

Tokyo International Progressive School
Grade 8 English Language Arts Course Outline
2023-2024
Room 34
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Description of Course

This course furthers students' ability to understand different literary genres and to analyze texts and essays. Students will also learn about story elements (such as settings, characters, conflict, etc.) plot points, and the mechanics of story-telling. Students will keep on developing critical thinking skills in order to put each account in the right historical and cultural context. Studying authors and their biographies will help students in deepening their understanding of literary devices and tools. Paramount attention will be given to grammar, syntax, and vocabulary as students will be required to express themselves in a proper way according to different types of assignments.

Student expectations

Students will be required to bring their pencil case, water bottle, computer and folder. Students will not be allowed to eat food or drink anything different from water during class. Once students enter the classroom, they are expected to follow the instructions for the day and to participate in class discussions.

Students will be given either worksheets on paper or on google classroom, and a textbook. If a numbered lent textbook is not returned in usable condition by the required date, your family will be asked to pay for a replacement for the book.

If assignments are not submitted by the assigned due date, parents will be informed and the student will be required to attend WIN to complete the incomplete assignment. If a student requires more time to complete their assignment, the student must take responsibility and inform the teacher with the reasons for needing extra time. If the reasons are legitimate, the teacher will set a new due date for the assignment. If a student is unable to complete the assignment by the new designated due date, the student will earn a zero as their grade for that assignment.

If a student receives a failing grade in a test, the student will receive the opportunity to have a re-test. The student will be asked to re-answer the questions they got wrong in their first attempt, along with a verbal explanation of their new answer.

EARNING YOUR GRADE

Your grade will be determined by your work in these categories:

Daily Work Any in-class assignment or activity completed that day.	25%
Quizzes Quizzes will be held each week.	20%
Progress Tests Tests will be held following the chapters covered in the course.	20%
Projects	25%
6P Students will be assessed according to their participation, and behavior.	10%

The grading scale for this course will be:

Letter grade	Mark range
A+	98-100
A	93-97
B+	90-92
B	85-89
C+	82-84
C	77-81
D+	74-76
D	70-73
F	69 or below

1) **6P's: Positive/Pleasant/Polite, Prepared/Punctual/Productive** - 10% of the student's grade.

Positive/pleasant/polite behaviors govern how members of the TIPS community are expected to treat each other.

Prepared/punctual/productive behaviors guarantee academic success. A mark out of 10 will be awarded each class based on these criteria:

Positive/Pleasant/Polite

- 1) Do I speak positively about myself, my peers, my teachers and my school?
- 2) Do I always respond positively to adult requests?
- 3) Do I look for opportunities to help others succeed?
- 4) Do I use good manners?
- 5) Am I considerate of the point of view of others?
- 6) Am I a courteous and attentive listener?
- 7) Do I treat the environment respectfully and gently?
- 8) Do I go out of my way to include others in the activity, especially those not part of my circle of friends?

Prepared/Punctual/Productive

- 1) Do I bring all required materials to class?
- 2) Am I on time for class and ready to begin work at the bell?
- 3) Do I participate fully in all the learning activities?
- 4) Am I on task without a teacher's supervision?
- 5) Do I work at a challenging level?
- 6) Do I find ways to assist my peers in their learning?

7) Am I supportive of the efforts of my peers in the classroom?

8) Do I take care of my own health so I am fully engaged in learning?

2) **Quizzes** – 20% of the student's grade.

Short assessments between 5-10 questions, taking 5-10 minutes to complete. Quizzes are formative assessments used to check students' progress throughout the course.

3) **Daily work** – 25% of the student's grade.

Daily work is anything students complete in class and directly linked to the objective for the lesson.

4) **Projects** – 25% of the student's grade.

Assignments are longer tasks, designed to practice skills including research, organization, group work, and presentation. Projects will usually take more than one class period to complete and will involve completing some of the work outside of class time.

5) **Progress Tests** – 20% of the student's grade.

Progress Tests are summative assessments given at the end of a unit and cover all the material learned in that unit.

Important dates

Students will be assessed with quizzes on a weekly basis and progress tests on a monthly basis. Students will also be required to work on longer project assignments involving researching and writing skills. Projects will take several lessons to complete and will be scheduled once per quarter.

Plagiarism Policy

Students who hand in school work that is not their own are guilty of plagiarism. Students who plagiarize will be dealt these consequences:

First offense:

- phone call to parents and the work redone and the grade reported
- explain to parents consequence for second offense

Second offense:

- phone call to parents and the work redone and assessed, with the grade of "o" recorded
- explain to parents consequence for third offense

Third offense

- phone call to parents and the work redone and assessed, and a grade of "o" recorded
- Saturday School assigned by school administration
- explain to parents the consequence for fourth offense

Fourth offense

- phone call to parents and the work redone and assessed, and a grade of "o" recorded
- 2 day Out of School Suspension by school administration – preamble with parents expulsion on fifth offense

Fifth offense

- expulsion