

G7 English Language Arts



Dominican International School

Course Syllabus

School Year 2026–27



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COURSE DESCRIPTION: The grade 7 Language Arts course will develop the students' knowledge, confidence, and communication skills in all areas of language: reading, writing, speaking, listening, grammar and vocabulary. The primary focus in language arts class will be on literature, different writing styles, demonstration of the rules of grammar, and the ability to express yourself orally.

Students can expect to read a variety of literary genres, and what the students read will model the different writing styles we will be working on in class. Writing assignments will include timed responses, journal writing, essays, critiques, and creative pieces. Vocabulary, spelling, and grammar assignments will also be an important part of this class. Because we are a community of learners, students will work periodically in group situations and present information to their peers in groups or individually.

Please understand that independent at-home reading and writing are a component of this course.

COURSE OBJECTIVES: By the end of the semester/school year, (SWBAT) Students will be able to:

- By the end of the year, read and comprehend literature, including stories, dramas, and poems, in the grades 6-8 text complexity band proficiently, with scaffolding as needed at the high end of the range.
- By the end of the year, read and comprehend literary nonfiction in the grades 6-8 text complexity band proficiently, with scaffolding as needed at the high end of the range.
- Write routinely over extended time frames (time for research, reflection, and revision) and shorter time frames (a single sitting or a day or two) for a range of discipline-specific tasks, purposes, and audiences.
- Adapt speech to a variety of contexts and tasks, demonstrating command of formal English when indicated or appropriate.
- Acquire and use accurately grade-appropriate general academic and domain-specific words and phrases; gather vocabulary knowledge when considering a word or phrase important to comprehension or expression.

PRIMARY TEXTBOOKS AND OTHER RESOURCES:

G7 - HMH Into Literature & Writable
Class Novels

GRADING SYSTEM/ASSESSMENT:

Grades will be computed following the school-wide policy of Homework, Seatwork, and Projects (30%), Tests and Quizzes (30%), Quarter Exam (30%), and Department (10%). There will be opportunities for students to show their learning through various individual and group assignments/activities.

The following assessment tools will be used to evaluate performance: Specific writing rubrics; Presentation/oral rubrics; Quizzes and Quarter Tests/Exams; Peer evaluation

ADDITIONAL INFORMATION:

Please always check Google Classroom for homework and announcements.

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.**

WEEKLY SCHEDULE

First Quarter Tentative Course Content

Week & Date	Topics / Projects / Assessments
	Monday Class Preparation ~ Student Holiday Tuesday Morning Assembly Friday Opening Mass & Assumption of Our Lady 8:00
Week 1 Aug 10 - 14	<u>Into Literature – Unit 2: Take Control</u> - Course Introduction / Unit 1 Opener (2) <u>Read a Play</u>: <i>Sorry, Wrong Number</i> + Skills Coach - Elements of Drama (2) <u>HMH Writing/Grammar</u> : - Course Introduction (1) Novel : <i>The Hunger Games</i> Introduction (1) Read - <i>The Hunger Games</i> Ch.1-9
Week 2 Aug 17 - 21	<u>Into Literature – Unit 2: Take Control</u> - Analyze & Apply: <i>Sorry Wrong Number</i> (3) - Growth Measure Reading Test - BOY (2) <u>HMH Writing/Grammar</u> : - M1 – The Sentence (1) YSC- RT : Introduction + Assign Groups + Explain Online brainstorming (2) Independent Study : YSC: HW = Online <u>brainstorming</u> Novel : Read - <i>The Hunger Games</i> Ch.1-9
Week 3 Aug 24 - 28	<u>Into Literature – Unit 2: Take Control</u> - Analyze & Apply: <i>The Flight of Icarus</i> pp. 112–123 (2) <u>HMH Writing/Grammar</u> : <u>Write a Personal Narrative</u>: Intro. / Model Examples + Brainstorming/Prewriting/Drafting (2) - M1 – The Sentence (1) YSC-RT : Final brainstorming + Start Planning (2) Independent Study : YSC: HW = Online <u>brainstorming</u> Novel : Test : <i>The Hunger Games</i> Ch.1-9 (1) Read - <i>The Hunger Games</i> Ch.10-18
Week 4 Aug 31 - Sep 4	<u>Into Literature – Unit 2: Take Control</u> - Analyze & Apply: <i>The Flight of Icarus</i> pp. 112–123 (2) - Analyze & Apply: <i>Icarus's Flight</i> pp. 124–131 (2)

	<u>HMH Writing/Grammar:</u> • <u>Assessment:</u> M1 – The Sentence (1) <u>YSC-RT:</u> 1st Lesson = <u>Everyone:</u> Finish the planning and get it approved. (1) 2nd Lesson = <u>Writers:</u> Start writing scenes 1-3. <u>Others:</u> Read Novel (1) <u>Independent Study:</u> YSC: HW = <u>Writers</u> Will start writing the first draft (Scenes 1-3). <u>Other Students</u> will monitor the writer's progress and offer feedback. Novel: Activity/SSR (1) Read - <i>The Hunger Games</i> Ch.10-18
Week 5 Sep 7 - 11	<u>Into Literature – Unit 2: Take Control</u> • <u>Analyze & Apply:</u> <i>Icarus's Flight</i> pp. 124–131 (2) • <u>Assessment:</u> <i>The Flight of Icarus</i> + <i>Icarus's Flight</i> (2) • <u>Analyze & Apply:</u> <i>Rogue Wave</i> pp. 132–151 (2) <u>HMH Writing/Grammar:</u> • <u>Write a Personal Narrative:</u> Drafting (1) <u>YSC:</u> Finish writing the first draft of the script (1) <u>Independent Study:</u> • YSC: HW = <u>Writers</u> Will start writing the first draft (Scenes 1-3). <u>Other Students</u> will monitor the writer's progress and offer feedback. Novel: Read - <i>The Hunger Games</i> Ch.10-18
Week 6 Sep 14 - 18	<u>Into Literature – Unit 2: Take Control</u> • <u>Analyze & Apply:</u> <i>Rogue Wave</i> pp. 132–151 (3) • <u>Assessment:</u> <i>Rogue Wave</i> (1) <u>HMH Writing/Grammar:</u> • <u>Write a Personal Narrative:</u> Revising, Editing & Publishing (2) • <u>M7 –Sentence Structure</u> (Cont.) (1) <u>YSC:</u> <u>Independent Study:</u> • YSC: HW = <u>Writers</u> Will finish writing the first draft (Scenes 4-6). <u>Other Students</u> will monitor the writer's progress and offer feedback. Novel: Test: <i>The Hunger Games</i> Ch.10-18 (1) Read - <i>The Hunger Games</i> Ch.19-27
Week 7 Sep 21 - 25	T-W-Th Pre-Exam Days Friday Moon Festival ~ Public Holiday <u>Into Literature – Unit 2: Take Control</u> • <u>Analyze & Apply:</u> <i>Women in Aviation</i> pp. 152–165 (4) • Exam Prep. & Review (1) <u>HMH Writing/Grammar:</u> • <u>Assessment:</u> M7 Sentences (1) Novel: Read - <i>The Hunger Games</i> Ch.19-27

	Monday Confucius' Birthday ~ Public Holiday Thursday Major Exams Day 1 Friday Major Exams Day 2
Week 8 Sep 28 - Oct 2	<u>Into Literature – Unit 2: Take Control</u> • • Assessment: <i>Women in Aviation</i> (1) Exam Prep. & Review (1) Novel: Test: - <i>The Hunger Games</i> Ch.19-27 (1) Final YSC scripts are due Wednesday September 30th
Week 9 Oct 5 - 9	Monday Record Day ~ Student Holiday T-W-Th Teachers Conference ~ Student Holiday Friday Double 10 Day ~ Public Holiday

Second Quarter Tentative Course Content

Week & Date	Topics / Projects / Assessments
Week 1 (10) Oct 12 - 16	Review Q1 Exam (1) <u>Into Literature – Unit 3: The Terror and Wonder of Space</u> • Introduction / Unit 3 Opener (1) • <u>All Summer in a Day</u>: Model Short Story (2) <u>HMH Writing/Grammar:</u> • <u>M2 – Part of Speech I</u>: Nouns & Pronouns/Adjectives (1) • YSC : Read-through + Plan the 1- Practice (2) Novel: <i>Enders Game</i> - Introduction/SSR (1) Read - <i>Enders Game</i> Ch.1-5
Week 2 (11) Oct 19 - 23	<u>Into Literature – Unit 3: The Terror and Wonder of Space</u> • <u>Analyze & Apply: Challenges for Space Exploration</u> pp. 250–259 (3) • <u>Analyze & Apply: Martian Metropolis</u> pp. 238–249 (1) <u>HMH Writing/Grammar:</u> • <u>Write a Short Story</u>: Intro. / Model Examples + Brainstorming/Prewriting/Drafting (1) YSC : Practice & Preparation (2) Independent Study: • YSC: Check Google Classroom Novel : SSR/Activity (1) Read - <i>Enders Game</i> Ch.1-5
Week 3 (12) Oct 26 - 30	Monday Retrocession Day ~ Public Holiday <u>Into Literature – Unit 3: The Terror and Wonder of Space</u>

	• <u>Assessment: Challenges for Space Exploration</u> (1) • <u>Analyze & Apply: Martian Metropolis</u> pp. 238–249 (3) <u>HMH Writing/Grammar:</u> • <u>Assessment: M2 – Part of Speech I</u> (1) YSC: Practice & Preparation (2) Independent Study: • YSC: Check Google Classroom Novel: <i>Test - Enders Game</i> Ch.1-5 Read - Enders Game Ch.6-10
Week 4 (13) Nov 2 - 6	<u>Into Literature – Unit 3: The Terror and Wonder of Space</u> • <u>Assessment: Martian Metropolis</u> (1) • <u>Analyze & Apply: Dark They Were, and Golden-Eyed</u> pp. 212–237 (4) <u>HMH Writing/Grammar:</u> • <u>Write a Short Story: Drafting</u> (1) YSC: Practice & Preparation (2) Independent Study: • YSC: Check Google Classroom Novel: <i>Read - Enders Game</i> Ch.6-10
Week 5 (14) Nov 9 - 13	<u>Into Literature – Unit 3: The Terror and Wonder of Space</u> • <u>Assessment: Dark They Were, and Golden-Eyed</u> (1) • <u>Analyze & Apply: What If We Were Alone?</u> pp. 260–26 (3) <u>HMH Writing/Grammar:</u> • <u>M3 – Part of Speech II</u> (1) • <u>Write a Short Story: Revising, Editing & Publishing</u> (1) YSC: Practice & Preparation (2) Novel: <i>Read - Enders Game</i> Ch.6-10
Week 6 (15) Nov 16 - 20	<u>Into Literature – Unit 3: The Terror and Wonder of Space</u> • <u>Assessment: What If We Were Alone?</u> (1) • <u>Analyze & Apply: Seven Minutes of Terror</u> pp. 268–271 (2) YSC: Extra Practice / Dress Rehearsal + YSC Competition (4) Independent Study: • YSC-RT: Check Google Classroom Novel: <i>Test - Enders Game</i> Ch.6-10 (1) <i>Read - Enders Game</i> Ch.11-15 <u>Friday November 20th – YSC Competition Day</u>
Week 7 (16) Nov 23 - 27	T-W-Th Pre-Exam Days Friday Grade 12 Exams

	<u>Into Literature – Unit 3: The Terror and Wonder of Space</u> • <u>Assessment</u>: <i>Seven Minutes of Terror</i> (1) • <u>Collaborate & Compare</u>: <i>Humans Need to Explore Outer Space</i> pp. 272–285 (4) <u>HMH Writing/Grammar</u>: • <u>Assessment</u>: M3 – Part of Speech II (1) Novel: Activity/SSR (2) Read - <i>Enders Game</i> Ch.11-15
Week 8 (17) Nov 30 - Dec 4	Monday Grade 12 Exams <u>Into Literature – Unit 3: The Terror and Wonder of Space</u> • <u>Collaborate & Compare</u>: <i>Let Robots Take to the Stars</i> pp. 286–297 (4) • Exam Prep. & Review (2) • <u>Assessment</u>: <i>Humans Need to Explore Outer Space + Let Robots Take to the Stars</i> (1) Novel: SSR (1) Read - <i>Enders Game</i> Ch.11-15
Week 9 (18) Dec 7 - Dec 11	Monday TBD Tuesday Foundation Day Mass 9:00, Cutting of the Cake Ceremony, Christmas Fair, (Whole day) Wednesday TBD Thursday Major Final Exams half day Friday Major Final Exams half day Novel: Test - <i>Enders Game</i> Ch.11-15 (1)
<i>Dec 14 to Jan 1 Christmas Break</i>	

Third Quarter Tentative Course Content

Week & Date	Topics / Projects / Assessments
Week 1 (19) Jan 4 - Jan 8	Monday Record Day ~ Student Holiday Friday New Year Mass at 8:00 Review Q2 Exam (1) <u>Into Literature – Unit 4: Inspired By Nature</u> • Introduction / Unit 4 Opener (1) • CommonLit Reading Assessment - MOY (2) <u>HMH Writing/Grammar</u>: • <u>Write an Argument</u>: Introduction & Prewriting (2)

	Novel: <i>I Am Still Alive</i> - Introduction/SSR (1) Read - <i>I Am Still Alive</i> P.1-102
Week 2 (20) Jan 11 - Jan 15	<u>Into Literature – Unit 4: Inspired By Nature</u> • <u>Analyze & Apply:</u> <i>Never Retreat from Eyes Wide Open</i> pp. 328–339 (4) <u>HMH Writing/Grammar:</u> • <u>Write an Argument:</u> Prewriting & Drafting (2) • <u>M9 – Using Verbs Correctly:</u> Principal Parts & Regular Verbs (1) • <u>M9 – Using Verbs Correctly:</u> Regular Verbs Cont. + Irregular Verbs (1) Novel: Read - <i>I Am Still Alive</i> P.1 - 102
Week 3 (21) Jan 18 - Jan 22	<u>Into Literature – Unit 4: Inspired By Nature</u> • <u>Assessment:</u> <i>Never Retreat from Eyes Wide Open</i> (1) • <u>Analyze & Apply:</u> <i>Allied With Green</i> pp. 316–327 (4) <u>HMH Writing/Grammar:</u> • <u>Write an Argument:</u> Drafting (1) • <u>Write an Argument:</u> Prewriting & Drafting (1) Novel: Test - <i>I Am Still Alive</i> P.1-102 (1) Read - <i>I Am Still Alive</i> P.103 - 203
Week 4 (22) Jan 25 - Jan 29	<u>Into Literature – Unit 4: Inspired By Nature</u> • <u>Assessment:</u> <i>Allied With Green</i> (1) • <u>Analyze & Apply:</u> <i>from Mississippi Solo</i> pp. 340–351 (4) <u>HMH Writing/Grammar:</u> • <u>Write an Argument:</u> Revise, Edit, and Publish + Peer Review + Presentation Reminders (1) • <u>M9 – Using Verbs Correctly:</u> Test (1) Novel: Activity/SSR (1) Read - <i>I Am Still Alive</i> P.103 - 203
Week 5 (23) Feb 1 - Feb 5	Thursday <i>Little New Year's Eve ~ Public Holiday</i> Friday <i>Lunar New Year ~ Public Holiday</i> <u>Into Literature – Unit 4: Inspired By Nature</u> • <u>Assessment:</u> <i>from Mississippi Solo</i> (1) • <u>Analyze & Apply:</u> <i>The Drought</i> pp. 352–359 (4) <u>HMH Writing/Grammar:</u> • <u>M9 – Using Verbs Correctly:</u> Verb Tenses Cont. (1) Novel: Read - <i>I Am Still Alive</i> P.103 - 203
<i>February 8 to 12 Chinese New Year Holiday</i>	

Week 6 (24) Feb 15 - Feb 19	<u>Into Literature – Unit 4: Inspired By Nature</u> • <u>Assessment</u>: <i>The Drought</i> (1) • <u>Collaborate & Compare</u>: <i>Ode to enchanted light</i> pp. 360–369 (3) • <u>Collaborate & Compare</u>: <i>Sleeping in the Forest</i> pp. 370–375 (3) Novel: Test: <i>I Am Still Alive</i> P.103 - 203 (1) Read - <i>I Am Still Alive</i> P.204 - 314
Week 7 (25) Feb 22 - Feb 26	22-26 IOWA Assessments <u>Into Literature – Unit 4: Inspired By Nature</u> • <u>Assessment</u>: <i>Ode to enchanted light</i> + <i>Sleeping in the Forest</i> (1) • <u>Collaborate & Compare</u>: <i>from Trash Talk / You're Part of . . .</i> pp. 376–385 (3) Novel: Read - <i>I Am Still Alive</i> P.204 - 314
Week 8 (26) Mar 1 - Mar 5	Monday Memorial Day ~ Public Holiday T-W-Th Pre-Exam Days <u>HMH Writing/Grammar</u>: <u>Into Literature – Unit 4: Inspired By Nature</u> • <u>Collaborate & Compare</u>: <i>from Trash Talk / You're Part of . . .</i> pp. 376–385 (1) • Exam Prep. & Review (1) • <u>Analyze & Apply</u>: <i>To Build a Fire</i> (4) Novel: Activity/SSR (1) Read - <i>I Am Still Alive</i> P.204 - 314
Week 9 (27) Mar 8 - Mar 12	<u>HMH Writing/Grammar</u>: • <u>Assessment</u>: M9 – <i>Using Verbs Correctly</i> (1) • <u>Argument Writing</u>: <i>Presentations</i> (3) <u>Into Literature – Unit 4: Inspired By Nature</u> • <u>Analyze & Apply</u>: <i>Are You Digging On My Grave</i> (2) • <u>Assessment</u>: <i>from Trash Talk / You're Part of the Solution</i> pp. 376–385 (1) Novel: Activity/SSR (1) Test: <i>I Am Still Alive</i> P.204 - 314
Week 10 (28) Mar 15 - Mar 19	<u>Into Literature – Unit 4: Inspired By Nature</u> • <u>Analyze & Apply</u>: <i>To Build A Fire</i>: Project Based Learning (1) • <u>Argument Writing</u>: <i>Presentations</i> (3) • Exam Prep. & Review (2) Novel: <i>Born A Crime</i> Introduction (2) Read - <i>Born A Crime</i> - Part 1

Week 11 (29) Mar 22- Mar 26	Tuesday Major Final Exams half day Wednesday Major Final Exams half day Thurs - Fri Easter Break (Spring Break) ~ Public Holiday
	Novel: Activity/SSR (1) Read - <i>Born A Crime</i> - Part 1
March 25 to April 2 Easter & Spring Break	

Fourth Quarter Tentative Course Content

Week & Date	Topics / Projects / Assessments
	Monday Tomb Sweeping Day ~ Public Holiday Tuesday Children's Day ~ Public Holiday
Week 1 (30) Apr 5 - Apr 9	Review Q3 Exam (1) Into Literature – Unit 6: Change Agents - Introduction / Unit 6 Opener (1) HMH Writing/Grammar: <u>Write a Research Report:</u> Introduction & Model Examples (2) <u>M14 – Punctuation I</u> (1) Novel: Test - <i>Born A Crime</i> - Part 1 (1) Read - <i>Born A Crime</i> - Part 2
Week 2 (31) Apr 12 - Apr 16	Into Literature – Unit 6: Change Agents <u>Collaborate & Compare:</u> <i>Frances Perkins...Triangle Factory Fire</i> pp. 518–531 (4). HMH Writing/Grammar: <u>Write a Research Report:</u> Prewriting + Research Lessons (2) <u>M14 – Punctuation I</u> Assessment. (1) <u>M15 – Punctuation II</u> (1) Novel: Read - <i>Born A Crime</i> - Part 2
Week 3 (32) Apr 19 - Apr 23	19 - 23 AP Mock Exams Into Literature – Unit 6: Change Agents <u>Collaborate & Compare:</u> <i>from Ashes of Roses</i> pp. 532–549 (4) HMH Writing/Grammar: <u>Write a Research Report:</u> Drafting (3) Novel: Test - <i>Born A Crime</i> - Part 2 (1)

	Read - Born A Crime - Part 3
	T-W-Th Pre-Exam Days Friday Labor Day ~ Public Holiday
Week 4 (33) Apr 26 - Apr 30	<u>Into Literature – Unit 6: Change Agents</u> • <u>Assessment: Frances Perkins...Triangle Factory & from Ashes of Roses</u> (1) • <u>Analyze & Apply: Craig Kielburger Reflects on Working...</u> pp. 494–505 (4) <u>HMH Writing/Grammar:</u> • <u>M15 – Punctuation II: Assessment</u> (1) Novel: Read - Born A Crime - Part 3
	3 - 7 Final Exams (K, Gr. 5, 8, & 12 Only) 3 - 14 AP Exams
Week 5 (34) May 3 - May 7	Novel: Test: Born A Crime - Part 3 <u>Into Literature – Unit 6: Change Agents</u> • <u>Assessment: Craig Kielburger Reflects on Working...</u> (1) • <u>Write a Research Report: Revise, Edit and Publish</u>(2) <u>HMH Writing/Grammar:</u> • <u>Write a Research Report: Presentations</u> (5)
	3 - 14 AP Exams Wednesday Major Final Exams Undergraduates half day Thursday Major Final Exams Undergraduates half day Friday Record Day ~ Student Holiday
Week 6 (35) May 10 - May 14	<u>Into Literature – Unit 6: Change Agents</u> • Exam Prep. & Review (2) <u>HMH Writing/Grammar:</u> • <u>Write a Research Report: Presentations</u> (2)
Week 7 (36) May 17 - May 21	Monday Gr. 12 Recollection (Morning) Monday Baccalaureate Mass (Afternoon, Schoolwide) Wednesday House Sports Day Thursday High School Field Trip Friday House Culminating Activity All Week Student Clearance Days & Special Events

	• Review Q4 Exam (1) • <u>Into Literature:</u> • Growth Measure Reading Test - EOY (2)
Week 8 (37) May 24 - May 28	Monday Middle & High School Sports Day Monday LS Field Trip Tuesday Kindergarten Graduation/Gr. 5 Promotion Wednesday Gr. 8 Graduation and Gr. 12 Graduation Thursday Pre-Kindergarten & Gr. 1 - 4, 6 & 7, 9-11 Recognition Friday Last Day of School for Students