Language Arts 7 Course Outline

2025-2026

Teacher: Mrs. Melissa Reimer

## Welcome to Grade 7 Language Arts! This year, we’ll be exploring all the ways we can use language to express ourselves, understand others, and make sense of the world around us. Together, we’ll read, write, speak, view, and listen with purpose—and yes, there will be puns.

# I. What to Expect: This course is based on Alberta’s Grade 7 Language Arts Program of Studies. Students will learn to:

* Explore their thoughts and experiences
* Analyze and respond to what they read and hear
* Research and organize information
* Communicate ideas with clarity and creativity
* Collaborate with and respect the voices of others

We’ll be working through the six strands of ELA in a way that makes learning meaningful and engaging.

# II. Big Picture: Course Goals: Our work this year will be grounded in the five main outcomes from the Alberta Program of Studies:

1. **Exploring and Expressing Ideas**
   * Share personal reactions and insights
   * Experiment with voice, style, and genre
   * Set goals and reflect on your learning
2. **Understanding Texts**
   * Read, listen to, and watch a variety of media and literature
   * Think critically and personally about what you engage with
   * Use strategies to build comprehension
3. **Managing Information**
   * Ask questions and guide your own research
   * Use different sources and evaluate them for quality
   * Organize and share your findings clearly
4. **Communicating Effectively**
   * Improve your writing through editing and feedback
   * Use figurative language and play with form
   * Be a thoughtful listener and viewer
5. **Working Together**
   * Respect others’ ideas and voices
   * Collaborate in discussions, projects, and group work
   * Contribute to a positive classroom culture

Curriculum link: [LearnAlberta Language Arts 7](https://curriculum.learnalberta.ca/parents/en/grade/7/ela)

# III. Year at a Glance: Scope & Sequence *(Subject to change based on interest and flexibility)*

| **September: Forms & Genres Unit** | * Learn how to recognize and analyze different text forms * Practice navigating text features and reference materials * Set reading goals based on interest and class expectations |
| --- | --- |
| **October/November: Short Story Unit** | * Dive into story structure and vocabulary (plot, character, theme, conflict, etc.) * Explore stories from a variety of cultures and voices * Analyze the effectiveness of story elements like suspense and flashbacks * Compare written and visual storytelling * Create and present story analysis projects |
| **November/December: Story Writing Unit** | * Use what we learned to write short stories in multiple forms * Practice figurative language and plot structure * Revise, edit, and polish creative work for publishing |
| **January/February: Novel Study (TBD)** | * Deepen our understanding of character, setting, plot * Engage with vocabulary, reading comprehension, and personal response * Write essays and complete a major novel project |
| **March: Research & Essay Writing Unit** | * Learn and practice research skills * Analyze media, nonfiction, poetry, and speeches * Write structured essays with clear arguments |
| **April/May: Myths, Fairy Tales, & Folklore** | * Revisit the writing process and narrative elements * Read across genres and cultures * Write creatively and critically * Build vocabulary and comprehension skills |
| **June: Poetry & Final Review** | * Explore poetic forms and devices * Practice test-taking strategies * Review for the final exam in creative and fun ways |

# IV. How We’ll Learn: We’ll mix it up! Instructional strategies include:

* Direct instruction and modeling
* Group discussions and collaborative work
* Independent reading and writing
* Media analysis and inquiry-based research
* Creative expression and performance

Everything we do is supported on Google Classroom. Missed an assignment? Want to improve a mark? You’ll always have opportunities to redo and reflect.

# V. How You’ll Be Assessed: Assessment is all about learning, not just marks. I’ll use it to guide instruction and help you grow. Expect a mix of:

| Formative Assessment:  * In-class activities * Group discussions * Skill check-ins and practice | **Breakdown by Major Outcome, based on Curricular Outcome:**   * Outcome 1: 12.5% * Outcome 2: 25% * Outcome 3: 25% * Outcome 4: 25% * Outcome 5: 12.5% |
| --- | --- |
| Summative Assessment:  * Projects, presentations, and writing assignments * Tests and quizzes * Personal reflections |

Marks will be updated regularly on PowerSchool, and I’m always happy to talk if you have questions about how learning is being assessed.

# VI. Resources

* *Sightlines 7*
* CommonLit texts
* Supplemental short stories, poetry, and nonfiction

# VII. Classroom Culture: Our classroom is a community. Everyone deserves to feel safe, heard, and respected. Disruptions that interfere with learning or safety won’t be tolerated.

My goal is to support each of you in becoming stronger, more confident communicators and thinkers. Let’s work hard, take risks, laugh often, and learn together!