

# Language Arts Syllabus

## 2011-2012/Year B

Teacher: Ms. Melissa  
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### Overview

Through independent, small group and whole class work, we will cover the CA State Standards for English/Language Arts for the 8<sup>th</sup> grade. Emphasis will be placed on project based learning, while gaining both a depth and breadth of knowledge by accessing the many resources available to us. Literary focus during Year B is placed on American and British authors.

### Curriculum

Prentice Hall Literature, Silver Level	Writer's Workshop
Daily Grammar Practice	Accelerated Reader
Latin and Greek Word Roots (B2)	Rosetta Stone

### Study Guides

Study Guides for Language Arts will be handed out at the beginning of each cycle. This ensures that students can preview the work load for the entire cycle and plan accordingly. Study guides should be kept in a sheet protector at the front of the Language Arts section of the student's binder. Students will be trusted to initial and date each item as it is completed during the cycle. At the end of each cycle, completed study guides will be reviewed and signed by the student's parent(s) and turned in to the teacher for points.

### Grading

During each cycle, students will have a variety of work, including individual and small group assignments. Some assignments will be completed and graded weekly, others will be culminating projects or tests to be turned in and graded at the end of the cycle. Grades will be posted online through Aeries and updated weekly. For the policy on Late Work, please refer to the policies and procedures for Middle School.

### Homework

Other than reading, students will not be assigned specific work to be completed at home. However, any work that is unable to be completed in class will be expected to be taken home as homework.

### Why Rosetta Stone?

Studies show that learning a second language helps to gain a deeper understanding of one's language of origin. To encourage our Middle School students to keep up on their foreign language studies, in addition to a Pass/Not Pass grade for Foreign Language, Rosetta Stone will account for a small portion of the Language Arts letter grade.

**Weekly Work**

Vocabulary Cards

Response Journal

Participation in Whole Group lessons

Individual Literature Assignment

Small Group Literature Assignment

Socratic Seminar

Daily Reading Work

Daily Grammar Practice

Root Word Exercise

Rosetta Stone (2 Lessons @ 80%)

**Cycle Projects**

Cycle 1: Literature Circle/Group Book Report

Cycle 2: Novel Writing Project

Cycle 3: TBD

Cycle 4: TBD

Cycle 5: TBD