more advanced course work.

Expectations:

1. Be punctual.
2. Be polite.
3. Be productive.
4. Be prepared.
5. Be positive.

Assignments:

1. Daily work and homework may include, but are not limited to, outside reading, vocabulary workshop, assignments, dialectical journals, grammar activities, and written compositions.
2. Quizzes will be given over assigned reading material and daily activities.
3. Accelerated Reader tests will be required each grading period. Reading is a daily homework requirement. A MINIMUM of 30 AR points is required every grading period (9 weeks).
4. Compositions will be classwork and/or homework. Some will be timed.
5. Tests will be administered consistently throughout the quarter, and one final exam will administered at the end of the quarter and/ or semester.
6. Expect some literature-related research and/or culminating literary unit assignments. Plagiarism will earn you a zero.
7. Summer reading will be the first novel studied, analyzed, and discussed.

Needed Supplies: (Parents, if you have previously purchased supplies listed on RSA website, do NOT duplicate.)

- One 100-page composition notebooks (college ruled)
- One 1-inch binder
- Black or Blue ink pens
- #2 Pencils
- Highlighters

AR Tests:

Students are required to read novels within their reading range and test on them using the Accelerated Reading program in the library. Failure to complete the required reading assignments will result in appropriate intervention and/ or failing grades. Deadlines and the point value grade-equivalent scale will be distributed on the 1st day of school and posted on the RSA website. AR reading deadlines end the day before end of grading periods.

Formative Assessment

Throughout the year, formative assessments will be given to help plan, shape, and individualize student instruction. Formative assessments will be in the form of homework, written or oral quizzes, readings and discussion, or student writing and will give me feedback as to what material must be covered before tests or grades are given. These assessments will be included in the gradebook, but they will not affect a student's average.

Grading Procedures & Weights:

1. Tests/ Projects/ AR Reading	35%	
2. Quizzes	30%	
3. Classwork/ Homework/ Participation	35%	
4. Formative Assessments	0%	
		100%

Due Dates and Late Work

All work is due at the assigned time. All homework is due at the beginning of the class meeting unless otherwise stated. Assignments submitted electronically are due before the beginning of class time on the scheduled due date. (Students absent when work is due shall be given one school day for each day of excused absence to make up missing assignments.) Late work will receive no higher than a 70. **Once an assignment has been graded and returned to students, it will no longer be accepted for credit.** If you do not understand an assignment or the material, please ask during class, so that I can clarify the matter. Also, email me if you have a question (see below). Provisions will be made for students needing support during after-school tutorial for 4:05-5:15. (Tutorial Days will be announced by 3rd week of school.)

The semester average includes two nine-week averages and the final exam grade. The semester final will be worth 25% of the semester average.

Retesting procedures: Students may retest upon receiving a grade below 70. A student needing to retest will be required to: 1) make corrections and 2) to get the test and the corrections signed by a parent/guardian. The time and date for all retests is determined by the teacher. The highest grade recorded for a retest will be 70. Retests will not be given for quizzes, projects, Accelerated Reader tests, or semester final exams.

Pyramid of Interventions:

The objective of this class is for every student to successfully demonstrate mastery of the Texas Essential Knowledge and skills (TEKS) and the South Texas ISD Essential Learning Outcomes (ELO's) for Pre-AP English 7/8. Students not successfully progressing will be assisted by the in-class pyramid of interventions and the campus pyramid of interventions. These interventions may include additional class activities and assignments, required after school tutorial, and other interventions specifically designed to address student needs.

RSA ELA teachers are among the finest in the “business” of education! 😊 We look forward to getting to know you and your child as the year progresses. Together, your child and I will seek great learning opportunities, expand our intellectual horizons, and do all that we can to get your child to reach his/ her maximum potential as a thinker, reader, writer, and human being.