



Dominican International School
台北市私立道明外僑學校
No. 76, Dazhi Street, Taipei (104042), Taiwan, R.O.C.
10464 臺北市中山區大直街 76 號



COURSE SYLLABUS

School Year	2025-2026
Subject	English Language Arts
Grade Level	6
Teacher	Seth Robinson
Email	srobinson@dishs.tp.edu.tw

COURSE DESCRIPTION:

The sixth-grade Language Arts course provides a balance of reading, writing, speaking, listening, and language skills. Vocabulary, spelling, and grammar assignments will be another important focus area in our class. Students will analyze different types of writing such as poetry, novels, short stories, and non-fiction. We will also practice writing persuasive, narrative, and informational essays. There will be an emphasis on proper grammar and style to produce accurate and colorful speaking and writing.

COURSE OBJECTIVES:

By the end of the school year, students will be able to:

- analyze text structure and purpose through attention to the writer's voice and style as well as print and graphic features.
- plan, develop, revise, edit, and publish a drama script, informative, personal narrative, and argumentative essays.
- reflect on central questions or themes throughout the year about courage, perseverance, and empathy.
- step out of their comfort zones of grammar and vocabulary in order to grow as English users.
- analyze how two or more texts address similar themes or topics to build knowledge or compare the authors' approaches.

PRIMARY TEXTBOOKS AND OTHER RESOURCES:

- G6 – Into Literature
- G6 - HMH – Grammar Practice
- Novels (War Horse, Number the Stars, Hatchet)
- Teacher-provided supplementary texts (identified as needed)
- Writing materials*
- Device for Online Assignments*
- 1 Notebook dedicated for ELA*

*These materials must be provided by the student.



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GRADING SYSTEM/ASSESSMENT:

Throughout the course, various forms of assessments are used. There will be seat work, quizzes, written assignments, in class discussions, projects/presentations, and a quarterly exam.

The quarterly grade will be awarded for all student work based on the following criteria:

- Homework, classwork, projects, discussions, and other assignments - 30% of quarterly grade
- Quizzes and tests - 30% of quarterly grade
- Quarterly Exams - 30% of quarterly grade
- Student conduct makes up 10% of the overall grade

ADDITIONAL INFORMATION:

Please always check Google Classroom for homework and announcements. Students are responsible to bring all textbooks and materials to class. Failure to be prepared will result in a misconduct.

ACADEMIC DISHONESTY:

Academic Dishonesty means employing a method or technique or engaging in conduct in an academic endeavor that contravenes the standards of ethical integrity expected at DIS.

Academic dishonesty includes but is not limited to the following:

- Purposely incorporating the ideas, words of sentences, paragraphs, or parts thereof without appropriate acknowledgment and representing the product as one's work;
- Representing another's intellectual work, such as photographs, paintings, drawings, sculpture, research, or the like, as one's own, including failure to attribute content to an AI.
- Employing a tutor, using Artificial Intelligence without acknowledgment, getting a parent to write a paper or do an assignment, and paying for an essay to be written by someone else and presented as the student's work.
- Committing any act that a reasonable person would conclude, when informed of the evidence, to be a dishonest means of obtaining or attempting to obtain credit for academic work.

Any act of academic dishonesty will result in an automatic zero on the entire assignment/learning task.



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First Quarter Tentative Course Content

Week/Date	Topic/Projects/Assessments
Week 1 (August 12 to 15) <u>4 days of class</u> 12-General Assembly at the Gymnasium 15-Opening Mass & Assumption of Our Lady	Orientation: Class Rules, Classroom Decoration Letter to Future Self <u>Unit 6: Hidden Truths</u> -Essential Question: "What hidden truths about people and the world are revealed in stories?" -Spark Your Learning (p. 464-465) <u>Grammar Practice</u> -Sentence or Sentence Fragment? -Run-On Sentences
Week 2 (August 18 to 22) 18-St. Dominic de Guzman Feast Day Celebration) Integrated during the Monday Assembly 20- House Shirt & Blue Jeans Day Starts 22- Club Orientation and Club Sign-up	BOY Diagnostic Assessment – CommonLit <u>YSC: 1 Lesson – Topic Introduction</u> <u>Unit 6: Hidden Truths</u> - from Storytelling (p. 466-477) <u>Grammar Practice</u> -The Subject -Complete Subjects and Simple Subjects
Week 3 (August 25 to 29) 27- High School Talk - "Kickstart Your Success: Winning Mindsets for a Great School Year" 29- First Club Meeting	<u>YSC: 2 Lessons – Read and choose a play. Brainstorm Ideas.</u> <u>Unit 6: Hidden Truths</u> - The Prince and the Pauper (p. 478-491) <u>Grammar Practice</u> -The Predicate -Complete Predicates and Simple Predicates
Week 4 (September 1 to 5) 1- Launching of the World Day of Prayer for the Care of Creation (During the Monday Assembly) 1-AP Registration 3- AEO Fall University Fair 5- House Ceremony	<u>YSC: 2 Lessons – Script Writing</u> <u>Unit 6: Hidden Truths</u> - The Prince and the Pauper (p. 492-501) <u>Grammar Practice</u> -The Verb Phrase -Review Exercise <u>Writing</u> Write stage direction and dialogue.
Week 5 (September 8 to 12) 8- Holy Mass: Nativity of the Blessed Virgin Mary & VIP Induction 10- House Mini Games Start	<u>YSC: 2 Lessons – Script Writing</u> <u>Unit 6: Hidden Truths</u> - The Boatman's Flute (p. 516-531) <u>Grammar Practice</u> -Compound Subjects and Compound Verbs
Week 6 (September 15 to 19) 15- Catholic Bridge Program for all New Students (After the Monday Assembly at the Gymnasium) 19- Athletics / Sports Orientation	<u>YSC: 2 Lessons – Script Writing</u> <u>Unit 6: Hidden Truths</u> - The Boatman's Flute (p. 516-531) - The Mouse Bride (p. 532-549) <u>Grammar Practice</u> -Simple Sentences and Compound Sentences



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19- PSAT/NMSQT Registration deadline	
Week 7 (September 22 to 26) 22- Celebration of the International Day of Peace-Peace Pole Ceremony (During the Monday Assembly) Teacher's Day Celebration & 26-Teachers' Appreciation 26- Grade 12 Career Educational Trip 24 to 26-Pre-Exam Days	YSC: 2 Lessons – Script Writing <u>Unit 6: Hidden Truths</u> - The Mouse Bride (p. 532-549) <u>Grammar Practice</u> -Kinds of Sentences -Module Review
Week 8 (September 29 to October 3) 29- Launching of the Month of the Holy Rosary (During the Monday Assembly) Oct. 1-2- First Quarter Exam (half day)	<u>Grammar Practice</u> -Module 1 Assessment EXAM REVIEW AND EXAM
<i>Oct. 3-DIS Teachers and Staff Recognition Day/ Record Day Recollection for Aunties and Uncles (no classes for students)</i>	

Second Quarter Tentative Course Content

Week/Date	Topic/Projects/Assessments
<i>6-Moon Festival (no classes)</i>	
<i>7-9 Teacher's Conference (no classes)</i>	
Week 1 (11) (October 13 to 17) 13- Second Quarter Begins 13- Start of New Applicant Enrollment for 2nd Semester 14- Visit of Mother Mary to Classrooms (During the morning prayer) 15- AP Exam Only Registration Deadline 15- Monthly Career Talk - College Prep 17- PSAT/NMSQT Digital Exam	Review Q1 Exam YSC: 2 Lessons – Group Rehearsals <u>Unit 3: Finding Courage</u> -Essential Question: “How do you find courage in the face of fear?” -Spark Your Learning (p. 176-177) -Fears and Phobias (p. 205-216) <u>Grammar Practice</u> -End Marks and Abbreviations -Commas in a Series <u>Writing</u> -Unit 3-1 Quick Write <u>Number the Stars: Introduction, Chapters 1-2</u>
Week 2 (12) (October 20 to 24) 20- Jubilee: Marian Exhibit Opening (After the Monday Assembly) 20- Campus Safety Talk for	YSC: 2 Lessons – Group Rehearsals <u>Unit 3: Finding Courage</u> -Fears and Phobias (p. 205-216) <u>Grammar Practice</u> -Commas with Compound Sentences



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Students 24- Book Fair (Senior Escape Room)	-Commas with Sentence Interruptors <u>Writing</u> -Unit 3-2 Fears and Phobias Mentor Text Analysis <u>Number the Stars: Chapters 3-4</u>
Week 3 (13) (October 27 to 31) 29- Grade 11 Career Educational Trip Oct. 31 to Nov. 1- Gr.6 SEL Camp	<u>YSC: 2 Lessons – Group Rehearsals</u> <u>Unit 3: Finding Courage</u> -Embarrassed? Blame Your Brain/The Ravine (p. 224-257) <u>Grammar Practice</u> -Commas in Dates and Addresses -Review Exercise <u>Writing</u> -Unit 3-5 Fears and Phobias Compare and Contrast <u>Number the Stars: Chapters 5-7</u>
Week 4 (14) (November 3 to 7) 3- Feast of St. Martin de Porres Mass (integrated during the Monday Assembly) 5- Monthly Career Talk - College Prep	<u>YSC: 2 Lessons – Rehearsal and Construction for Top Group</u> <u>Unit 3: Finding Courage</u> -Embarrassed? Blame Your Brain/The Ravine (p. 224-257) <u>Grammar Practice</u> -Semicolons -Colons -Module Review <u>Writing</u> -Unit 3-7 Embarrassed? Blame Your Brain - Advice Column <u>Number the Stars: Chapters 8-9</u>
Week 5 (15) (November 10 to 14) 14- Health Week 14- VIP-Parent Learning Community	<u>YSC: 2 Lessons – Rehearsal and Construction for Top Group</u> <u>Unit 3: Finding Courage</u> -Embarrassed? Blame Your Brain/The Ravine (p. 224-257) -from Into the Air/from The Wright Brothers... (p. 258-287) <u>Grammar Practice</u> -Module 12 Assessment -Italics (underlining) <u>Number the Stars: Chapters 10-11</u>
Week 6 (16) (November 17 to 21) 17- Launching of Mental Health and Anti-Bullying Month 21- Young Shakespeare Play Writing and Performing Contest	<u>YSC: 4 Lessons – Dress Rehearsal, Final Performance</u> <u>Unit 3: Finding Courage</u> -from Into the Air/from The Wright Brothers... (p. 258-287) <u>Grammar Practice</u> -Quotation Marks -Apostrophes <u>Writing</u> -Unit 3-9 from Into the Air - Informative Email <u>Number the Stars: Chapters 12-13</u>
Week 7 (17) (November 24 to 28) 24- Peace Pole Day (Monday Assembly) 24- Lighting of the Christmas Tree after school (Campus Min/	<u>Unit 3: Finding Courage</u> -from Into the Air/from The Wright Brothers... (p. 258-287) <u>Grammar Practice</u> -Other Uses of Apostrophes -Module Review



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ECA/ D' Torch Orchestra/ Religious Studies) (Afternoon) 25-27- Pre-Exam Days 27- Thanksgiving Potluck after school for teachers and staff 27- Thanksgiving Family Day 28- Gr. 12 Second Quarter Exam	Writing -Write an Informative Essay (p. 290-298) Number the Stars: Chapters 14-16
<i>Nov. 29 Invitation for All: The Jubilee Pilgrimage to Taipei (Saturday)</i>	
Week 8 (18) (December 1 to 5) 1- First Week of Advent: Lighting of First Advent Candle (During the Monday Assembly) 3- Monthly Career Talk - College Prep 5- Nativity Play (Collaboration with Campus Ministry) 5- Christmas Fair Whole Day	Grammar Practice -Module 13 Assessment Writing -Write an Informative Essay (p. 290-298) Number the Stars: Chapter 17, Afterword
Week 9 (19) (December 8 to 12) 8- Foundation Day Mass, cake ceremony, and Class Party (half day) 8- Solemnity of the Immaculate Conception 8- Second Week of Advent 10- Gr. 12 Advent Immersion 11 and 12- Second Quarter Exam (half day)	Writing -Write an Informative Essay (p. 290-298) EXAM REVIEW AND EXAM
<i>December 13 Invitation for All: Advent Recollection @DIS (Saturday)</i>	
<i>December 15 to January 2 Christmas Break</i>	

Third Quarter Tentative Course Content

Week/Date	Topic/Projects/Assessments
<i>January 5- Record Day (No Classes for students)</i>	
Week 1 (20) (January 5 to 9) 5- PSAT 8/9 Registration Starts 6- Third Quarter Begins 7- Monthly Career Talk-College Prep 9- New Year Mass at 8:00	Review Q2 Exam Unit 4: Through an Animal's Eyes -Essential Question: "What can you learn from seeing the world through an animal's eyes?" -Spark Your Learning (p. 304-305) -from Animal Snoops: the Wondrous World of Wildlife Spies (p. 328-341) Grammar Practice -Nouns -Pronouns War Horse: Chapters 1-3



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Week 2 (21) (January 12 to 16) 16- Club Orientation & Sign Up	MOY Diagnostic Assessment – CommonLit <u>Unit 4: Through an Animal's Eyes</u> -from Animal Snoops: the Wondrous World of Wildlife Spies (p. 328-341) <u>Grammar Practice</u> -Demonstrative and Relative Pronouns -Adjectives <u>War Horse: Chapters 4-6</u>
Week 3 (22) (January 19 to 23) 19-23- Individual Yearbook Photoshoot for Students 19-23- Career Awareness Week 22- Grade 9 Career Educational trip 23- First Club Meeting for 2nd Semester	<u>Unit 4: Through an Animal's Eyes</u> -Wild Animals Aren't Pets (p. 356-362) -Let People Own Exotic Animals (p. 363-369) <u>Grammar Practice</u> -Proper and Demonstrative Adjectives -Module Review <u>War Horse: Chapters 7-9</u>
Week 4 (23) (January 26 to 30) 26- Feast Day of St. Thomas Aquinas/Launching of the Catholic Week 26-28- Aquinas Conference: Science and Faith 26-30- Catholic Week Activities 30- DYM Charity Concert	<u>Unit 4: Through an Animal's Eyes</u> -Wild Animals Aren't Pets (p. 356-362) -Let People Own Exotic Animals (p. 363-369) -Evaluate and Compare Arguments (p. 370-371) <u>Grammar Practice</u> -The Verb -Transitive and Intransitive Verbs <u>War Horse: Chapters 10-12</u>
Week 5 (24) (February 2 to 6) 1-4- WASC Mid-Cycle Visit 4- Monthly Career Talk - College Prep 6-7- SUA0 Recollection for MS	<u>Unit 1: Discovering your Voice</u> -Better Than Words: Say It with a Selfie (p. 62-67) -OMG, Not Another Selfie! (p. 68-77) <u>Grammar Practice</u> -Linking Verbs -Helping Verbs <u>War Horse: Chapters 13-15</u>
Week 6 (25) (February 9 to 13) 9- Start of New Applicant Enrollment for 1st Semester for SY2025-26 13- PSAT 8/9 Registration Deadline 13- House Valentine's Mini Fair 13- Chinese New Year Celebration	<u>Unit 1: Discovering your Voice</u> -Better Than Words: Say It with a Selfie (p. 62-67) -OMG, Not Another Selfie! (p. 68-77) -Compare and Evaluate Arguments (p. 78-79) <u>Grammar Practice</u> -The Adverb -The Prepositional Phrase <u>War Horse: Chapters 16-18</u>
<i>February 16-20 Chinese New Year Holiday</i>	
Week 7 (26) (February 23 to 26) 23-26- IOWA Assessments 23- Student Council Application 24-26- Pre-Exam Days	<u>War Horse: Chapters 19-20</u> <u>Writing</u> -Write an Argumentative Essay



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<i>February 27 Memorial Day Holiday (no classes)</i>	
Week 8 (27) (March 2 to 6) 3- Monthly Career Talk - College Prep 6- PSAT 8/9 System Installation and Practice Test	<u>Grammar Practice</u> -Determining Parts of Speech -Module Review <u>Writing</u> -Write an Argumentative Essay
Week 9 (28) (March 9 to 13) 13 and 16- Third Quarter Exam (half day)	<u>Grammar Practice</u> -Module 3 Assessment <u>Writing</u> -Write an Argumentative Essay EXAM REVIEW AND EXAM

Fourth Quarter Tentative Course Content

Week/Date	Topic/Projects/Assessments
Week 1 (29) (March 16 to 20) 16- Third Quarter Exam (half day) 16-20- Faculty & Staff Yearbook Photo 17- Fourth Quarter Begins 18-21- EARCOS Teachers' Conference 19- Lectio Divina and Feast of St. Joseph 20- Parents Learning Community Meeting 20- Kindilympics 20-House Movie Night and Club Fair	<u>Review Q3 Exam</u> <u>Unit 5: Surviving the Unthinkable</u> - Essential Question: "What does it take to be a survivor?" - Spark Your Learning (p. 388-389) - Into the Lifeboat from Titanic Survivor (p. 411-425) <u>Grammar Practice</u> - Principal Parts of Verbs <u>Hatchet: Chapters 1-3</u>
<i>March 21 (Saturday) Spring Fair</i>	
Week 2 (30) (March 23 to 27) 23-27 Student Leaders Applicant Interviews 26- Annual Visit to World Religion Museum Gr. 11 27- Lower School Readers Theatre	<u>Unit 5: Surviving the Unthinkable</u> - Into the Lifeboat from Titanic Survivor (p. 411-425) <u>Grammar Practice</u> - Regular Verbs - Irregular Verbs <u>Writing</u> - Unit 5-1 Quick Write <u>Hatchet: Chapters 4-5</u>
<i>March 30 to April 6 Easter/Spring Break</i>	
Week 3 (31) (April 7 to 10) 7- Spring University Fair 9- Easter Mass	<u>Unit 5: Surviving the Unthinkable</u> - Into the Lifeboat from Titanic Survivor (p. 411-425) - Salva's Story (p. 405-410)



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9- Easter Egg Hunt for Lower School Students	<u>Grammar Practice</u> -Tense -Review Exercise <u>Hatchet: Chapters 6-8</u>
Week 4 (32) (April 13 to 17) 13 Laudato Si Month Launching (During the Monday Assembly) 13-30 Laudato Si Month Activities 13-17- Class Photo Taking 17- AP Chinese/Japanese Practice Test	<u>Unit 5: Surviving the Unthinkable</u> -Salva's Story (p. 405-410) <u>Language Standards Focus</u> -Pronouns (L.6.1a-d) <u>Hatchet: Chapters 9-10</u>
Week 5 (33) (April 20 to 24) 20-24 Cultural Awareness Week / Art Exhibit / Earth Week 24- Music Recital 20-24 Student Council Campaign 20-24 AP Mock Exams	<u>Unit 5: Surviving the Unthinkable</u> -from After the Hurricane/from Ninth Ward (p. 426-449) <u>Language Standards Focus</u> -Parenthetical Elements (L.6.2a-b) <u>Writing</u> -Write a Personal Narrative (p. 162-173) <u>Hatchet: Chapters 11-13</u>
Week 6 (34) (April 27 to 30) 27- Student Council Elections 27-30 Senior Project Presentations 28-30 Pre-Exam Days	<u>Unit 5: Surviving the Unthinkable</u> -from After the Hurricane/from Ninth Ward (p. 426-449) <u>Language Standards Focus</u> -Varying Sentence Patterns (L.6.3) <u>Writing</u> -Write a Personal Narrative (p. 162-173) <u>Hatchet: Chapters 14-16</u>
<i>May 1: Labor Day Public Holiday</i>	
Week 7 (35) (May 4 to 8) 4- May Crowning & Mother's Day Celebration (During the Monday Assembly) 4-14 Final Exams (K, Gr. 5, 8, & 12 Only) 4-15 AP Exams	<u>Unit 5: Surviving the Unthinkable</u> -from After the Hurricane/from Ninth Ward (p. 426-449) <u>Language Standards Focus</u> -Word Meanings (L.6.4) <u>Writing</u> -Write a Personal Narrative (p. 162-173) <u>Hatchet: Chapters 17-epilogue</u>
Week 8 (36) (May 11 to 15) 13 and 14- Fourth Quarter Exam—Undergraduate (half day) 14-16 Student Leaders Retreat Days	EXAM REVIEW AND EXAM
<i>May 15 Record Day (No Classes for students) Final Deliberation for Graduating/Promoting Classes</i>	
Week 9 (37)	EOY Diagnostic Assessment – CommonLit



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(May 18 to 22) 18- Gr. 5 Recollection & Mass 19- Gr. 8 Recollection & Mass 20- Gr. 12 Recollection 20- Baccalaureate Mass (Whole School) 18-21 WIDA Testing 19- Lower School Sports Day / Gr. 6 & 7 School Field Trip 19- Gr. 9 - 11 - "Senior Success Forum: Inspiring the Next Generation" 19-22 Student Clearance Days 21- Middle & High School Sports Day 21- High School Field Trip 22- House Culminating Activity 20-22 Final Deliberation for Non-Graduating Classes 22- Student Leaders One Day Recollection / Turn Over Ceremony	Review Q4 Exam
Week 10 (38) (May 25 to 29) 25- Kindergarten Graduation/Gr. 5 Promotion 26- LS Field Trip 26- Gr. 8 Graduation and Gr. 12 Graduation 27- Pre-Kindergarten & Gr. 1 - 4, 6 & 7, 9-11 Recognition Last Day of School, Report Card 28- Distribution, & Class Party (half day) 29- Last day for Teachers/Staff Meeting	

"Kindling the Light of Faith, Hope, and Love: The Legacy of St. Dominic de Guzmán"