

**Center Joint Unified School District**  
**Middle School Course Outline**  
**English Language Arts**

**Course Title:** English 7 & Honors

**Grade Level:** 7

**Prerequisites:** Seventh Grade Standing

**Course Description:** The English course develops the reading, writing, listening and speaking skills of middle high school students. Reading lessons equip students with strategies to help them better understand not only stories, poetry, and essays, but also informational materials, such as newspapers, magazines, and textbooks. For writing, this course provides instruction in effective sentence and paragraph structures as well as in composing longer essays and research presentations. Students will be taught to use correct grammar and conventions for formal writing and speaking. Spelling and vocabulary units will focus on common bases, prefixes, and suffixes to enlarge the student's knowledge of the English language. In addition, there will be several opportunities for students to present and speak in front of the class to develop their public speaking skills. Students will be expected to listen and provide constructive feedback to presentations made by their peers.

**Instructional Materials**

Pearson Literature  
Pearson Writing and Grammar  
Pearson Everyday Spelling  
Supplemental Novels

**Units of Instruction**

**1<sup>st</sup> Quarter**

(Literature) Unit 1 Fiction  
    Informational Text  
    Select poetry pieces from Unit 4  
(Writing) Introduction to Jane Schaeffer Writing Program  
    Autobiographical Narrative  
    Summarizing  
    DWA (District Writing Assessment)  
    Root Based Spelling

**2<sup>nd</sup> Quarter**

(Literature) Unit 2 Short Stories and Unit 5 Drama  
    Informational Text

(Writing) Response to Literature  
Root Based Spelling

### 3<sup>rd</sup> Quarter

(Literature) Unit 3 Nonfiction  
Informational Text

(Writing) Persuasive  
Timed Writing  
DWA  
Root Based Spelling

### 4<sup>th</sup> Quarter

(Literature) Unit 4 Poetry/Unit 5 Drama and Supplemental Novels

(Writing) Creative Writing  
Summary  
Research reporting  
(Listening and Speaking) Research Presentation

### All Year

Students will be required to read a minimum of 20 minutes a night and reach AR reading goals each quarter.

### Instructional Strategies—May include some or all of the following:

- Lecture/Note taking/Power Points
- Observation/Demonstration
- Written assignments
- Audio-visual aids
- Tests/quizzes
- Cooperative groups
- Group projects

<b>Evaluation</b>	<b>Honors Evaluation</b>
<b>Student progress will be evaluated by:</b>	
Assessments = 40% of semester grade	Assessments = 50% of semester grade
Benchmarks = 10% of semester grade	Benchmarks = 10% of semester grade
Assignments = 40% of semester grade	Assignments = 30% of semester grade
Other(includes AR) = 10% of semester grade	Other (includes AR) = 10% of grade