**Language Arts 7—Course Outline**

Browerville High School—Mrs. Stephanie Eckel

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Office hours: 11:10-12:00 or by appointment

**COURSE DESCRIPTION—**

In this course, students will expand their knowledge in Language Arts by continuing to read, write and speak. A variety of different genres of literature will be read and explored. Writing will be improved through deliberate practice of journaling, writing a narrative as well focusing on grammar. Public speaking will also be practiced through storytelling.

**CLASS OBJECTIVES**—

* To become better readers, writers and speakers.
* To familiarize yourselves with well-known writers and their works.
* To improve reading comprehension.
* To continue to improve grammar proficiency to become better writers and speakers.
* To engage in active communication, both written and spoken.

# MAJOR UNITS—

Vocabulary/Spelling

Reading

* Read Theory
* Independent Reading Book
* Short stories
* Novel-The Outsiders
* Drama-Brian’s Song

Writing

* Personal Narrative
* Grammar

Speech Communication

* Storytelling
* This class is both a reading and writing class. You are expected to bring your class materials and independent reading book with you to class every day. When you have an assignment, I expect you to be working and not visiting or wasting time.
* We will have vocabulary/spelling tests weekly. You will be provided with the year’s lists. Vocabulary practice will be done on Thursday with the spelling test on Friday.
* Assignments must be turned in on time if you want full credit for your work; this includes any assignment that was due the day/days you were gone, if it had been previously assigned. For credit, all assignments must be completed prior to taking the test. Late work will receive one grade lower for each day that it has not been turned in. **Five** class days is the maximum for any credit, after which the MI cannot be changed. Any assignment, in which the answers are discussed in class, will not be accepted late. It is your responsibility to see that missing assignments are completed. An MI will be entered in the grade book, for any missing work.

# CLASS PARTICIPATION—

Your contribution in class is essential to your learning, for this reason attendance and class participation are of great importance. You will be given points for your daily attendance/participation. If you choose to act inappropriately, these points will be taken from you. If you are absent, you will not receive these points.

**CHROMEBOOKS—**

All information regarding Chromebook usage, care and expectations will be followed according to the handbook. You will need to supply your own ear buds.

**CLASSROOM PERSONAL ELECTRONIC DEVICE POLICY—**

Your cell phones and other personal devices should be kept in your locker. They will not be allowed in the classroom. If I see them out in the classroom, they will be taken until the end of the hour. Continued offences and it will be returned at the end of the school day. If it continues to be an issue, your device will be brought to the office. Further consequences are in the student handbook.

**EXTRA CREDIT—**

Extra credit is very limited. However, your extra credit will only count if every assignment has been turned in. You may use enough extra credit to raise your grade one increment (i.e. B+ to A-). Any unused points may be carried over to the next qtr. but they may not be used in place of assignment points, they are only extra credit!

# BRING TO CLASS—

* Notebook
* Chromebook
* Ear buds/headphones
* A folder in which to keep class handouts and worksheets
* Pencil and pen, blue or black.
* A novel for independent reading-You are encouraged to keep a book in the book bin so that you have it each day. We will begin most days with 10 minutes of reading. Mondays will be reading days.

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## GRADING SCALE

99-100 A+ 77 – 79 C+

93 – 98 A 73 – 76 C

90 – 92 A- 70 – 72 C-

87 – 89 B+ 67 – 69 D+

83 – 86 B 63 – 66 D

80 – 82 B- 60 – 62 D-

59 and lower F

**ONLINE CLASS RESOURCES—**

[Google Classroom](http://evla.weebly.com)

BHS Classroom Page: [www.browerville.k12.mn.us/language-arts---7.html](http://www.browerville.k12.mn.us/language-arts---7.html)

JMC Gradebook: https://browerville.onlinejmc.com/

**\*Be sure that you are regularly checking your grades on JMC! Please talk with me if you have questions or believe an error has been made.**

**JMC Codes:** MI=missing included, X=exempt, P=pending, M=missing not included

**CLASS RULES AND REGULATIONS** are based on the principles of RESPECT and RESPONSIBILITY.

1. Respect yourself, classmates, teacher & school.
2. Come prepared and ready to learn.
3. Complete work to the best of your ability.
4. No swearing or offensive language.
5. After an absence a make-up slip must be presented upon reentrance to class. For a planned absence, please inform me in advance.
6. No personal devices or backpacks are allowed in the classroom.
7. Be thankful for your education, it is a privilege.
8. Please see the BHS Student Handbook for further rules/expectations.

# BEHAVIOR CONSEQUENCES—

1. In the case of gross insubordination, or disruptive behavior you will be removed from class. Parent will be notified and appropriate consequences will be given. Prior to being readmitted, a conference must take place with the teacher.
2. Cheating will not be tolerated. Both the cheater and the one supplying the answers will be given the following consequences: A zero will be given for the assignment or test and it will be marked as such in the grade book. Additional offenses may result in permanent suspension from class.
3. Any backpacks brought into the classroom will be placed outside the room.
4. Please see student handbook for further guidelines.

**COURSE SCHEDULE—**

Mondays: Read Theory Assignments and Independent Reading Book

Thursdays: Vocabulary

Fridays: Spelling Test

Quarter 1-2: Short Stories and Literature Vocabulary

* “Rikki-tikki-tavi”
* “The Runaway” (poem)
* “Song of the Trees”
* “The Smallest Dragonboy”
* “Three Skeleton Key”
* “The Naming of Names”
* “I’m Nobody”
* “After Twenty Years”
* Various Reading Comprehension Tests
* Final Short Story Test
* Approx. length of time: 11 weeks (Sept. 3-Nov 27)

Quarter 2: Public Speaking

* Storytelling
* Introduction & Conclusion
* Summarize Story
* Tell Stories for Class
* Approx. length of time: 3 weeks (Dec 2-20)

Quarter 2-3: Drama

* Elements of a play
* “Brian’s Song”
* Final Test
* Movie
* Approx. length of time: 4 weeks (Jan 2-31)

Quarter 3: MCA Prep

* Review of Literature Vocabulary
* Practice Stories
* Practice Poetry
* Practice MCA Online Test
* Common Grammar Errors
* Parts of Speech
* Approx. length of time: 3 weeks (Feb 3-21)

Quarter 3: Grammar

* Common Grammar Errors
* Parts of Speech
* Approx. length of time: 4 weeks (Feb 24-March 20)

Quarter 4: Novel

* The Outsiders
* Introduction to author and the 1960s time period.
* Chapter quizzes after every 3 chapters.
* Study Guide
* Final Test
* Movie
* Approx. length of time: 5 weeks (March 23-April 24)

Quarter 4: Literature Circles

* Teach Literature Circle Expectations
* Assigned Groups Choose Novel
* Group Presentation of Book
* Approx. length of time: 4 weeks (April 27-May 22)