



**Visitation of Our Lady School  
7<sup>th</sup> Grade Language Arts Syllabus  
2008-2009**

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*The purpose of English grammar  
is to communicate as clearly as possible  
P. Roberts, MLA*

All 7<sup>th</sup> grade Language Arts students will review, study, and comprehend the following essential skills which are necessary to the clear understanding and usage of proper grammar and writing skills in a practical manner:

- **Daily Proofreading** (DOL and POS start up/bell activities)
- **Kinds of Sentences** (writing, identifying, and using)
- **Capitalization** (identifying the improper and proper application and incorporating in writing)
- **Punctuation** (properly using and identifying: end marks, commas, semicolons, colons, quotation marks, apostrophes, hyphens, parentheses, and dashes)
- **Spelling** (applying, defining, and identifying the proper/improper spelling and usage of various words)
- **Writing Process** (using the writing process to successfully complete formal and informal writing projects)
- **Six Traits of Writing** (identifying and applying six traits to successfully complete various forms of writing projects)
- **Parts of Speech** (identifying, using, and applying eight parts of speech in various forms of assignments)
  - nouns, pronouns, adjectives
  - verbs, adverbs, prepositions
  - conjunctions, interjections
  - agreement
- **Kinds of Writing** (narrative, persuasive, and expository)
- **Practical Application** (letter and email etiquette and test smarts)

In addition to the above noted English grammar skills, 7<sup>th</sup> grade Language Arts students will also be responsible for reading, analyzing, and comprehending various literary works found in the **Holt Elements of Literature** textbook and supplemental class and independent reading materials. Students will be using the literary works as a basis for various writing assignments which will utilize the grammar skills studied in English.



Throughout the 2008-2009 school year all 7<sup>th</sup> grade Language Arts students must have the required supplies, are expected to cooperate with the various instructional strategies, and fulfill the listed student tasks and responsibilities:

**Textbook, notebook(s)/binder, journal, supplies:**

- Voyages in English
- Wordly Wise
- Holt Elements of Literature
- Holt Language Handbook
- Journal
- SSR book (VOL library or Accelerated Reader listing)
- Pens (blue, black, red) and highlighter

**Instruction Strategies and Assessments:**

- Lectures, discussions, and notes (dictation and board)
- Handouts and Workbook
- Writing activities (formal and informal)
- Homework and/or Class work assignments (individual and group)
- Tests and Quizzes (scheduled and unscheduled)
- SSR book/Accelerated Reader computer test
- Independent textbook reading and novel assignments

**Student Tasks and Responsibilities:**

- Completing daily various startup/bell activities (DOL, POS, Journal entry, spelling, SSR)
- Asking questions and responding questions to aid in comprehension
- Note taking (board, overhead, dictation, discussions, lectures, textbook analysis)
- Completing and correcting assignments (writing, homework, and classwork)
- Studying and reviewing assigned material
- Making an index card study guide for all TESTS and EXAMS
- Taking assigned SSR/Accelerated Reader computer test(s)
- **Correcting all tests and quizzes in red ink**
- **Getting all tests regardless of grade signed**
- **Storing all tests in test packet form**

**VOL Grading Scale:**

- A+ =100
- A = 99 - 94
- B = 93 - 86
- C = 85 - 78
- D = 77 - 70
- U = 69 - 0

***We have read the contents of this packet and agree to enthusiastically participate in all assignments and tasks for the 2008-2009 school year.***



Please sign (parent) \_\_\_\_\_ (student) \_\_\_\_\_

