

COURSE SYLLABUS

Course Title: Literature (9th Grade, Intermediate)

The Asian International School

I. INSTRUCTIONAL RESOURCES:

1. Text: Spotlight on Literature **Publisher:** RICHMOND #4511 (2012)**ISBN-10:** 6070607953, **ISBN-13:** 978-6070607950
2. Other: Teacher selected short stories, essays, non-fiction/informational materials, and poetry.

II. COURSE PREREQUISITE:

Students should complete all the 6th Grade ELA Competencies or students must meet the minimum requirements of the Asian International School to demonstrate English proficiency and show readiness to take the English Language Arts (ELA) course offered to students by the international program.

III. COURSE DESCRIPTION

The purpose of this course is to provide grade 9 students, the texts of high complexity, advanced integrated language arts study in reading, speaking, listening, and language for high school, career preparation and readiness which is in line with the Common Core State Standards (CCSS). The course engages students in interactive text-based discussions, question generation, and research opportunities.

It also offers students opportunities to build vocabulary, listening and speaking skills in context over time and to respond more thoughtfully as they gain new perspectives, information, and data.

Reading instruction engages middle school English learners and striving readers with content-rich, complex texts along with purposeful, close reading activities and teaching them how to comprehend, enhance their college and career futures. Students apply skills they learned in earlier grades to make sense of longer, more challenging literary/informational works and articles. Students develop speaking and listening skills through collaborative activities: they further develop their speaking skills to express their ideas clearly, and their listening skills to better participate in lectures, classroom discussions, and cooperative group activities. Students also improve the conventions of Standard English, knowledge of language, and vocabulary acquisition aligned with the College and Career Readiness (CCR) anchor standards at grade level. Overall, the course is designed to shape equitable pathways of striving middle school students and to support them in achieving academic success.

9th Grade Literature and Composition focuses on a study of literary genres including short stories, poetry, drama, and nonfiction. Students will continue their development of vocabulary and apply effective reading strategies to a wide variety of literary and informational texts. They will work to establish effective writing habits and refine their language skills as they apply to listening, viewing, thinking, and speaking. Students will practice the writing process and produce works that include literary and character analysis, contrast/compare, persuasive, narrative, and research examples. Assignments, activities, and assessments, mostly on project-based output, will provide practice in developing the skills necessary to be prepared to a more intensive and serious types of literature in Grade 10. Although our reading will include a variety of different world-views, learning to read critically and look at literature through different points of view will be applied to all reading and writing assignments.

IV. COURSE GOALS

At the end of this course, students will be able to achieve the following goals:

1. Learning and Innovation Skills:

Use multiple points of view to create alternative solutions.

2. Communication and Collaboration Skills:

Determine an individual's responsibility for personal actions and contributions to group activities; Demonstrate the use of compromise, consensus, and community building strategies for carrying out different tasks, assignments, and projects; Model leadership skills during classroom and extra-curricular activities.

3. Cross-Cultural Understanding and Interpersonal Communication:

Demonstrate the ability to understand inferences; Use effective communication skills in face-to-face and online interactions with peers and adults from home and from diverse cultures.

4. Career Exploration

Evaluate personal abilities, interests, and motivations and discuss how they might influence basic job and career selection.

V. COURSE OBJECTIVES

- Begin exploring the framework of understanding plot structure and plot devices, evaluating previous knowledge and interests, and integrating prior learning about Literature from the Vietnamese Program into the International Program.
- Understanding key messages of stories to promote literary appreciation through assorted activities and highlights.
- Identifying the use of the elements in literature including types and genre, devices and concepts in the Literary Analysis and Literary Elements sections of each chapter and supplemental presentations.
- Introducing Tier 1 literary devices and exploring their usage.
- Finding connections between storytelling and real life situations.
- Introduce the concept of creative output/storytelling as a response to literature (as opposed to essays and critical analysis). Note that the creative output can take many forms, from written prose, to poetry, to music, to drawings/sketches/diagrams; student-centered approaches require us to allow unique personal and creative expression to introduced concepts.
- Manipulating language by understanding the concepts introduced in the Language Workshop and Linguistic Study sections of each chapter and putting them into practice.

VI. COURSE REQUIREMENTS

1. Assessments

The progress made by the students is measured in two ways during the course- (1) formative assessment and (2) summative assessment. Summative assessments include two achievement tests, mid-term (30%) and final (30%) in each semester, accounting for the assigned percentage of the overall course grades. The remaining percentage (40%) of students' grades will come under formative assessment and will come from assignment, research activities, power point presentation, reading and speaking clubs, speech, project work, quizzes, and class performance (e.g. Participation and attendance). In-class assessments will cover the course materials assigned. The summary of the assessment is as follows:

Midterm Exam: 30%

Final Exam: 30%

Class Performance: 40%

Class Performance is split into 2 components (20% each of final semester score)

1. Attendance/Participation/Discipline (30%)

These components are all related and easily assessed by the individual teacher. Do you come to class? Do you care? Do you take part in class or are you more worried about building paper airplanes and drawing pictures?

2. Assessments (Quizzes)/Writing (Portfolio)/Projects/ (70%)

Each subject is different, but in literature we will focus more on writing and creative output to ensure that students are both engaged and can show comprehension of the topics/concepts/genres that are in focus. The teacher's role is a facilitator of creative thought and student engagement, not the taskmaster. If we can work on these tasks together in class, there is no need for homework or additional work outside the classroom. If students can engage in discussions in class about the concrete and more abstract ideas of subject topics, then we can more accurately assess their comprehension of the material.

VII. GRADING SCALE

The English Language Arts grade will be based upon achievement tests (midterm and finals) and other course work (including projects, quizzes, and homework) designed, planned, and implemented by classroom teachers. Assessments of learning consist of the achievement tests which will comprise 60% of the overall grade, and other course work will make up the remaining 40%. The following grading scale will be operated separately in each semester. The scale is operated to translate letter grades into point values, and vice versa, when calculating student final grades.

Letter	Range	Percentages
A	90-100	90%
B	80-89	80%
C	65-79	65%
D	50-64	50%
F	0-49	Below 50%

VIII. POLICIES

1. Foreign Teachers' Responsibilities

- All foreign teachers are expected to write school report at the end of each SEMESTER giving comments to each student with respect to their progress, achievements, classroom performances, and all other significant matters in their academic learning and development.
- All foreign teachers are expected to write school reports at the end of an ACADEMIC YEAR in regards to student progress, achievements, classroom performances, and all other significant activities during the entire academic year that have crucially contributed to students' academic achievements and English Language Arts (ELA) development.
- All foreign teachers who teach English Language Arts courses are responsible for facilitating special class activities, including speaking club activities and reading club activities. Foreign teachers in charge of the ELA courses are also responsible for reporting the results of student activities to school.

2. Students Responsibilities

- Students must respect instructors and all other students at school. This includes respecting alternative opinions and different points of view, listening to instructors and peers when speaking to the class, and refraining from insulting body language and gestures.
- Students must be alert on needs and requirements in the classroom setting. This includes arriving on time and participating in the entire class period (or letting the instructor be notified in advance if this is not possible), turning off cell phones and similar devices during class,

staying away from doing other activities, including reading comic books, passing notes, chatting with friends, and causing any other potentially disruptive activities.

- Students are responsible for participating in other class activities, including speaking club activity and reading club activity, and for meeting the requirements set for those activities.
- Failure in abiding by these policies will result in consequences based on school policies and regulations.

3. Writing Assignments and Policies

- For all writing assignments prepared outside of class, students will be trained throughout the academic year to document all information that is not their original thought, interpretation, analysis, or synthesis. This includes both direct quotes (phrases or sentences taken from another source, surrounded by quotation marks) and paraphrases (rewordings and summaries of ideas or analyses that are not theirs). Among **the systems of citation (i.e., University of Chicago, Modern Language Association, American Psychological Association, etc.)**, students should learn very basic required citations. All research papers should utilize footnotes, endnotes, or citations within the text, and should include references at the end.
- Failure in observing the academic integrity with respect to writing assignments will result in consequences based on school policies and regulations.

IX. COURSE SCHEDULE

Coverage	Main Topic	Content	No. of Days	Remarks / Notes
Introduction to Literature		Major Forms of Literature		
	Background Information	- Short Story - Novel - Poetry - Play - Biography	1 day	Introduce Key Terms and Concepts
Chapter 1: The Pleasure of Literature	Literary Element	Featured Literary Form • Short Story		
		Literary Element • Storytelling • short story • frame story	2 days	
Language Development		Language Workshop • diction	2 days	• Wordlist Worksheet • Introduce Word Journal
		Linguistic Study • Context Clues • Comparison Clues • Contrast Clues		
		Written Expression • Pre-writing Techniques • Brainstorm		

Literature Selection		* The Story-Teller by Saki	4 Days	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Literature Analysis Worksheet (supplemental references are encouraged for extra reading)
		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Literary Genre - Realistic Fiction - Folklore Author's Biography Literary Appreciation Literary Analysis 		
Assessment/Evaluation		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Project (Portfolio) Revision/Pre-Test 	4 Days	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Project-Based Output Students' are encouraged to make their own revision
Midterm Exam				
		Film Viewing (Optional)	2 days	If there is still time after the Midterm. Serve as a reward
Chapter 2: Rainy Days	Main Topic	Content	No. of Days	Remarks / Notes
Background Information		Literary Form <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Short Story 	1 day	
		Literary Element <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Creating a Setting 	2 days	
Language Development		Language Workshop <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Sensory Words 	2 days	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Wordlist Worksheet Word Journal (Portfolio)
		Linguistic Study <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Synonyms Antonyms Thesaurus 		
		Written Expression <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Research and Organization outline concept map 	2 days	
Literature Selection		All Summer in a Day by Ray Bradbury	4 days	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Literature Analysis Worksheet (supplemental references are encouraged for extra reading)
		Author's Biography Literary Concept <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Peer Pressure Consequences Tolerance Literary Analysis		
		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Project (Portfolio) Revision / Pre-Test 	4 Days	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Project-Based Output Students' are encouraged to make their own revision
Final Exam				
		-Culminating Presentation	2 days	Performance-based output

				<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Drama • Monologue • Declamation (Compulsory)
Chapter 3: Sacrifices	Main Topic	Content	No. of Days	Remarks / Notes
	Background Information	Literary Type <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Short Story 	1 day	
		Literary Element <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Characterization • Imagery • Allegory • Symbolism 	2 Days	
	Language Development	Language Workshop <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Cognates • False Friends 	1 day	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Wordlist Worksheet • Word Journal
		Linguistic Study <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Homonyms (homophones and homographs) 	1 day	
		Written Expression <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Plot Summary 		
	Literature Selection	The Gift of the Magi by O. Henry	4 days	Descriptive Writing
		Author's Biography Literary Genre <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Sentimental Story • Family • Drama • Realistic Fiction Literary Concept <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Character Traits • Sacrifices Literary Analysis		
		Revision / Pre-Test	3 days	
Midterm Exam				
Chapter 4: Decision	Main Topic	Content	No. of Days	Remarks / Notes
	Background Information	Literary Type <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Short Story 	1 day	
		Literary Element <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Plot 	1 day	
	Language Development	Language Workshop - Word Family (roots, prefixes, suffixes)	2 days	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Wordlist Worksheet • Word Journal (Portfolio)
		Linguistic Study: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • heteronyms • heterophones • polysemes • Capitonyms 		

		Written Expression <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Thesis Statement and Supporting Details 	1 day	
Literature Selection		Literature Focus	4 days	
		The Lady, or The Tiger by Frank R. Stockton		Literature Analysis Worksheet
		Literary Genre <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Realistic Fiction Literary Concept <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Justice • Types of Government • Decisions Literary Analysis		Argumentative Essay
		Revision / Pre-Test	3 days	
Final Exam				
		Culminating Presentation - Performance-based Output	2 days	Compulsory (see suggested activity)