

Course Descriptor

English Language Arts
September 2014

Level of Instruction

Intermediate Grade 8

Curriculum Overview

English Language Arts encompasses the experience, study, and appreciation of language, literature, media and communication. All language processes (speaking and listening, reading and viewing, writing and representing) are interrelated and interdependent in that facility in one strengthens and supports the others. Students become confident and competent users through many opportunities to become engaged in language arts in a variety of contexts. The curriculum guide specifies that English Language Arts be taught in an integrated manner so that the interrelationship between and among the language processes will be understood and applied by the students. This integrated approach should be based on students' prior experiences with language and on meaningful activities involving all strands of language arts.

Curriculum Documents

- Grade 8 English Language Arts: Curriculum Guide (2011)

Authorized Resources

- *Literacy 8* student resources (hard cover book and eBook access code)
- *Literacy 8* Homegrown (student resource)
- *Literacy 8* teacher resource (binder and digital dashboard access code)
- *Literacy 8* magazines for student-directed and guided reading (6 copies of 24 titles)
- *Literacy 8* transparency selections for modeling and demonstration
- *Literacy 8* media package (audio CDs and multimedia DVD)

Supplementary Resources: Provided in 2010-12

- Two-texts per student ordered from *Selecting Young Adult Texts: An Annotated Bibliography*

Themes:

Unit 1: Global Citizens
Unit 2: Tech Then and Now
Unit 3: Secrets
Unit 4: No Limits
Unit 5: Reality Check
Unit 6: Chasing A Dream

Homegrown - Focus on Newfoundland and Labrador

*This resource has selections that connect with all six units found in the student text.

Assessment:

Assessment in this course is governed by the Assessment and Evaluation Policy of the former Eastern School District.

http://www.esdnl.ca/about/policies/esd/I_IL.pdf

http://www.esdnl.ca/about/policies/esd/regulations/I_IL_1L.pdf

Assessment and Evaluation Plan:

Speaking and Listening Outcomes	15-20%
Reading and Viewing Outcomes	25-35%
Writing and Representing Outcomes	25-35%
Final Exam	20%

Writing and Representing Activities (25-35%)		
Producing Products Through Processes		Number of Products
	Multi-Paragraph	3
	Poetry	3
	Visual/ Information Literacy	1
	Multimedia (technology)	1
	Creative expression (student choice)	1
Producing Products on Demand	<p>All genres, including multi-paragraph, poetry, visual representation, drama, etc.</p> <p>Note: These can be included in the Tests and Major Assignments percentage (10-15%)</p>	6

Reading and Viewing Activities (25-35%)	
Poetry	15
Drama	2
Short Prose	9 fiction; 9 non-fiction
Multimedia	5
Student-Selected Longer Prose	5
Teacher-Supported Longer Prose	3

Speaking and Listening Activities (15-20%)	
Informal and formal speaking and listening activities	6 informal speaking and listening 2 formal speaking 2 formal listening

Final Exam (20%)

Note:

1. All evidence of learning shall be considered when determining a student's final grade. Averaging shall not be used as a sole indicator of a student's level of attainment of the course outcomes.
2. Homework and student behavior (except where specified in Provincial documents) shall not be given a value for assessment.
3. To ensure student achievement of the outcomes, teachers are expected to use a variety of assessments from the following internal data sources as in the Suggested Guidelines for Selecting Content (Appendix A2 from Guide, pages 174-176).

Resource Links:**Professional Learning Site**

<https://www.k12pl.nl.ca/curr/7-9/ela/grade8.html>

Grade 8 ELA Curriculum Guide

http://www.ed.gov.nl.ca/edu/k12/curriculum/guides/english/grade8/Complete_2011_G8_ELA_curriculum_guide.pdf

Annotated Bibliography of Young Adult Texts

http://www.ed.gov.nl.ca/edu/k12/curriculum/documents/english/biblio_int/2012_Intermediate_ELA_Annotated_Bibliography.pdf

Foundation/ Framework Document

<http://www.ed.gov.nl.ca/edu/k12/curriculum/documents/english/english.pdf>