

**Brandywine Heights Area School District**  
**200 West Weis Street, Tipton, PA**

**Course Syllabus for 7<sup>th</sup> Grade English**

**Course Overview:**

Major emphasis is placed on the development of writing skills as students explore and gain experience in narrative, descriptive, expository, and autobiographical writing. The study of grammar will be an integral part of the writing process. Grammar will be taught both as an ongoing unit of study and in context with student writing. Grammar and editing skills will be practiced through regular language warm-up practice. A study of vocabulary will enable students to expand their vocabulary in meaningful ways. Students will explore various types of literature and literary elements and study the life/times of various authors. Students will also hone their listening and oral communication skills through a variety of group and individual projects.

**Textbooks Used:**

Language Network. Evanston, Illinois: McDougal Littell, Inc., 2004.  
Probst, Robert E. et al. Elements of Literature, First Course. New York: Holt, Rinehart, and Winston, 2003.

**Outline of Course Content:**

**First Quarter:**

- Organize individual paragraphs with topic sentences, relevant elaboration, and concluding sentences.
- Demonstrate comprehension of Standard English punctuation and basic parts of speech.
- Interpret ideas and information from a variety of autobiographical texts and make connections to own personal experiences.
- Use verbal and nonverbal communication to speak, listen, and interact appropriately for varied purposes.

**Second Quarter:**

- Make effective use of the writing process in planning, drafting, revising, and presenting finished work in different forms of text.
- Build upon prior knowledge of standard punctuation, parts of speech, and sentence structure.
- Interpret and analyze the literary works of a major American author.
- Use verbal and nonverbal communication to speak, listen, and interact appropriately for varied purposes.

**Third Quarter:**

- Develop grade-appropriate compositions utilizing various writing modes.
- Identify, select, and use mechanics that clarify understanding at increasing levels of complexity.
- Explore the literary elements of literature.
- Use verbal and nonverbal communication to speak, listen, and interact appropriately for varied purposes.

**Fourth Quarter:**

- Continue development of grade-appropriate compositions utilizing various writing modes with increased focus on growth of the writer.
- Continue integration of mechanics that demonstrate a sophisticated level of complexity.
- Further exploration of literature.
- Use verbal and nonverbal communication to speak, listen, and interact appropriately for varied purposes.

**Grading Structure/Procedure/Framework:**

The grade is based on the school district's grading policy.