

Language Arts 9 - Course Outline

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During this semester you will continue to work on communication skills through activities and exercises in all of the six receptive and expressive strands: reading, writing, speaking, listening, viewing, and representing. To accomplish this, you will be engaged in many meaningful language arts experiences to explore how language is used both by yourself and others.

Course Overview:

The overall theme for ELA 9 is communication. Guiding questions for the year will be:

- What is communication?
- Why is communication important?
- In what ways do people communicate ideas and relay information to one another?
- What forms of communication are used at different times?
- How can you enhance your own communication skills?

In order to explore these questions we will cover the following General Outcomes, from the Alberta Program of Studies:

1. Explore thoughts, ideas, feelings and experiences
2. Comprehend and respond personally and critically to oral, print and other media texts
3. Manage ideas and information
4. Enhance the clarity and artistry of communication
5. Respect, support and collaborate with others

Units of Study this Term - 3 credits

- Poetry
- Mini Multi Genre
- Film Study and/or Inquiry
- Short Story

ALL STUDENTS IN SECOND SEMESTER WILL HAVE
PROVINCIAL ACHIEVEMENT PREP AS PART OF THEIR
COURSE WORK

Skill Development:

- Communication
- Information collection/research strategies
- presentation/public speaking
- Collaboration
- Reading comprehension strategies
- Critical thinking

Activities and Assignments:

- Business letter (functional writing)
- Reading comprehension
- Compositions (narrative/essay writing)
- quizzes/assignments
- Exam- reading comprehension and written response

Study Guide:

- If you need assistance with an assignment or concept seek help immediately and sign up for focus to get extra help
- Tests and exams will be announced well in advance so you have lots of time to prepare
- Keep your notes organized and up to date, also try to review your notes every few days to ensure retention
- Respect yourself, your peers and your teachers, this will enable quality class discussions, group work, and individual learning

EVALUATION

3 credit course - 25% of your overall grade

Written Compositions - 7.8125%

Projects - 6.25%

Reading - 7.8125%

Various - 3.125%

Final Exam - 20% of your overall grade

Re-writes

Students are given adequate 'practice time' prior to evaluations, as well as the resources and time required to successfully complete each task. Assignments and tests should be completed with due care, attention and 100% effort every time. If one is not

successful, it will become a learning experience, and students will then be in a position to change strategies on the next task.

Consult with your teacher should you feel you require an opportunity to re-write; these are a privilege not a right. Re-writes will be allowed on a case by case basis. Re-writes will **not be permitted** for students who hand in work late and/or have not completed all of the formative work for the assignment (e.g. drafts, peer reviews, etc.).

Appeal Procedures:

Any mark may be appealed. A student should **first discuss the matter with the teacher** before referring it to the principal.

Submission of Assignments

Most assignments are to be submitted in paper copy, email or Quest A +.

Late Assignments:

Each student is responsible for submitting work on time. All late work handed in more than 3 days from the due date, and without a reasonable excuse, may be marked and inputted into Power School later in the semester. Please note that work within a given unit **MUST** be submitted within 5 days of the unit's completion.

Student Expectations

- Be on time
- Make sure you catch up on missed work if you are away for any reason, if you are missing a test the expectation is that you will write this in focus, in class, or during lunch on the day you return. Please see your teacher to discuss an appropriate time.
- Plagiarism is a serious offence. Please review the SCHS Plagiarism Policy.
- Come to class prepared with materials and a good attitude.
- Try to bring your laptop (and power cord as needed) to all classes.
- Laptops should be closed during discussions.
- You may want headphones for some classes.

- Try to be in the NOW. Give your attention to the class you are in and the work you are doing.
- Please bring a book to read for every class.