

WELCOME TO SIXTH GRADE ENGLISH

Mrs. Angel

What to expect in 6th grade English:

As students evolve in their education, English Language Arts as a subject also evolves.

Prior to sixth grade, students focused on learning how to read. Fluency, literal comprehension, context clues for vocabulary meaning were the students' main focus. While these skills are still immensely important, without them a student cannot understand a text more deeply, in middle school we are moving students beyond literal comprehension. Students are expected to make literal meaning on their own and as a class, with structure and guidance, we will look more deeply at text. We will analyze figurative language, critique characters and events, discuss why the author made the choices they did when writing. These skills are meant to catapult students to a more critical understanding of the things that they read.

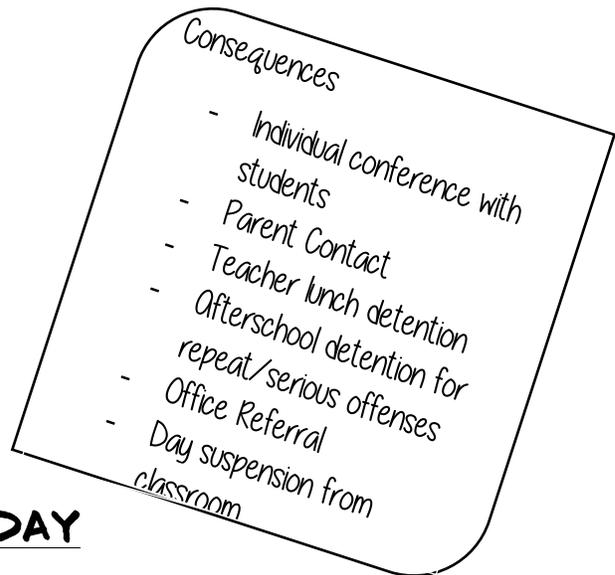


In middle school students will write, and write, AND write. Composition is a skill that benefits students for their whole educational careers and will be present in almost any career they choose. Students will start with academic answer, those will develop into paragraphs and, eventually, into full length essays. This is one of the most important skills that I will nurture in your students this year. It is so very important that students complete every writing assignment as each new assignment builds on the skills we learned in the last. Composition is a skill that takes time, focus, effort and practice.

Students will have homework almost every night. It may be something small such as vocabulary practice, it may be spending some time working on a writing assignment or project, or reading a book of their choice. Last year, as 5th graders, students had two and half hours of class time for English; this year we have fifty-four minutes. Students will need to practice new skills at home; students will have homework almost every night.

Classroom Expectations:

- Treat all members of the class with respect
- Treat the classroom as a learning environment
- Follow instructions
- Do work completely with thought and effort
- Ask questions!
- Learn, practice & master the content standards



MATERIALS TO HAVE EVERY DAY

- ELA Notebook
- Study Sync Consumable Text
- Writing utensils / coloring utensils
- Yellow, green, pink highlighters

Curriculum - Study Sync:

This year is the first year that Stonegate will be using the newly adopted Study Sync Curriculum. This program combines both online learning with traditional paper and pen activities. Students will have access to Chromebooks each day in class as well as online access at home. Please note that the same standards of quality and academic integrity that are applied to paper and pen assignments are also applied to student's digital work.

Notebooks:

Interactive Notebooks are a way of helping students stay organized and have information from class easily available to them in a quick and organized fashion. These notebooks are also a cumulative portfolio of the work that they have done and are currently doing. Reviewing these notebooks nightly and **encouraging students to reference notes when completing homework assignments** can greatly improve your students understanding of concepts being learned. Also, periodically reviewing past material is a great way to keep the information fresh in your students' minds. **Use these interactive notebooks as a way to keep your students accountable for their own education.**

These notebooks are where a significant number of student's points will come from as much of the homework, classwork, notes, and prewriting activities will be completed in them. Students will grade their own notebooks every few weeks as we finish a unit or story. **Students who falsify their grades on notebook checks will earn a zero on that notebook check.**

Late Work in the Notebook:

Students who do not complete a notebook assignment for the day that it is due **will be** allowed to make up assignments for partial credit. Students may complete any assignments in an upcoming notebook check (Students are given at least a weekend, or up to a week of notice before a notebook check) to complete the assignments being graded. **After a section of notebook has been graded, students will no longer have the opportunity to make up those missed assignments.**

-Extra Credit:

Extra credit is given occasionally throughout the school year. They may be whole assignments given to students as the quarter nears a close, or sporadically on assignments when students go above and beyond the expectations. Extra credit points will fill in as points on previously missed assignments. If there are no missing assignments, extra credit points will be added to the most recent Notebook Score. Please note; extra credit will **not** be given simply to raise a grade due to continual lack of homework completion.

Please visit cquad.weebly.com & the 6th grade English page to get more detailed information about grading, assignments, due dates etc.