

7th Grade Language Arts—Writing Syllabus
Mr. Kevin Johnson
2009 – 2010

Welcome to back! In helping to make this an easy year on everyone, I am listing a quick set of expectations, rules, and materials necessary for everyone's success. I am excited to be with your child this year and am looking forward to much writing, sharing, thinking, and learning.

This is just a general outline of what we will do this year. **The rules and expectations, however, will remain all year long!**

Materials Needed:

- Students will need to be prepared each and every day they come to class! Please bring:
- Student Planner
 - Writing Journal (a spiral notebooks are preferred) – write your name, class, and period on it!
 - Sheets of paper, college or wide rule, for all year long
 - Pens (only **blue or black ink** for essays, red or green for correcting)
 - Pencils
 - ½" – 1" binder with 5 dividers for a year-long portfolio. We'll set this up in class.
 - And last but not least....YOU!

Course Goals:

- Students will keep a writer's notebook for writing, brainstorming and word play, copying beautifully written language and favorite passages from core lit, and tracking their independent reading.
- Students will be journal writing at least once a week, often in class.
- Students are expected to pay attention and to be on task. They are strongly encouraged to be ACTIVE participants in the class by asking questions, sharing ideas and working cooperatively with peers.
- It is the responsibility of the students to inquire about the work missed upon return to school after being absent. Make-up work will be given, but it cannot always duplicate the exact class assignment due to the high interaction between teacher-student and student-student in this type of class.
- Students are expected to treat everyone in the classroom with respect. They may not interfere with their fellow classmates' right to learn.
- Quality of work must show effort – we are writers, so spelling and grammar are **very** important!