

Eighth Grade

English

Aim of Course

To improve students' writing and oral communication skills.

Course Description

English is the study of grammar and spelling. Oral communication will also be studied in this course.

Text:

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Assessments

Students will be assessed in the following areas:

- 40%-45% Homework/seatwork/daily work
- 45%-55% Tests
- 10%-15% Quizzes
- Students will be assessed on a minimum of 500 points per quarter.

Course Outline

I. First Quarter

- To recognize nouns and distinguish between common and proper nouns, to form the plurals of nouns, and to form the possessives of nouns. (*State Goal 3*) – Chapter 2
- To identify action and linking verbs, to recognize helping verbs and main verbs in verb phrases, to form the principal parts of regular and irregular verbs, to identify and use verb tenses, to recognize and use the progressive forms of verbs, to identify and use active and passive verb forms, and to use correctly verbs from pairs that are often confused. (*State Goal 3*) – Chapter 4
- To identify prepositions and their objects, to distinguish between prepositions and adverbs, to identify adjective and adverb phrases, to identify coordinating and correlative conjunctions, and to identify interjections. (*State Goal 3*) - Chapter 6
- Spelling Lessons 1-4 (*State Goal 1A*)

**Chapter assessments will consist of quizzes while studying the chapters and a test at the end of each chapter.

II. Second Quarter

- To recognize and capitalize proper nouns and proper adjectives, personal titles, family relationships, the pronoun *I*, geographical locations, languages, and school subjects. To capitalize the first words of sentences, lines of most poetry, direct quotations, and of outline entries. To capitalize correctly the titles of literary works, motion pictures, and other such works. (*State Goal 3*) - Chapter 10
- To use periods, question marks, and exclamation points correctly. To use commas, semicolons, colons, hyphens, apostrophes, and quotation marks correctly. (*State Goal 3*) – Chapter 11
- To identify the uses of infinitives and infinitive phrases, to recognize split infinitives, to identify the uses of participles and participial phrases, to identify gerunds and gerund phrases, and to distinguish between gerunds and participles. (*State Goal 3*) – Chapter 7
- Spelling Lessons 5-8 (*State Goal 1A*)
 - i. There will be a spelling test at the end of each lesson
- Students will write a persuasive essay. (*State Goals 3.B.3a, 3.B.3b, and 3.C.3a*)

**Chapter assessments will consist of quizzes while studying the chapters and a test at the end of each chapter. Second quarter assessment will also include a persuasive essay.

III. Third Quarter

- To identify personal pronouns, to identify subject, object, and possessive forms of personal pronouns and to use those forms correctly in sentences, to use pronouns correctly in compound subjects and objects, to distinguish between possessive pronouns and contractions, to identify singular and plural indefinite pronouns and to use possessive pronouns and verbs that agree in number with indefinite pronouns, to identify and use demonstrative and interrogative pronouns, to use *who*, *whom*, and *whose*; *we* and *us*; *them* and *those* correctly in sentences, to identify and use intensive and reflexive pronouns correctly, and to make pronoun agree with antecedents. (*State Goal 3*) – Chapter 3
- To distinguish between sentences and sentence fragments, to identify the complete subject and predicate of a sentence, to identify the simple subject and verb in a sentence, to identify main verbs, helping verbs, and verb phrases, to identify the subject and verb in sentences beginning with *here* and *there* and in other sentences with unusual word order, to identify direct and indirect objects and transitive and intransitive verbs, to identify predicate words and linking verbs, to identify and use compound sentence parts, and to identify and correct run-on sentences. (*State Goal 3*) – Chapter 1

- Spelling Lessons 9-12 (*State Goal 1A*)
There will be a spelling test at the end of each lesson.
- Students will write a narrative essay. (*State Goals 3.B.3a, 3.B.3b, and 3.C.3a*)

**Chapter assessments will consist of quizzes while studying the chapters and a test at the end of each chapter. Third quarter assessment will also include a narrative essay.

IV. Fourth Quarter

- To identify adjectives, adverbs, articles, and pronouns used as modifiers, to distinguish between adjectives and adverbs, to form and use adjectives and adverbs in comparisons, and to avoid common errors in the use of modifiers. (*State Goal 3*) – Chapter 5
- To understand the form and function of compound and complex sentences, to distinguish between main and subordinate clauses, to identify and avoid fragments, to identify subordinate clauses as adjective, adverb, or noun clauses, and to identify and use relative pronouns correctly in adjective clauses. (*State Goal 3*) – Chapter 8
- To recognize subject-verb agreement in sentences, to select verbs that agree in number with compound subjects, to select verbs that agree in number with indefinite pronouns subjects, and to avoid other common agreement errors. (*State Goal 3*) – Chapter 9
- Spelling Lessons 13-15 (*State Goal 1A*)
There will be a spelling test at the end of each lesson
- Students will give an “All About Me” speech. (*State Goal 4.B.3a*)
- Students will write an expository essay (American Legion). (*State Goal 3.B.3a, 3.B.3b, and 3.C.3a*)

**Chapter assessments will consist of quizzes while studying the chapters and a test at the end of each chapter. Fourth quarter assessment will also include an expository essay and a speech.