

Language Arts 9-12

Mrs. Harker

Room U-36

alexandrah@provo.edu

CLASS DESCRIPTION

This class is designed for students who speak a language other than English as their native language. This class will give you English credit towards graduation while your ELD class will not. You will be able to improve your skills in English, but not at the expense of your native language. We will do a lot of work in this class that will improve your reading, writing, speaking, and listening skills in ALL the languages that you speak.

MATERIALS NEEDED

- **The book we are currently studying in class**
- **Silent reading book**
- **Writer's notebook**
- **A folder**
- **Writing utensil**

READING

All of our units will involve reading. We will do most of our reading together in class in the following books and plays:

- *To Kill a Mockingbird* by Harper Lee
- *Romeo and Juliet* by William Shakespeare
- *West Side Story* by Arthur Laurents
- *The Book Thief* by Markus Zusak
- *The Boy Who Harnessed the Wind* by William Kamkwamba

All of these books contain some level of mature content. If you ever feel uncomfortable reading a text I have assigned the class, please talk to me and I will provide an alternative reading.

WRITING

We will also be completing a lot of writing in this class. Most of your homework will involve writing assignments in your native language or in English. Please pay attention to whether I assign you to write in English or your native language.

THE CLASSROOM

Classroom library – These books are here for you to look at, hold, love, and most of all, READ. You may read these books in class during silent reading time or take them home to read after you have checked them out with me. PLEASE be gentle with the books and don't take them home unless you have checked them out from me first!

West Whiteboard – This whiteboard is your go-to place for our calendar, upcoming assignments that are due, and daily class objectives. Please check the board for information before asking me questions about what we are doing in class or upcoming deadlines.

THE POLICIES

Hall passes – I will give you two hall passes per term. If you choose to save these hall passes and not use them, you can turn these hall passes in for 5 points of extra credit each at the end of the term. You **MUST** have the original hall passes in order to receive the extra credit.

Tardies – I will take attendance at the beginning of class. If you come to class late, you will be marked tardy. If you arrive to class more than 15 minutes late on a due date for a major assignment, that assignment will be penalized by a 10% grade deduction.

Reading Points – At the beginning of class each day, we will have 10 minutes of silent reading. You will receive 3 participation points for being on time to class and reading during this time. Reading points will be entered every 3-4 weeks and can only be made up if you have an excused absence.

Absences – If you missed a day of my class, then it is your responsibility to obtain the work that you missed. Please talk to me about anything that you missed and I will quickly get you caught up. For every day that you were absent, you will have until the next class period to make up the work that you missed.

Late work – As your teacher, one of my jobs is to teach you to be responsible. Turning in your work on time is something that all responsible people should do. All late assignments will be marked down by 50%.

Seating chart – This seating chart is designed for me to be able to take attendance quickly and effectively. Please be sure to sit in your assigned seat so that we can keep our class running smoothly. If you have a problem with your seat, feel free to talk to me about it after class.

Plagiarism – Plagiarism is defined by Merriam Webster as stealing or passing off the ideas or words of another as one's own **or** use another's production without crediting the source. Plagiarism occurs most often when students copy the work of other students or copy words from another source (online or otherwise). **If a student plagiarizes an essay or other assignment, they will receive a 0 without an opportunity to redo it.**

Grades – I will enter grades weekly and keep grades as up to date as I can. One of the best ways for you and your parents to check your grades is through Power School. Parents may also set up Power School to email them on a regular basis with updates on how their student is doing.

CONTACT INFORMATION: ALEXANDRAH@PROVO.EDU

NOTE: I prefer to talk to my students face-to-face about their grades and concerns rather than over email. I am most available to talk to students after school and during consultation on Mondays. As a new mother who is still nursing, I will not be available during lunch to meet with students. If you do need to reach me by email, understand that I primarily check my email when I am at school. Do not expect me to respond immediately every time that you email me.

Student Name: _____

Turn in this page to Mrs. Harker, the rest of the document is yours to keep.

PARENTS: If you are interested in receiving a weekly email every Monday morning from Mrs. Harker about upcoming lessons, reading assignments, and important deadlines, please include your email(s) below:

Email: _____

Email: _____

I have read and understood Mrs. Harker's Disclosure Document for Language Arts, including the policies and classroom procedures. I understand that it is my student's responsibility to understand these policies and that my student's performance in this class is their responsibility.

Parent Signature: _____

I have read and understood Mrs. Harker's Disclosure Document for Language Arts, including the policies and classroom procedures. I understand that it is my responsibility to understand these policies and that my performance in this class is my responsibility.

Student Signature: _____