

American International School of Monrovia



Year of The Wildebeest (Gnu)

English/Language Arts Course Syllabus

Miss James
Grade 8
Classroom 8

Contact Information

The easiest way to reach me is through email. My email is elishajames@aismonrovia.com. If you would prefer to contact me via phone, please send a text message before calling 231-0770042598.

More information on the course can be found on Jupiter Ed after the Trimester Curriculum has been posted in 2 weeks. Students will also be able to access their grades, homework assignments, and other important information via Jupiter Ed.

Please know that it is my priority to ensure that each student has adequate assistance and ample opportunity to succeed in this class.

Sincerely,

Elisha-Christina James

Course Overview

The English/Language Arts course for Grade 8 will address all of the McRel International Standards for English Language Arts with integrated instruction in Language, Speaking, and Listening. The McRel International Standards indicate what you should know and be able to do by the end of grade 8. These understandings will help you be prepared for grade 9 and future classes.

Liberian Physical Address
Old Road, Congo Town
Monrovia, Liberia

Director: Jeff Trudeau
Telephone: 00231(0)777-818-775
Email: jefftrudeau@aismonrovia.com

Liberian Mailing Address
American International School of
Monrovia
P.O. Box 1625
Monrovia, Liberia



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Classroom Supplies

- 3 Composition books or Notebooks (Writing, Vocabulary, General Literature)
- 2 folders (Classwork, Homework)
- Highlighters
- Black or blue pens and whiteout
- Pencils and/or with eraser
- Glue stick
- Scissors

Other Important Information

Daily Writing Activity

Students will be required to complete daily free writes in their writing composition/notebooks for 10 minutes. Students will be given prompts to aid in their free write if they are unable to come up with a topic on their own.

Reading

Students will analyze various types of literature in class aside from short stories, poetry, articles, and expository texts. Students will identify literary elements and techniques and explore the connection of literary works to historical and societal issues.

Independent Reading

Silent sustained reading will take place weekly using personal book selections during homeroom. Students will also be expected to read at home, however, no novel will be assigned to students for the first trimester.

Grammar

Students will use Daily Language Workouts and the Proofreader's Guide via Write Source textbook in order to refine editing/proofreading skills and learn grammar skills compatible to their grade level.



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Vocabulary

In order to acquire a broader vocabulary, students will be given weekly spelling tests and vocabulary tests via Holt McDougal Literature: Vocabulary Practice and Tests. Students will learn vocabulary strategies through context clues, word structure/common word roots, sound clues, dictionary definitions, and sentence completion.

Behavior Management

Upper School Discipline Policy

1. Follow all school and classroom rules (**see English/Language Arts Policies and Procedures for classroom rules**)
2. Respect yourself, others and all properties
3. Come to school prepared to learn:
 - Be on time for class
 - Bring textbooks and all necessary materials to class
 - Put mobile devices away during class time
4. Dress appropriately (e.g. no short shorts)

General Warning and Consequences

1st offense: Student receives a warning

2nd offense: Student writes a reflection paragraph explaining why the incident occurred

3rd offense: Parents are notified

4th offense: Team conference with parent, student, teacher, and Mr. Trudeau

Grading and Evaluation

Class Participation	5%
Classwork	20%
Homework	10%
Quizzes	20%
Projects/Tests	45%
Total	100%

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AISM Grading Scale

A+	100 – 97
A	96.9 – 93
A-	92.9 – 90
B+	89.9 – 87
B-	86.9 – 83
B	82.9 – 80
C+	79.9 – 77
C	76.9 – 73
C-	72.9 – 70
D+	69.9 – 67
D	66.9 – 63
D-	62.9 – 60
F	59.9 – 0

If your son or daughter earns a test grade of C or lower, please encourage your child to visit with me about ways to improve his or her progress.

Coursework Help

Study Hall is a required class for grades 8 through 10 offered every Thursday after lunch from 1:00 – 1:45. During this time period, students will be allowed to work on homework or classwork from any course and receive assistance from me or Ms. Johnson. In addition, I will offer a Homework Tutor A.S.A.P. to help students with any English course work they need.

Late Work Policy

Any assignment whether classwork, homework, projects, etc. received after the assigned date will receive 10% off until received by the teacher.

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Absences

Students are responsible for all missed work when they are absent from class. Students can check Jupiter to see what assignments missed or check with me.

Academic Honesty

Students found plagiarizing, copying or cheating in any way will receive automatic zeros. Students caught talking during test or quiz time will receive automatic zeros.