

Inspiring Catholic Faith and Principles While Encouraging Academic Excellence

**Visitation of Our Lady Catholic School
Language Lab
6th & 7th Grade Syllabus
2009-2010**

Ms. Monica Cortez

**Email address: mcortez@vol.org
Voice mail/Homework: 347-3377 Ext. 23**

Students are instructed in the seven components of the Basic Language Skills Development standards. Those components are:

1. Phonemic and Syllabic Awareness
2. Phonology Development – Encoding/Spelling
3. Reading – Decoding Development
4. Handwriting Development
5. Computer Word Processing Development
6. Comprehension Development
7. Composition Development

Student Books

Voyages in English
Holt Elements of Language
Holt: Elements of Literature
Holt: Spelling Lesson and Activities

Grading Scale

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

Grading- Nine weeks grade will be determined from:

Tests
Project (1 after the novel)
Exam (7th grade only))
Quizzes
Homework
Classwork

Home Responsibilities

The language arts binder is your child's language arts daily communication link between home and school. Homework assignments will be written daily in his/her agenda. Please check this daily. The binder is an organization and communication tool that keeps home and school "on the same page".

Homework Hotline

My homework can be accessed through the school's website or by calling the school's telephone number.

Supplies

If your child is missing any supplies needed for this class, a supply list will be sent home the second week of school.

In The Classroom

In order to have students achieve Literature and English goals, in addition to spelling goals, a highly structured classroom environment is maintained. Drills, repetition, role playing, partner work, computer-assisted instruction, discussion, note-taking, and practice tasks are used. Complex tasks are divided and grouped into more readily attainable chunks of information. Low pupil-teacher ratio allows for students to be monitored constantly for attention and task-orientation. Students are provided with ongoing feedback regarding subject content and individual task achievement. Extended "wait time" is used when calling for a response from students to allow for processing of receptive and expressive language and to increase the probability of positive reinforcement. Auditory directions and explanations are direct and positive. Language arts grades include an assessment of all oral reading and all writing that is done in class. The writing includes that which is done on homework log sheets, test sentence writing, quality and quantity of creative writing, proofreading, and editing.

English

Students write usually daily in class either in their journals or developing creative writing topics which are assigned approximately every two weeks. Students progress through brainstorming, writing, word processing, proofreading, reorganizing in various drafts before arriving at a finished product. The writing products are shared with a partner and sometimes with the entire class. A writing rubric is used as a guide for alternative assessment.

Students are tested in a written format on the DOL sentences of the week.

Spelling dictation is the regular method of assessment of weekly spelling forms.

Students are tested regularly using objective test of grammar, punctuation, and capitalization.

Literature

The reading log sheet serves as a response medium for comprehension of literature and other printed matter.

Students are tested on vocabulary of their current story in literature using objective test. Correct use of the word in sentence context is also assessed.

Students are objectively tested on comprehension of the literature story of the week. Each story is analyzed according to characters, setting, plot, conflict, theme, opinions and facts.

Please return this page signed by Wednesday, August 26th

We have read the course outline for 6th and 7th grade Language Lab. We understand and agree that it will be used to assess student's progress and determine course grades.

Parent Signature _____ Date _____

Student Signature _____ Date _____