

Grade 6 Language Arts/Handwriting Course Outline

Text: *Language Arts Today*

Common Core ELA Practice Books

Weekly handwriting practice sheets

DOL (Daily Oral Language) Practice

Supplementary Material – Computer software and Practice books

General Goals

English Language Arts education enables students to develop their writing, reading, listening and speaking abilities in order that they may communicate with a variety of audiences and for different purposes. The program is designed to develop students' skills in punctuation, spelling and grammar through the use of a variety of writing strategies. The Handwriting program is designed to develop the penmanship skill of cursive writing.

Grade 6 Writing Assignments

SEPTEMBER Theme: Heroes

Unit 1: Sentences

Narrative writing

Writing Process

Two writing pieces-

1) Narrative essay- My autobiography

2) Poem -Diamante

Two book reports (due on the 15th and the 30th)

OCTOBER Theme: My World

Units 2 & 3: Writing Personal Narratives

Nouns

Narrative Essay writing continues

Two writing pieces

1)Memoir

2)Poem- Acrostic

Two book reports (due on the 15th and the 30th)

NOVEMBER Theme: Living Things

Units 3 & 4: Nouns continued

Writing stories

Two writing pieces

1)Story- story elements must be evident e.g. Plot, setting, characters etc.

2)Poem - Monologue

Two book reports (due on the 15th and the 30th)

DECEMBER / JANUARY Theme: Spiritual Journey

Units 5 & 6: Writing Explanations

Writing Process (repeat)

Verbs

Informative writing

Two writing pieces

1)Expository Writing essay – Violence Prevention/ Steps in Abuse prevention

2) Poem – 1 cinquain & 1 Haiku

Two book reports (due on the 15th and the 30th)

FEBRUARY Theme: Friends & Family

Unit 7: Pronouns

Informative writing

Two writing pieces

1) Poem- “ If I were a Slave”

2) Research paper on America in the 1800’s

Two book reports (due on the 15th and the 30th)

MARCH Theme: Environment

Unit 8: Writing business letters

Informative writing

Two writing pieces

1)Business Letter

2)Friendly Letter

Two book reports (due on the 15th and the 30th)

APRIL Theme: Personal Feelings & Growth

Units 9 & 10: Adjectives

Writing descriptions

Two writing pieces

1)Descriptive essay – “An Unusual Place/My Most Awkward Moment”

2)PowerPoint- “The Most Exciting Country on Earth”

Two book reports (due on the 15th and the 30th)

MAY Theme: Yesterday

Units 11 & 12: Adverbs

Writing Persuasive Paragraphs

Two writing pieces

1)Persuasive essay- Debate

2)Group Project – Play Writing

Two book reports (due on the 15th and the 30th)

JUNE Theme: Social Issues

Units 13 & 14: Prepositions, Conjunctions, and Interjections

Writing Research reports

One writing piece

Literacy – “Are Americans literate”

One book report (due two days before the last day of school)

BASIC RUBRIC FOR WRITING ASSIGNMENTS:

CLASS AND TESTS

Score: 4	Score: 3
<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Writing is strongly connected to the question.• Strong, clear main idea identifies the theme.• Well-developed writing with well-organized ideas, examples, sequences, and conclusions.• Written in a lively voice with varied vocabulary and clear, complete sentences.• Few (1-2) or no errors in spelling, grammar, usage, capitalization, or punctuation.	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Writing clearly responds to the question.• Reader can easily identify the main idea.• Writing is mostly well organized; may include some unimportant ideas. Examples, ideas, sequences, and conclusions make sense.• Written mostly in clear and complete sentences with a good choice of words.• Some errors (3-4) in spelling, grammar, usage, capitalization, or punctuation.

Score: 2	Score: 1
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Writing is connected to the question only in a general way. • The main idea is not clearly presented. • Writing is poorly organized. Ideas are incomplete and examples are not clearly connected; many unimportant details. • Sentences use a limited vocabulary; may not be complete or may run together. • Many errors in spelling, grammar, usage, capitalization, and punctuation. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Writing does not seem connected to the question at all. • There is no main idea. • Little or no planning or organization; few if any ideas presented; no connection between ideas and examples. • Sentences make little or no sense, with poor choice of words. • Errors in spelling, grammar, and so on make the writing unreadable.

NB: Common Core practice work will be done each week using a test preparation book provided by the school. Two chapters will be done each week to prepare the students for the ELA state test in April.