



## Language Arts 5<sup>th</sup> Grade

**Teacher: Brian Renbarger**

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**School Phone: 817-299-2700**

**Team: Kodiak**

**Conf. Time: 9:50AM-10:55AM**

### **Course and Curriculum Information:**

English Language Arts/Reading courses in grades 5-12 will focus on continuing the development of skills taught in the elementary grades. These include the following five strands: Reading, Writing, Oral and Written Conventions, Research, and Listening and Speaking. Please visit

[www.mansfieldisd.org](http://www.mansfieldisd.org) and click on Departments, Curriculum, and Language Arts for a full scope and sequence.

### **Materials:**

Students will use a variety of materials including, but not limited to, a reading response journal, district-approved novels, ELA resource notebook, a variety of text, Education Galaxy, and Google classroom.

### **Class work and Homework:**

Students will have opportunities to complete work in class, but will also have assigned homework on a weekly basis. Class participation and involvement is encouraged to facilitate a positive learning environment for each student. Intermediate schools will provide for homework-free extended holidays. (Thanksgiving Break, Winter Break, and Spring Break)

### **Reports and Projects**

Teachers will also require various reports and projects throughout the year. Deadlines and requirements for these assignments will be sent home to parents in advance of due dates.

### **iStation**

iStation is a reading comprehension and fluency building program used by Mansfield ISD at the intermediate level. Students will be assessed on iStation at least 3 times this year. Students are given a reading level assessment and then required to complete activities based on their skill level to increase comprehension and fluency. Students will keep track of their progress in their data folders. This program may also be accessed from home.

### **Independent Reading Program**

All 5<sup>th</sup> grade students are expected to read 30 books as part of our new independent reading program. The goal of this program is to expose our students to a variety of genres and texts, and emphasize the importance of reading. Teachers will be taking participation grades throughout the year and will allow students some time during the school day to read independently. Although time will be provided during the school day, students will also need to read their books outside of school hours.

### **Assessment Calendar**

Students will take tests in class throughout the year to show mastery of material presented. These assessments will be given at the teacher's discretion with advance notice to students in most cases. Students will also take the State of Texas Assessment of Academic Readiness (STAAR) for Reading on April 10, 2019.

### **Grading Policies and Guidelines**

These policies are addressed in the student handbook. Please review them and contact your child's campus or teacher for clarification as needed. Teachers shall determine academic student progress using a grade percentage scale of 0-100.

90-100=A

80-89=B

70-79=C

Below 70=Failing

## **Weighting of Grades**

Grades in Language Arts are weighted according to the following scale:

Daily Work:	50%
Quizzes/Tests/Projects:	40%
Homework:	10%

Citizenship grades are measured on a Likert Scale (ESNU):

I = Incomplete (“I” is not an academic grade, but indicates incomplete work.)

E = Excellent

S = Satisfactory

N = Needs Improvement

U = Unsatisfactory

## **Number of Grades Each Grading Period**

Language Arts, Math, Science and Social Studies                      10 (minimum)

## **Late Work Policy**

For work submitted after the due date given in class, the following policy will apply:

- 1 class day late: grade may be reduced up to a maximum of 15 points
- 2 class days late: grade may be reduced up to a maximum of 30 points
- 3 class days late: grade may be reduced up to 50 points (or teacher discretion)
- Late work **will not be accepted after 3 class days.**

## **Test Retake Policy:**

Students who fail a major test/assessment (below 70%) will be allowed to retake or correct up to a 70% grade. Students will have to make arrangements with the teacher to retake or correct a major test/assessment. Students have one week after tests/assessments are returned to do retakes or corrections.

## **Absences, Tardiness, & Missed Work**

Students are encouraged to be responsible for collecting work from each teacher after an absence. Extra copies will be made available, if needed. Students have one extra day for each day they were absent to complete a missed assignment. Arrangements for taking a missed test or quiz must be made with the teacher.

## **Academic Dishonesty**

These policies are addressed in the student handbook. Please review them and contact your child’s campus or teacher for clarification as needed.

## **Resources**

### **Parents**

Parents are encouraged to set up an account on Skyward, the district’s grade reporting site. Grades are updated weekly by teachers. This portal enables parents to monitor their own students’ grades during the school year. You may obtain your login/password from the school registrar or secretary. Then go to [www.mansfieldisd.org](http://www.mansfieldisd.org) and click on the Skyward icon. Follow directions for setting up a parent account.

### **Students**

Elective classes, library resources, and monitored Internet research will be available to students. Before or after school help may be available by advance appointment. Check with the teacher about these options.