

8th grade Language Arts Course Descriptions

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This one-year course will expand students' writing, reading, speaking, listening, and research skills. All lessons will correlate to the Texas Essential Knowledge and Skills Standards for grade eight. Grammar and mechanics will be taught as essential elements of writing as a process. A variety of literature will be used for the development of reading strategies, literary interpretation, and appreciation. Literature selections will also serve as models for writing. This course will enrich and expand upon all skills.

8th grade Pre-AP Language arts

This course is designed to prepare students for Pre-Advanced Placement and Advanced Placement English courses in high school. Pre-AP English for 8th-grade focuses on the theme of challenge. Students will study analogies and use analogous logic to explain ideas and events in literature. Writings address specific audiences, and students refine the use of a variety of Pre-AP strategies to fully develop ideas. Control of language, sentence structure and organization are expected. Students present oral and written reports from independent research studies using primary sources and varied sources of visual media.

8th grade Language Arts for the Gifted and Talented Learner

This course is designed to meet the needs of gifted students by combining GT best practice strategies with enhanced depth, complexity and pacing of the Language Arts curriculum. Students participating in the GT program demonstrate advanced skills in: self-directed learning, critical and creative thinking, and research and communication skills. This course assists in preparing students for the challenges offered by the Gifted and Talented/Advanced Placement program at the high school level.

* Students must qualify for GT in order to register for this course.