

English Grade 6 Syllabus

C.R. Anderson Middle School

School Year 2023-2024

Teacher

Mrs. Kelly Blaz

Phone

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Webpage

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Location

Room 203

Office Hours

Tuesday-Friday

2:50- 3:15

English 6 Overview

Our curriculum is Common Lit 360. Throughout this curriculum we will cover six comprehensive units. The units include focused reading, writing, and speaking goals. Throughout each lesson, students read, write, and speak to deepen their understanding. Students write for different audiences and purposes, and demonstrate content proficiency through culminating writing tasks.

Required Supplies

Charged Chromebook

One folder for English materials

One Composition Notebook

Pencils

English 6 Materials and Communication

All course material is accessible through Teams and Clever.

Weekly lesson plans will be posted on Teams, Clever, and my Webpage. I will update this each week.

Announcements will be posted on Teams. The announcements will include assignments, tasks, and directions for our work in English. Students are expected to read my Teams posts daily.

Many of my assignments will be assigned through CommonLit. Students can access CommonLit from my Clever page.

Students are expected to use “chat” in Teams, instead of email, to communicate with me.

English 6 Schedule

Quarter	Unit	Focus Skills
Quarter 1	Unit 1: Characters Who Change and Grow	Summarizing a nonfiction text Tracking complex character development Writing a strong evidence-based response: 1) breaking down a prompt, 2) writing a complete paragraph, and 3) choosing relevant evidence. Setting goals and expectations for classroom discussions
Quarter 2	Unit 2: Failure and Success	Determining the theme of a short story Explaining how a theme develops Writing a strong evidence-based response Writing about theme Writing strong explanations Writing introductions and conclusions Referring to evidence from texts
Quarter 3	Unit 3: The Watson's Go to Birmingham-1963 Unit 4: Our Changing Oceans	Analyzing how complex characters develop a novel's theme Writing a literary analysis essay Synthesizing author's purpose Synthesizing information across informational texts Organizing and writing an informative research paper Speaking to synthesize and organize information from research
Quarter 4	Unit 5: Embracing Our Differences Unit 6: Intro to Argument Writing	Referring to text to support ideas and to draw inferences about a story Understanding standard English in speech and in writing Understanding the deeper meanings of words and phrases Using clear reasons and relevant evidence to support claims Writing organized and informative pieces, with relevant content to express ideas, concepts, and information.

ACHIEVERS

Grading

Practice is essential for learning and continued academic success. Successful practice requires structured attempts with specific feedback and the opportunity to try again. This cycle happens over and over with educators providing feedback until students have mastered the concept or met the teacher's learning expectation. If the feedback is not provided or the opportunity to try again is removed, then unsuccessful practice is never corrected. Entering permanent scores from the early stages of practice does not represent the growth a student has made and thus does not adequately measure their results.

Redo, Rewrite, Retest

Students can redo, rewrite, or retest any assignment/assessment within the current unit of instruction. Students will be required to fill out a “Request to Redo” form if they would like to retake an assignment/assessment to represent improvement of a specific skill or learning target. The form must be filled out at home and a parent and student signature is required. This work will need to be done outside of class time, during advisory, lunch, and before or after school. It will be the students’ responsibility to coordinate this with me.

All classwork/homework assignments will be worth 40% of your overall grade. All assessments, tests, and writing will be worth 60% of your final grade.

Grading Scale: 90-100 = A, 80-89 = B, 70-79 = C, 60-69 = D, below 60% = F

Homework Policy

You should NOT have homework in English. You will only have homework if you are absent or need more time to finish a classroom assignment.

Late work

I will accept late work. However, do not make late work a habit. Please communicate with me if you need to make up late work. You can message me on Teams or come talk to me! I cannot guarantee that you will be given timely feedback on assignments if you turn them in late.

If you are absent for an assessment the expectation is that you will come in before school, after school, at lunch, or in advisor to take it.

COOPERATIVE & RESPECTFUL

Expectations in the classroom

- Be seated by the bell
- Follow directions
- Be prepared for class.
- Help others
- Show empathy
- Allow others to learn.

Expectations when using technology.

- Use technology when given permission
- Put technology away when asked
- Be responsible for your own device.
- Be kind when communicating with others
- Use only your own device

Attendance

Please be here and be on time and come to class ready to learn! The more time you spend in class the more I can teach you!

Participation

Since your active engagement in lessons will dramatically impact your learning, I expect you to be fully engaged throughout each lesson. I will do all I can to keep the lessons engaging, fast-paced, safe, and fun.

Chromebooks

Chromebooks are ONLY for educational purposes. Games (even cool math games, Minecraft, and You Tube) **are not allowed** to be used in the classroom. Messaging on Teams is also a distraction to you and your peers, so do

not use this as a tool during classroom teaching time. This takes away from being a cooperative, respectful achiever!

Cell Phones

Students are permitted to use cell phones outside the building before school and after school in the hallways if they are on the way out of the building. Texting, taking photos, or recording videos inside or outside the school building during the school day is not allowed. The school and/or District are not responsible for students' lost or stolen cell phones. Your backpack or locker is a suitable place to keep your phone. If your phone is out during instruction, you will receive a warning and the next time the phone will be taken away for the day. Apple watches are allowed but should not be a distraction in the classroom.

Caps/hats/hoodies

Caps may be worn in communal areas and in the classroom at the teacher's discretion. I will allow hats to be worn in the classroom. However, if your hat interferes with my ability to communicate with you, I will ask you to take it off. You are expected to comply with my directions in this regard.



SYLLABUS ACKNOWLEDGEMENT

I acknowledge that I have read and understand Mrs. Blaz's syllabus for the 2023-2024 school year.

Parent/Guardian Name: _____

Parent/Guardian Signature: _____

Student Name: _____

Student Signature: _____