

**JUNIOR HIGH AND HIGH SCHOOL LANGUAGE ARTS DEPARTMENTAL CURRICULUM PROFILE**

**PROGRAM DESCRIPTION**

The language arts program develops the academic process of reading, writing, listening, and communicating in an inclusive classroom for young adults.

**PHILOSOPHY**

Encourage each child to reach their full potential of being life long learners.

**OBJECTIVES IN THE LANGUAGE ARTS PROGRAM**

One of the first objectives in the language arts department is to enhance our student's vocabulary.

- REWARDS PROGRAM
  - Vowel combinations
  - Word parts
  - Prefixes
  - Suffixes
  - Definitions
  - Spelling
  - Reading Fluency
- Other
  - Roots
    - Greet
    - Latin
  - Suffixes
  - Definitions
  - Spelling
  - Reading Fluency
  - Complex Words
- Graphic Organizers
  - Synonyms
  - Antonyms
  - Application
  - Definition
  - Examples

The second of the three areas of the Language Arts program at Lyons-Decatur Northeast is Grammar. Grammar instruction will focus on skills and concepts needed for speaking and writing English properly. Grammar concepts are divided into the following concepts:

- Review: Subjects, Predicates, Specific Nouns, Verbs, Adjectives, Adverbs, Sentence Structure
- New Grammar Concepts: Subject-verb agreement, identifying fragments and run-ons, pronoun-antecedent agreement, verb tenses, and passive-active voice
- Punctuation
  - Review: periods, commas, question mark, exclamation mark, quotation marks, apostrophes, semi-colons, colon
- Proofreading and editing
  - Understanding grading rubrics, learning editing marks
  - Understanding the difference of a rough draft and a final draft
  - Provide oral, written, and/or electronic feedback to other writers

## Departmental Profile

- Organization
  - Five Paragraph Essay (Bing-Bang-Bongo Approach 7<sup>th</sup> & 8<sup>th</sup> only)
    - Informative Writing (English 9 & 12)
    - Persuasive Writing (English 10, 11, & 12)
    - Descriptive Writing (English 12)
  - Variations of other paragraph and complete essay styles (Barry Lane)
  - Speech (Demonstrative, Informative, & Persuasive Speeches)
  - Research Paper (English 9)
  - Research Paper (English 10)
  - Research Papers (English 11)
- Adding style and imagery to writing
  - “Snap shots” (Barry Lane)
  - “Turning the Knob” (Barry Lane)
  - Six Traits of Writing-Voice and Word Choice Expectations
  - Parallel Structure
- Applying their writing to the literature being studied in the classroom
  - A Christmas Carol
  - The Hobbit
  - The Outsiders
  - Roll of Thunder Hear My Cry
  - The Haymeadow
  - English 9: *Romeo and Juliet*, *Dr. Jekyll and Mr. Hyde*, Informative/Persuasive Research Paper (MLA)
  - English 10: *Night*, *The Narrative of Frederick Douglas*, Research Papers (MLA & APA), Test Essay Writing
  - English 11: The Romantic Period, *The Count of Monte Cristo*, Literature Based Research paper, Informative Research Paper, Nebraska Author Project (MLA)
  - English 12: British Literature (Anglo-Saxon period to contemporary), *Macbeth*, reaction paper, *Gulliver’s Travels*, cause/effect

The last of the three areas of the Language Arts program at Lyons-Decatur Northeast is reading literacy. Reading instruction will focus on oral language, word study, and reading comprehension skills. Reading concepts are divided into the following areas:

### Comprehension

- Review:
  - Character and setting, making inferences, main idea and details, problem and solution, draw conclusions, plot, compare and contrast, sequence, author’s purpose, fact and opinion, description, cause and effect, theme, author’s perspective, persuasion, summarize, evaluate and defend, make judgments, internal and external conflict, inferred and recurring themes
- Learn:
  - Plot diagram, summarizing, finding the main idea, sequencing, asking questions and making inferences, before knowledge, making connections, chronological order, fact and opinion, persuasive writing, Accelerated Reader

### Vocabulary Strategies

- Prefixes and suffixes, various graphic organizers to help with connections and understanding of unknown words, REWARDS Program, context clues
- Accelerated Reading
- Root Words

## Departmental Profile

### Text Features/Literary Elements/ Study Skills

- time lines, photographs and captions, diagrams, meter and alliteration, using the internet, similes, rhythm and rhyme schemes, heroes, personification, similes, metaphors, imagery, onomatopoeia, survey, chart, hyperbole, using parts of a book, moral, venn diagrams, study strategies, tables, using computers, multi-step directions, primary sources, symbolism, using reference materials, process diagram, foreshadowing, point of view, key words, graphs, figurative language, and evaluate meaning reliability

### Communication

- Speaking in front of a group
- Combining research for complete and organized speech
- Outlining information

### Genres of Literature

- Textbook: The EMC Masterpiece Series: *The American Tradition, Responding to Literature, Experiencing Literature*
- Novels and secondary sources