



## **Course Syllabus**

**Subject:** English Language Arts (Literature)

**School Year:** 2023-2024

**Teacher:** Mr. Alexander

**Grade:** 7

**Email:** ialexander@disk.kh.edu.tw

### **Course Description:**

The course will develop the students' knowledge, confidence and communication skills in all areas of language: reading, writing, speaking, listening, grammar and vocabulary. The primary focus in language arts class will be on literature, different writing styles, demonstration of the rules of grammar, and the ability to express yourself orally.

Students can expect to read a variety of literary genres, and what the students read will model the different writing styles we will be working on in class. Writing assignments will include timed responses, essays, critiques, and creative pieces. Vocabulary, spelling, and grammar assignments will also be an important part of this course. Because we are a community of learners, students will work periodically in group situations and present information to their peers in groups or individually.

Please understand that independent at-home reading and writing is expected and is a component of this course.

### **Course Requirements:**

The course will be conducted through lectures, discussions, practice material, projects, and student presentations. In order to experience a successful outcome, students need to:

- ✓ Participate in class discussion, ask questions and contribute ideas, thoughts and opinions
- ✓ Complete each assignment on time
- ✓ Communicate concerns to teachers and ask for help when needed
- ✓ Organize class materials and personal items
- ✓ Keep the study environment neat and tidy
- ✓ Observe all school policies as outlined in the DISK Parent-Student Handbook. This includes arriving at school on time, abiding by the dress code and speaking only English on the school grounds.

- ✓ Observe the school policy on Academic Honesty as outlined in the Handbook. All cases of academic misconduct, such as cheating on tests or plagiarism, will automatically result in a Fail grade for the assignment in addition to any sanctions that may be imposed by the Prefect of Discipline in Administration.

**Note:** If students have difficulty in task completion due to extenuating circumstances, an extension can be requested. Extensions are reviewed case-by-case.

### **Textbooks:**

*Collections : Grade 7 Houghton Mifflin Harcourt*

*Collections: Close Reader Grade 7 Houghton Mifflin Harcourt*

*Into Literature: Grammar Practice*

· Novels for Extra Reading (Will be implemented through the Scholastic Reading Program)

### **Class Materials:**

- Stationery (pencil, eraser, pens, whiteout etc)
- laptop computer
- a small notebook for planning (may be shared with other subjects)

### **Assessment:**

Grades will be computed following the school wide policy of Homework, Seatwork and Projects (30%), Tests and Quizzes (30%), Quarter Exam (30%) and Department (10%).

There will be opportunities for students to show their learning through a variety of individual and group assignments/activities. The following assessment tools will be used to evaluate performance:

- End of unit grammar tests
- End of story comprehension tests (including essay answer questions)
- Productive English skills: essays, presentations, debates, story writing
- Quizzes and Quarter Tests/Exams

### **Classroom Rules and Expectations:**

In order to develop both academically and spiritually, students need to adhere to the D'OP STARS Schoolwide Learner Outcomes. Specific attributes include:

- Be organized with class materials, on time, and follow the syllabus
- Set and meet personal study goals
- Complete all tasks
- Communicate in English
- Treat all members of the DISK community with respect

# SUBJECT: Gr.7 ENGLISH LANGUAGE ARTS

*(NB: timing and sections may change if deemed necessary)*

Students are expected to complete 6 chapters of the Collections book, divided into 1.5 chapters per quarter. Grammar and Close Reader pages will be taught alongside relevant topics. Some parts in the Collections books will not be taught in order to give students more time to work on writing skills and study for their exams.

## Quarter 1 Tentative Course Content

Week	Topics
Week 2 August 14-18	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● Collections 1 - Rogue Wave</li> <li>● Close Reader - Big Things Come in Small Packages</li> <li>● Grammar: Sentence Sense, Run-On Sentences, The Subject</li> </ul>
Week 3 August 21-25	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● Collections 1 - Parents of Rescued Teenage Sailor Abby Sunderland Accused of Risking Her life</li> <li>● Collections 1 - Ship of Fools</li> <li>● Collections 1 - Was Abby Too Young to Sail?</li> <li>● Grammar: The Predicate, Compound Subjects and Compound Verbs, Module Review</li> </ul>
Week 4 August 28 - September 1st	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● Close Reader - Finding Your Everest</li> <li>● Present an Argument</li> <li>● Grammar: Nouns, Pronouns, Adjectives</li> </ul>
Week 5 September 4 - 8	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● Close Reader - Arachne</li> <li>● Collections 1 - The Flight of Icarus</li> <li>● Collections 1 - Icarus's Flight</li> <li>● Grammar: Demonstrative and Proper Adjectives, Module Review, Verbs</li> </ul>
Week 6 September 11 - 15	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● Collections 1 - Women in Aviation</li> <li>● Collections 2 - The People Could Fly</li> <li>● Close Reader - Heartbeat</li> <li>● Grammar: Linking Verbs, Helping Verbs, Adverbs</li> </ul>
Week 7 September 18 - 22	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● Collections 2 - The Song of Wandering Aengus / Sonnet 43</li> </ul>

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● Collections 2 - Magic and the Brain</li> <li>● Close Reader - Saving the Lost</li> <li>● Grammar: Review Exercise, Prepositions, Conjunctions and Interjections, Module review</li> </ul>
<p>Week 8 September 25-28 Vacation on the 29th</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● Close Reader - <i>from</i> A Christmas Carol</li> <li>● Close Reader - Scrooge and Marley</li> <li>● Close Reader - A Christmas Carol (graphic story)</li> <li>● Grammar: Direct Objects, Indirect Objects, Predicate Nominatives</li> </ul>
<p>Week 9 October 2-6</p>	Exam Week

### Quarter 2 Tentative Course Content

Week	Topics
<p>Week 1 October 11-13 Vacation on the 9-10</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● Collections 2 - Pavement Chalk Art</li> <li>● Collections 2 - Another Place, Another Time</li> <li>● Grammar: Predicate Adjectives, Review Exercise</li> </ul>
<p>Week 2 October 16-20</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● Collections 2 - Sorry, Wrong Number</li> <li>● Collections 2 - <i>from</i> Sorry, Wrong Number (media)</li> <li>● Write a Summary</li> <li>● Grammar: Module Review, Prepositional Phrases</li> </ul>
<p>Week 3 October 23-27</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● Collections 3 - <i>from</i> Mississippi Solo</li> <li>● Collections 3 - <i>from</i> The Tempest</li> <li>● Grammar: Adjective Phrases, Adverb Phrases, Review Exercise 1</li> </ul>
<p>Week 4 Oct 30 - Nov 3</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● Collections 3 - Allied with Green</li> <li>● Close Reader - <i>from</i> Polar Dream</li> <li>● Grammar: Verb Phrases and Verbals, Participles and Participle Phrases, Infinitives and Infinitive Phrases</li> </ul>
<p>Week 5 November 6 - 14 (spread over two weeks)</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● Collections 3 - Big Rocks' Balancing Acts</li> <li>● Collections 3 - Ode to enchanted Light / Sleeping in the Forest</li> <li>● Review Exercise 2, Module review, Independent and Subordinate Clauses, The Adjective Clause, The Adverb Clause</li> </ul>

Week 6 November 20 - 24	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● Close Reader - The Hidden Southwest: The Arch Hunters</li> <li>● Close Reader - Problems with Hurricanes / Prayer to the Pacific / Tornado at Talladega</li> <li>● Grammar: Module Review, Simple Sentences, Compound Sentences</li> </ul>
Week 7 November 27 - December 1st	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● Write a poetry analysis</li> <li>● Grammar: Complex Sentences, Module Review, Agreement of Subject and Verb, Intervening Prepositional Phrases, Singular and Plural Indefinite Pronouns</li> </ul>
Week 8 December 4-8	<b>Exam week</b>
Week 9 December 11 - 15	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● Catchup time / Christmas activities</li> </ul>
<b>Vacation</b>	Christmas break December 16 - January 3rd

### Quarter 3 Tentative Course Content

Week	Topics
Week 1 January 3 - 5	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● Collections 4 - Remarks at the Dedication of the Aerospace Medical Health Center + audio version</li> <li>● Close Reader - Is Space Exploration Worth the Cost?</li> <li>● Grammar: All, Any, Most, None and Some, Review Exercise, Compound Subjects</li> </ul>
Week 2 January 8 - 12	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● Collections 4 - Why Exploring the Ocean is Mankind's Next Giant Leap</li> <li>● Close Reader - Stinging Tentacles Offer Hint of Oceans' Decline</li> <li>● Collections 4 - <i>from</i> Living in the Dark</li> <li>● Grammar: Collective Nouns and Inverted Sentences, Amounts, Titles, and Don't / Doesn't, Pronoun-Antecedent Agreement, Module Review</li> </ul>
Week 3 January 15 - 19	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● Collections 4 - Your World</li> <li>● Present an Argument</li> <li>● Grammar: Principle Parts, Regular Verbs, Irregular Verbs, Tense</li> </ul>

Week 4 January 22 - 26	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Collections 5 - <i>from</i> Life at Home in the Twenty-First Century</li> <li>• Close Reader - Teenagers and New Technology</li> <li>• Grammar: Sit and Set / Rise and Raise, Lie and Lay, Module Review</li> </ul>
Week 5 January 29 - Feb 5th (extended week)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Collections 5 - Always Wanting More <i>from</i> I Want That!</li> <li>• Close Reader - Labels and Illusions</li> <li>• Grammar: Case of Pronouns, Nominative Case Pronouns, Objective Case Pronouns, Pronouns as Objects of Prepositions</li> </ul>
<b>Vacation</b>	<b>CNY break from February 8 - 18</b>
Week 7 February 19 - 23	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Collections 5 - Dump / How Things Work</li> <li>• Close Reader - He-y, Come On Ou-t!</li> <li>• Grammar: Who and Whom, Pronoun Appositives and Reflexive Pronouns, Module Review, Comparison of Adjectives and Adverbs, Irregular Comparison</li> </ul>
Week 8 February 26 - March 1 <b>February 28th is a vacation</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Collections 5 - Earth (A Gift Shop)</li> <li>• Multimedia Presentation</li> <li>• Grammar: Special Problems in Using Modifiers, Double Comparisons, Placement of Modifiers, Placement of Participial Phrases, Module Review</li> </ul>
Week 9 March 4-8	Exam week
Week 1 March 11-15	ITBS tests

#### Quarter 4 Tentative Course Content

Week	Topics
Week 2 March 18 - 22	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Collections 6 - The Triangle Fire and It's Legacy</li> <li>• Collections 6 - The Story of the Triangle Factory Fire</li> <li>• Grammar: Accept / As (like), Between / Had Ought, Himself / Try and, Well / your / you're</li> </ul>
<b>vacation</b>	<b>No school March 25 - April 5</b>
Week 3 April 8 - 12	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Collections 6 - <i>from</i> Uprising</li> <li>• Close Reader - <i>from</i> The Most Daring of Our Leaders</li> </ul>

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● Grammar: Module Review, The Pronoun I and Proper Nouns, Places and People, Groups, Organizations, and Religions</li> </ul>
<p>Week 4 April 15 - 19</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● Collections 6 - Craig Kielburger Reflects on Working Toward Peace</li> <li>● <i>from</i> It Takes a Child</li> <li>● Close Reader - Speech to the Democratic National Convention</li> <li>● Grammar: Objects, Events, Structures, and Awards, Titles, First Words, Proper Adjectives, School Subjects, Module Review</li> </ul>
<p>Week 5 April 22 - 26</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● Collections 6 - A Poem for My Librarian, Mrs. Long</li> <li>● Collections 6 - Train Time</li> <li>● Grammar: End Marks and Abbreviations, Commas in a Series, Commas with Compound Sentences, Commas with Sentence Interrupters</li> </ul>
<p>Week 6 April 29 - May 3rd</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● Close Reader - Doris Is Coming</li> <li>● Informative Essay</li> <li>● Grammar: Other Uses of the Comma, More Uses of the Comma, Review Exercise, Semicolons, Colons, Module Review</li> </ul>
<p>Week 7 May 6 - 10</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● Close Reader - John Bermann and Popcorn Park</li> <li>● Grammar: Italics (underlining), Quotation Marks, Apostrophe, Other uses of the Apostrophe, Module Review</li> </ul>
<p>Week 8 May 13 - 17</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● Grammar: The Dictionary, Spelling Rules, Prefixes and Suffixes, Suffixes, Plurals of Nouns 1, Plurals of Nouns 2, Module Review</li> </ul>
<p>Week 9 May 20 -24</p>	Exams Q4