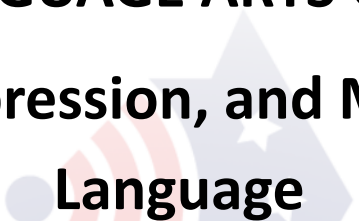


7th Grade American Online School

ENGLISH LANGUAGE ARTS CURRICULUM

Exploration, Expression, and Mastery through Language



Version May/2025

1. Introduction

The Role of English Language Arts Education in 7th Grade

In 7th grade, students build upon foundational literacy skills to become insightful readers, clear writers, confident speakers, and thoughtful listeners. This curriculum emphasizes critical comprehension, evidence-based writing, vocabulary development, and digital literacy while encouraging creative expression and personal reflection. Drawing on the principles of Lehrplan 21 and aligned with U.S. standards, the curriculum empowers learners to analyze texts, express ideas fluently, and navigate language with purpose and clarity.

By the end of this course, students will:

- ✓ Analyze a variety of literary and informational texts with increasing complexity.
 - ✓ Write narrative, informative, and argumentative pieces with structure and voice.
 - ✓ Expand vocabulary through contextual learning and real-world application.
 - ✓ Demonstrate effective speaking and listening skills in collaborative settings.
 - ✓ Engage with literature to explore identity, society, and ethical dilemmas.
-

2. Core Competence Areas

ELA.1 Reading and Literary Analysis

Learning Outcomes

By the end of this course, students will be able to:

- ✓ Read and analyze short stories, novels, drama, and poetry.
- ✓ Identify literary devices and explain their effects on meaning.
- ✓ Summarize and synthesize central themes and ideas across texts.

Competencies

ELA.1.A.1 – Developing literary comprehension and analysis.

- Identify theme, setting, conflict, and characterization
- Interpret figurative language including metaphor, simile, and symbolism
- Evaluate author's tone, mood, and narrative structure.

ELA.1.A.2 – Engaging with diverse texts.

- Read texts from different cultures and time periods
- Compare and contrast perspectives, themes, and genre conventions
- Connect literature to historical and social contexts

ELA.2 Reading Informational Texts

Learning Outcomes

By the end of this unit, students will be able to:

- ✓ Compose structured essays, stories, and responses to literature.
- ✓ Use the writing process to plan, revise, and publish.
- ✓ Support claims and ideas with evidence and elaboration.

Competencies

ELA.2.A.1 – Writing with clarity, structure, and evidence.

- Write narrative, argumentative, and explanatory compositions.
- Develop thesis statements, topic sentences, and cohesive transitions.
- Integrate quotations and textual evidence effectively.

ELA.2.A.2 – Developing writing through feedback and revision.

- Participate in peer review and self-assessment.
 - Apply editing strategies to enhance grammar, punctuation, and style.
 - Use digital tools for drafting and publishing.
-

ELA.3 English Grammar and Language Mechanics

Learning Outcomes

By the end of this unit, students will be able to:

- ✓ Use grammar and sentence structure to enhance written and spoken expression.
- ✓ Apply punctuation and spelling rules with increasing accuracy.
- ✓ Improve language choices through precise word selection.

Competencies

ELA.3.A.1 – Mastering foundational grammar and usage.

- Use correct subject-verb agreement, pronouns, and verb tenses.
- Punctuate complex sentences and dialogue appropriately.
- Edit for sentence variety, clarity, and mechanics.

ELA.3.A.2 – Enhancing vocabulary and spelling fluency.

- Decode unfamiliar words using roots, prefixes, and suffixes.
 - Use synonyms, antonyms, and connotations effectively.
 - Apply weekly vocabulary and spelling in context.
-

ELA.4 Speaking, Speech, and Communication

Learning Outcomes

By the end of this unit, students will be able to:

- ✓ **Communicate effectively in academic and social conversations.**
- ✓ **Prepare and deliver presentations using multimedia.**
- ✓ **Listen actively and respond thoughtfully to peers.**

Competencies

ELA.4.A.1 – Practicing collaborative communication.

- Engage in structured discussions with evidence-based contributions.
- Practice active listening and build on others' ideas.
- Use academic language and respectful dialogue.

ELA.4.A.2 – Presenting with clarity and expression.

- Develop informative and persuasive speeches.
- Use visuals, pacing, and tone to enhance communication.
- Reflect on presentation effectiveness and peer feedback.

3. Assessment and Evaluation

Formative Assessments – Checking Progress Through Active Engagement

- ✓ **Reading logs and chapter reflections.**
- ✓ **Exit tickets and quick-writes.**
- ✓ **Peer conferencing and draft annotations.**

Summative Assessments – Finalized Products and Mastery Demonstration

- ✓ **Argumentative and narrative essays.**
- ✓ **Reading comprehension assessments.**
- ✓ **Chapter 9 test and Final Literary Portfolio.**

Authentic Assessment – Real-World Application

- ✓ Digital storytelling and blog posts.
 - ✓ Book talks and literary panels.
 - ✓ Literature-themed community showcase.
-

4. Instructional Strategies for Online Learning

Inquiry-Based and Thematic Learning

- ✓ Student-led questions on theme, character, and authorial intent.
- ✓ Exploration of “text-to-self” and “text-to-world” connections.

Project-Based Learning

- ✓ Culminating chapter projects aligned with real-world relevance.
- ✓ Curated literary anthologies, podcasts, or e-zines.

Technology-Integrated Learning

- ✓ Reading fluency recordings.
- ✓ Writing process apps (e.g., Grammarly, Google Docs).
- ✓ Creative platforms (e.g., Canva, Book Creator).

Inclusive and Responsive Learning Environment

- ✓ Inclusive classroom valuing diverse texts and voices.
- ✓ Emphasis on personal growth and constructive critique.
- ✓ Collaboration through book circles and peer editing groups.