



7th Grade Language & Literature

Ms. Merriman

Willows Preparatory School 2018-19

Subject Aims

- Use language as a vehicle for thought, creativity, reflection, learning, self-expression, analysis and social interaction
- Develop the skills involved in listening, speaking, reading, writing, viewing and presenting in a variety of contexts
- Develop critical, creative and personal approaches to studying and analysing literary and non-literary texts
- Engage with text from different historical periods and a variety of cultures
- Explore and analyse aspects of personal, host and other cultures through literary and non-literary texts
- Explore language through a variety of media and modes
- Develop a lifelong interest in reading
- Apply linguistic and literary concepts and skills in a variety of authentic contexts

Keys to Class

- **Student-driven inquiry:** Class is student-centered and emphasizes student voice. Students are constantly exploring their own and others' interpretations of texts and connections to individual life.
- **Texts as vehicles:** Texts are used as vehicles to explore a variety of other concepts related to language, literature and the human experience. Students explore human expression, history, conflict and more through literature. Texts are globally focused, and many are translated, set in another time and place and/or written by international authors.
- **Language instruction:** Vocabulary and English conventions are integrated into weekly instruction. Students learn in short blocks frequently over time to truly absorb the material.
- **Engagement:** Students engage in authentic activities to encourage engagement and participation.
- **Writing:** Students write creatively, analytically and for authentic contexts to develop strong written and verbal communication skills.

I.B. Grading Criteria

Objective A: Analyzing	Students develop skills in analyzing texts, their components and relationships to other texts. They establish skills in academic argumentation and supporting ideas with examples and evidence.
Objective B: Organizing	Students develop the ability to organize their ideas and opinions in a variety of forms for a variety of purposes. They learn MLA formatting and the importance of accurate referencing.
Objective C: Producing Text	Students develop skills in producing original written and spoken text, demonstrating creativity and exploring multiple perspectives.
Objective D: Using Language	Students develop skills in effective communication, meaning the appropriate use of accurate and varied language for the context and intention. They establish a secure foundation in English conventions.

Content Brief

Trimester 1	Trimester 2	Trimester 3
<p>Students study classic fairy tales of the past and from around the world. They explore morality and cultural influences on identity and belief systems.</p> <p><i>The Time Machine</i>, Wells Students study science fiction and its intent to predict and advise about the impacts of innovation on our future.</p>	<p><i>We Have Always Lived in the Castle</i>, Jackson Students study stylistic choices and point of view and evaluate nontraditional plots and characters.</p> <p><i>The Diary of Anne Frank</i> (play), Goodrich & Hackett Students study the human experience and the Holocaust through drama.</p> <p><i>Caminar</i>, Brown & <i>The Firefly Letters</i>, Engle Students study the human experience of conflict in history through novels in verse.</p>	<p><i>Chains</i>, Anderson Students study the concept of freedom and its relationship to identity, time and space. Students explore our setting's impact on our identities and relationships.</p> <p>Students study various works of poetry in a variety of forms, including Shakespeare, Poe, Whitman, Frost, and more. Students study speech and participate in a speech tournament.</p>