

6th Grade English Language Arts

Mr. Simpson: Room 14

Welcome

Welcome to English 6! This course will encourage students to use a wide range of communication skills including those involved in written and oral English including the following: organization and development of effective communication, grammar, punctuation, vocabulary, spelling and personal voice.

Contact Me

- ✉ ksimpson@paparts.org
- ✍ Messages in student's agenda
- ✍ Appointment by request
- ✍ Remind text messages
- 🖨 Class Website:
<http://mrsimpsonclasses.weebly.com/>
- 👉 *The most efficient way to reach me is through email.*
- Phone: 505-830-3128

Materials

- 1 highlighter*
- 2 notebooks*
- #2 pencils for year*
- 1 package colored pencils*
- Scissors (optional)
- Kleenex and Clorox wipes always appreciated

** Must be college rule composition notebook with at least 80 pages*

**Students are required to bring colored pencils, pencils, highlighter to class everyday. A pencil bag is suggested.*

**If you are not able to bring materials needed please see me for other arrangements.*

Grade Weights and Descriptions

- Process 40 % of grade: Assignments in this category are designed to measure growth in basic ELA skills. Examples of this include daily writing, and self reflection/evaluation
- Product 35 % of grade: Assignments that require students to apply class concepts. Included in this are projects, tests, and papers.
- Participation 25 % of grade: Assignments in this category assess students for being present and attentive in class. Some examples are attendance, and participation.
- For more detailed information please see the class website.

Grades:

A = 90%-100% B = 80%-89%
C = 70%-79% D = 60%-69%
F = Below 60

Grades are available on PowerSchool. Please check this regularly and alert me of any issues with particular assignments. If you do not have a login please see the registrar.

Late Work and Other Policies

Late Work: Projects may be submitted late for a penalty of one letter grade per day late. **No other homework will be accepted late.**

Extra Credit: There is none.

Test/Quiz Retake: Students will have the opportunity to correct any test/quiz to recoup points up to a "c".

Paper Revision: Students may revise any larger writing assignment within the same quarter it was assigned.

Important Assignments

Daily Reading: Students will not keep a log (I have found they are often dishonest). Students are expected to read from independent or class assigned novels every night for a minimum of 20 minutes. This reading will be assessed in a written response

Reflection: This includes reading response as well as self reflection. It is important that students frequently reflect on their learning and growth

Daily Writing: Students are expected to produce 4 pages a week of writing. Students receive 10 minutes every day to work on this writing in class every day, however some students may need to bring home their notebook in the evening to finish the page they are working on.

Papers: In class, we do not have very many tests so the majority of students product grade comes from written assignments. We will study different genres of writing like personal essays and poetry throughout the year and each unit will ask students to take several longer pieces completely through the writing process (that is brainstorming, drafting, revising, and proofreading).

Absentee Policy:

Students who are absent from class are responsible for taking initiative to obtain their own makeup work. Students can check the "While You Were Out" binder for missing assignments. In addition, students can check with peers or teacher for any confusion, **do not expect teacher to supply you with makeup work.** Students have 1 day for each day absent to complete makeup work, any work remaining incomplete after this period will receive a zero.

Tardy: Students are expected to be in their seats and working on daily writing by the time the second bell rings. Failure to do so will result in a marking of tardy, which causes a loss of half of the day's attendance points.

E-submission policy: Assignments assigned prior to a student's absence will be due the day they return. Feel free to submit assignments via email/Google Docs. Further, internet and printer issues are not an excuse for missing deadlines, handwriting an assignment is always possible.

Note: Any assignments collected while absent will be marked as a zero until submitted.

Academic Honesty

It is expected that students will use genuine, sincere, and fair means for the accomplishment of the tests, tasks, or projects from which evaluations of progress shall be determined. Students found plagiarizing, copying or cheating in any way will receive automatic zeros and have phone calls made to their parents. In addition, repeated offenses will result in a failing grade for the nine weeks or semester depending on the nature of the incident.

Rules

Students are expected to follow these basic rules.

1. Be prepared for class everyday.
2. Follow directions the first time.
3. Make informed choices.
4. Take personal responsibility.
5. Respect yourself, the classroom, and others.

Other Expectations

Bathroom:

Students are expected to use the rest room before school, at lunch, and during passing period. I understand there are emergencies, so each student will receive 3 bathroom passes per quarter.

Other Ways to Stay Connected

Website: Features a calendar, vocabulary tutorial videos, and occasionally superb student work.

Google classroom: The class will be using Google Classroom this semester. Students will be able to take quizzes and submit written work via this platform.

Remind: This app allows students or parents to receive texts to their phone about class announcements like homework.

Writing Genres

Poetry
 Literary analysis
 Personal narrative
 Essay
 Gift poetry
 Research Paper
 Persuasive Writing

Class Novel Study

Love That Dog- Sharon Creech
 Graphic Novel Unit- TBD
 Once – Morris Gleitzman
 Character Study Literature Circle- Various Authors
 At least 4 independent reading novels (can be selected from class library, local library, or students' home).

Bloom's Taxonomy

Bloom's Taxonomy - Revised



6th grade ELA focuses on application. Students are shifting from “learning to read” to “reading to learn.” As a result, much of the curriculum looks to assure that students can put to use basic English skills in a variety of tasks. For more information on Bloom’s see: <http://bit.ly/1ma4OSB>

Tell me about your student in 10,000 words or less

I have read and understand the rules and expectations for English 6. I acknowledge that it is my responsibility to contact my teacher if I have any questions or concerns. I know that this syllabus,

assignments, calendars, and resources are available to me on the class website and Google Classroom at any time. I know that assignments can be emailed to the teacher at any time and that printer/computer/flash drive issues are not an excuse for late assignments.

Student Signature _____

Parent Signature _____

