

Greater Atlanta Christian School
6th Grade Advanced Language Arts
Syllabus 2007-2008

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Course goals and objectives include the development of the following:

1. Communication skills both written and oral
2. Vocabulary Development (heavy emphasis)
3. Independent Reading
4. Accelerated Reader participation—15 points **per** grading period (minimum)
5. Bloom's higher order of thinking skills
6. Responding creatively to literature

Content to be covered:

1. Literature studies:
 - Student-chosen novels-Accelerated Reader
 - Literature Circles
 - Short Stories
 - Novel studies by class
2. Various modes of writing
3. Grammar (heavy emphasis)

Materials:

1. Reading/English notebook with dividers
2. Writing instruments—black/blue pen, red pen/pencil, and pencil
3. Any special items—student will be notified well in advance

Grading:

**Grades are weighted and vary according to the difficulty of the assignment. For example, if a quiz is worth 50 points, the student's grade might be noted as 45 because 45 of the 50 possible points was scored.*

1. Daily assignments—10-25 points
2. Quizzes—25-50 points
3. Tests and projects— 50-100 points
4. Daily work will be accepted one day late **only** for a grade of "50"
5. Projects will be accepted one day late **only** for a grade of "80"
6. Evaluation will also include **positive** class participation

Help Session: Wednesday, AM officially—I will also be available per student-arranged time. I arrive early and am delighted to help on any days that I do not have meetings. I will also help in the afternoons. Please prearrange.

Management Plan:

1. Respect (**the key**)—for others, property, and ideas. **This is also my personal commitment.**
2. Responsibility—bring your supplies, clean up after yourself, and complete/turn in your work.
3. Obedience—**While I want you to understand “why,” there will be times that you will be expected to obey because I am the teacher. Refer to rule number 1.**

Consequences:

1. Verbal warning
2. Conference
3. Communication with parents
4. Detention
5. Referral to principal

***The teacher reserves the right to send the student to the principal immediately for any action or behavior that is considered severe.**

Expectations:

1. **The student is responsible** for all makeup work when absent—including arranging to make up tests. The student will be given one day per days absent to make up work. ***If this is a problem because of extenuating circumstances, see me.**
2. AR book or book chosen for independent reading should be brought to class daily. **Friday** will be designated independent reading as well as vocabulary quiz/test day.
3. All materials will be brought to class daily. Reward points given weekly for preparation.
4. Class begins the minute the bell rings. You will be given time to gather your books, etc. at the end of class. **Be on time.**
5. Take care of business between classes.
6. Good behavior is simply expected. By the time a student reaches sixth grade, I do not feel that each expectation has to be delineated.
7. **Daily reading.**

Dear Parent,

Thank you for the opportunity to teach your child. I love learning and find young people delightful. My commitment is to try to challenge your child and encourage an excitement for learning that will continue as a life long process. GACS is a great place to be; let's have a wonderful year. Please read the above syllabus, discuss it with your child, and sign that you have done so.

Sincerely,

Ruby McLean

I, (student's name) _____, have read the syllabus for 6th grade Advanced Language Arts and agree to strive to meet the expectations for this class. I also attest that I will follow the GACS honor code.

GACS Honor Code: *In order to maintain honor in my relationships, I agree to do what is right, to speak the truth, and to strive for integrity in all that I do. Therefore, I will not be involved in lying, cheating, or stealing. If I do vary from the path of honor, I will accept the correction from others and the established consequences of this school. Honor is a goal that I seek to attain.*

Student signature _____

I, parent's name) _____, have observed that my child has read and understood the expectations for 6th grade Advanced Language Arts.

Parent signature _____

***The teacher reserves the right to alter/change the syllabus to better serve students.**