

**Course Description:** Language Arts 1-Honors is a one-year college-preparatory course that provides an in-depth study of language skills, sentence development, paragraph development and essay writing. Students will read, interpret and analyze selections in the genres of nonfiction, short story, epic, drama, poetry, and the novel.

**Behavior Expectations:** Honors English students will

1. Complete all assignments on time.
2. Come to class on time prepared to participate.
3. Be seated and ready to begin when the bell rings.
4. Listen attentively and respectfully to all discussion.

**Grades:** Grades are based on written assignments, essays, literature tests, vocabulary quizzes, oral presentations and the final exam. Grades will be posted every two weeks. Assignments are weighted: 25% vocabulary, 75% literature and composition.

## **COURSE CONTENT**

**Literature:** Most of the reading selections, including Homer's Odyssey, are in McDougal Littell's The Language of Literature, 1997 edition. In addition, we will read

<u>The Tragedy of Romeo and Juliet</u>	by William Shakespeare
<u>Animal Farm</u>	by George Orwell
<u>Great Expectations</u>	by Charles Dickens – if we have time
<u>The Hound of the Baskervilles</u>	by Arthur Conan Doyle – if we have time

To clarify and enhance the literature, we may view scenes from the following videos:

- Romeo and Juliet - PG (1968)
- The Odyssey – PG-13 (1997)
- Animal Farm – PG (1999)
- The Hound of the Baskervilles – NR (1988), NR (1939)
- Great Expectations – NR (1947) / NR (1997)

### **Vocabulary:**

- 10-15 words weekly
- Roots, prefixes and suffixes
- Literary terms
- Words from literature selections

### **Elements of Writing:**

- Parts of Speech
- Parts of a Sentence
- Phrases
- Clauses
- Agreement
- Using Verbs, Pronouns and Modifiers Correctly
- Punctuation
- Manuscript Form – MLA format

**Materials:** Bring the following to class daily:

- 3-ring binder with a section for Language Arts
- Lined notebook paper, preferably 8 ½ x 11
- Pencils and pens, blue or black ink only
- Current reading selection, when appropriate

**Resource Guide:** Students will compile a personal resource guide containing all class materials. Specifics: a 2” 3-ring binder with six dividers – Grammar, Composition, Poetry, Mythology, Major Works and Vocabulary. Printed cover sheet with “Language Arts Resource Guide” and student name required. (50 points)

**Assignments/ Homework:** According to the Valencia High School Handbook, "students should expect an average of 30 minutes per academic class of daily homework, Monday through Thursday. There will be some weekend homework and/ or long-range assignments." Late work may be accepted with penalty for a maximum of five days.

**Make-up Policy:** Students are responsible for finding out what homework was missed during an absence (check the teacher’s website for handouts) and for arranging with the teacher to make up tests and other in-class written assignments. Students are allowed **one day for each day absent** to make up missed work without penalty. If the assignment was given prior to the absence, the assignment is due the day the student returns. For prolonged absences, please request homework.

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## **LANGUAGE ARTS 1—HONORS CONSENT FORM**

**STUDENT**—*By signing this consent I acknowledge that I have read and understand the Language Arts 1-Honors Course Content & Expectations required of me.*

**Student's Name** \_\_\_\_\_ **Period** \_\_\_\_\_ **Date** \_\_\_\_\_

**Student Email** \_\_\_\_\_

**Student's Signature** \_\_\_\_\_

**PARENT/GUARDIAN**—*By signing this consent I acknowledge that I have read and understand the Language Arts 1-Honors Course Content & Expectations for my student. Furthermore, I give permission for my student to view scenes from the videos listed in the syllabus.*

**Parent/Guardian's Name** \_\_\_\_\_

**Home Phone** \_\_\_\_\_

**Work Phone** \_\_\_\_\_

**Cell Phone** \_\_\_\_\_

**Parent Email** \_\_\_\_\_

**Parent/Guardian's Signature** \_\_\_\_\_