

**CARTERVILLE SCHOOL DISTRICT
LANGUAGE ARTS CURRICULUM
GRADE 8**

Revised 05/23/06

FIRST QUARTER

GRAMMAR AND WRITING

- Identifies the four kinds of sentences
- Distinguishes between common and proper nouns
- Distinguishes between concrete and abstract nouns
- Forms possessive nouns
- Distinguishes plurals, possessives, and contractions
- Recognizes collective nouns
- Recognizes appositives and appositive phrases
- Recognizes action verbs in sentences
- Identifies direct and indirect objects
- Identifies transitive and intransitive verbs
- Recognizes linking verbs
- Distinguishes between predicate nouns and predicate adjectives
- Conjugates verbs through six tenses and progressive forms
- Locates helping verbs in verb phrases
- Conjugates irregular verbs
- Analyzes sentences to determine active and passive voice
- Reviews basic rules of punctuation and capitalization

- Lists the three types of essays
- Describes the different purposes for persuasive, expository, and narrative writing
- Reviews the ISAT rubric evaluation terms
- Writes effective thesis statements
- Recognizes parallelism in thesis statements and topic sentences
- Uses transition words in persuasive essays
- Distinguishes facts from opinions
- Reviews the basic format of a persuasive essay
- Writes a persuasive essay
- Uses *Microsoft Word* to type a persuasive essay
- Completes weekly proofreading exercises
- Answers an extended response question

NO AR

LITERATURE—(Focus: Short Stories- Novel)

- Reviews literary terms necessary for use in analyzing various pieces of literature
- Identifies/applies select elements of a short story
- Draws and labels a plot diagram
- Examines the motivation of the characters in the plot
- Compares the themes of different pieces of literature
- Relates the events of the plot in chronological order

- Determines the conflict in the plot
- Identifies examples of foreshadowing in different selections
- Works in groups to answer extended response questions from literary selections (Compare/contrast, cause and effect, analyze, infer, draw conclusions, evaluate)
- Identify outcome or conclusion – write a chapter two or an alternate ending
- Compare an original text to the summary
- Reads, analyzes, and explores selected novel

VOCABULARY/SPELLING

- Develops vocabulary skills using words from literature selections and spelling list
- Defines/applies selected literary terms
- Takes a spelling test on important transition words
- Defines novel vocabulary

SECOND QUARTER

GRAMMAR AND WRITING

- Divides personal pronouns into number and person categories
- Distinguishes between subject and object pronouns
- Identifies the antecedent of pronouns
- Identifies possessive pronouns
- Distinguishes between possessive pronouns and contractions

- Recognizes indefinite pronouns
- Distinguishes between reflexive and intensive pronouns

- Lists the interrogative pronouns

- Lists the demonstrative pronouns

- Studies clauses and complex sentences

- Reviews the basic format for an expository essay

- Composes a short story- typed

- Writes an expository essay

- Completes weekly proofreading exercises

- Answers an extended response question

AR

- Independent reading per class period

LITERATURE—(Focus: Non-Fiction-Short Stories)

- Discovers the author’s purpose

- Recognizes the methods of character development

- Makes inferences from details about characters and plot

- Identifies and describes in detail the setting of a piece of literature

- Determines/understands point of view

- Rewrites a selection using a different point of view

- Identifies stated and implied theme

- Writes answers to extended response questions about characters, setting, and theme

Writes/produces a character analysis
VOCABULARY/SPELLING

- Develops vocabulary skills using words from literature selections and spelling lists

THIRD QUARTER

GRAMMAR AND WRITING

- Recognizes adjectives in sentences
- Identifies predicate adjectives
- Lists the article adjectives
- Identifies proper adjectives
- Applies the rules for comparative and superlative comparison of adjectives
- Lists the demonstrative adjective
- Distinguishes demonstrative adjectives from demonstrative pronouns
- Recognizes adverbs in sentences
- Lists the adverb questions
- Applies the rules for comparative and superlative comparison of adverbs
- Reviews the basic format of a narrative essay
- Writes a narrative essay
- Uses time transitions in narrative essays
- Uses emotion words and dialogue in narrative essays
- Completes weekly proofreading exercises
- Answers an extended response question

NO AR—ISAT REVIEW

LITERATURE—(Focus: Poetry-Novel)

- Identifies/applies terms as they are used in poetry
- Identifies/writes/analyzes different types of poetry
- Identifies imagery in poetry and writes an example
- Compares themes of different poems
- Paraphrases a selected poem
- Recites from memory a poem
- Reads, analyzes, and explores selected novel

VOCABULARY/SPELLING

- Develops vocabulary skills using words from literature selections and spelling lists
- Defines/applies select poetry terms
- Defines novel vocabulary

FOURTH QUARTER

GRAMMAR AND WRITING

- Recognizes prepositional phrases in sentences
- Classifies prepositional phrases as either adjective or adverb phrases
- Describes the purpose of conjunctions and recognizes them in sentences
- Identifies correlative conjunctions
- Describes the purposes of interjections and recognizes them in writing

- Recognizes participial phrases in sentences
- Recognizes gerunds and gerund phrases in sentences
- Recognizes infinitives and infinitive phrases in sentences
- Completes weekly proofreading exercises
- Answers an extended response question

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- Independent reading per class period

LITERATURE—(Focus: Drama)

- Analyzes terms pertinent to drama
- Reads and reviews a drama
- Writes/acts student-produced works
- Watches a play/film (live or on video) and writes a review/critique
- Participates in a classroom debate
- Designs and implements a service learning project
- Studies a novel or American Folk Lore Unit (as time permits)

VOCABULARY/SPELLING

- Studies selected vocabulary from novel and drama units
- Develops vocabulary skills using words from literature selections and spelling lists
- Defines/applies selected drama terms
- Uses the selection *100 Words Every Freshman Should Know*