

8TH GRADE LITERACY AND COMMUNICATION COURSE OUTLINE

This is a one semester course.

- I. ISTEP Unit** (Supplement regular English teacher as needed)
- II. Grammar**
 - A. Supplement regular English teacher as needed
 - B. Address problem areas as identified
- III. Spelling and Vocabulary**
 - A. From lists
 - B. From literature
 - C. From Student writing
 - D. Literary Terminology
- IV. Literature**
 - A. Accelerated Reader
 - i. Self-selected novels within reading level
 - ii. If the teacher does not want to use the Accelerated Reader system, the students should still do some self-selected reading, either for book reports or projects.
 - B. Short Story
 - i. From literature book as available (what is not being used in the other English class)
 - ii. Supplementary stories in classroom
 - C. Novel
 - i. *Nowhere to Call Home*
 - ii. Other Approved Novel
 - iii. Various novels for Literature Circles
 - D. Non-fiction (optional)
 - i. Essays
 - ii. Technical documents
- V. Writing**
 - A. Writing Process
 - i. Pre writing
 - ii. Outlining
 - iii. Drafting
 - iv. Revising
 - v. Proofreading/Editing
 - B. Autobiography
 - C. Journaling
 - D. Technical Documents (how-to)
 - E. Letter Writing

VI. Speaking/Listening Skills

A. Media

- i. Oral interpretations of literature
- ii. Credibility of speakers
- iii. Visual images (commercial art, news photographers, etc)
- iv. Evaluate commercials, TV shows, movies

B. Autobiographical Speech

C. Book presentations

- i. Describe
- ii. Interpret
- iii. Connect
- iv. Persuade audience

D. Recite parts of famous speeches

VII. Technology

A. Microsoft Word

B. Microsoft Publisher

C. Microsoft Powerpoint

D. Design WebPage (optional)

E. MovieMaker (optional)

F. Other technology as available