

Welcome to 6th Grade English Language Arts!  
Arts Impact Middle School  
Teacher: Tess Heitmeyer

### Teacher Information

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Room #: 295

Team: 6th Grade Upstairs Pod

## **WELCOME CLASS!**

Welcome to 6th grade! I know that you are each ***talented and special in your own way***, and ***I believe in each and every one of you.*** 😊 Throughout the course of this year, I look forward to helping you grow and become the best student, person, leader, and global citizen you can be. This year you will be challenged to improve and strengthen your skills in vocabulary, reading comprehension, writing, speaking, grammar, and team building. We will explore a great deal of our curriculum through projects, technology, and student-driven learning in addition to our classroom assignments.

This year we will read and analyze a variety of texts covering a multitude of genres. We will begin our year by working through multiple short stories. We will also be using StudySync (online platform) to supplement our ELA work.

This year the students will progress through the writing process by planning, revising, editing, and publishing specific types of writings.

- Narrative (Quarter One)
- Informative/Explanatory Essays (Quarter Two)
- Argumentative Essays (Quarter Three)
- Research Projects (Quarter Four)
- Journal Writing
- Timed Responses

Students will have a virtual grammar challenge each week. They will also have a grammar quiz every Thursday!

Throughout the year, students will work independently, in small groups, and whole group discussions. Students will be expected to present information, findings, and share thoughts and opinions with their peers in a multitude of settings.

## Classroom Rules:

1. **Be Respectful** - to classmates, teachers, substitutes and visitors
2. **Be Responsible** - follow all directions
3. **Be Safe** - keep hands, feet and objects to yourself
4. **Be Prompt & Prepared** - to class with materials and homework
5. **Be Where You Should Be** - leave your seat only with permission
6. **Be Polite** - eating and gum chewing are not allowed
7. **Believe in yourself and be willing to try**

## Consequences:

1. Verbal Warning
2. Name on the Board
3. Lunch Detention/Parent Contact
4. Office Referral

## Daily Classroom Procedures

### BEFORE THE BELL RINGS:

- Enter the classroom silent and ready to work.
- Have all daily supplies out.
- Be seated in your **assigned** seat.
- Begin working on the Daily WarmUp.

*Bathroom breaks should be taken care of before the bell rings. No book bags or purses are allowed in class.*

### AS THE BELL RINGS:

- Talking ceases.
- Continue working on bell ringer.
- Take notice of the daily agenda for the day.
- Students not in the classroom at the sound of the bell will be marked as absent.

### DURING THE CLASS PERIOD:

- Raise hand and wait to be called on if you would like my attention. Please, do not get out of your seat to ask me a question. Raise your hand and I will be with you shortly.
- Be productive and engage in learning and discussion at all times.
- Remain in your seat unless told otherwise.

### END OF CLASS PERIOD:

- Complete Exit Ticket for the end of the class period.
- The bell does **NOT** dismiss you. Please remain in your seat until class is dismissed.

## Daily Warm Ups:

Students will complete a daily warm up each time they come to class. Each week one daily warm up will be graded at random. The other four daily warm ups of that week will be taken as participation points and ultimately contribute to students' grade as well. It is important that students are taking these warm ups seriously and doing their best work.

**Grades:**

A quarter grade is determined by a combination of daily work, in-class work, homework, quizzes, tests, and projects. ***Students are expected to complete and turn in all homework assignments and projects on the assigned due date.***

WEEKLY Grades:

- 1) Attendance/Participation (20 pts, 5pts each day)
- 2) Bell Ringers (40pts, 10pts each day)
- 3) Grammar Challenge (20 pts for completion)
- 4) Grammar Quiz (20 pts)
- 5) StudySync Lessons (20 pts)

There is a new grading scale in Columbus City Schools:

100% - 92%	<b>A</b>
91% - 90%	<b>A-</b>
89% - 88%	<b>B+</b>
87% - 82%	<b>B</b>
81% - 80%	<b>B-</b>
79% - 78%	<b>C+</b>
77% - 72%	<b>C</b>
71% - 70%	<b>C-</b>
69% - 68%	<b>D+</b>
67% - 62%	<b>D</b>
61% - 60%	<b>D-</b>
59% - 0%	<b>F</b>

Grades are divided into the following three categories:

1. **Class Work** – These will be the activities done during class time, such as: daily warm ups, journal writings, group work, participation in literature circles, in-class projects, etc.
2. **Tests, Quizzes, and Major Projects** –Students are allowed to retake the test one day later after receiving their grades on the test.
3. **Homework** – Students homework consists of: weekly assignments in StudySync, weekly Grammar Challenge, and specific worksheets we are working on in class that might need to get finished for homework.

**Extra Credit:**

Extra credit opportunities will be offered several times during the grading period. Options will vary in how students may earn extra credit. These opportunities are meant to help students improve low scores, not to replace missing assignments.

**Late Work:**

Students will be allowed to turn in late work for partial credit. Students MUST complete the “Late Work Form” on Google Classroom when turning in late work. This alerts me that late work was turned in and needs graded. If the “Late Work Form” is not completed, then the late work will not get graded.

**Bathroom Rules:**

Students will be allowed to use the restroom if they have a bathroom pass. Students are not allowed to use bathroom passes during the first 10 minutes of class or the last 10 minutes of class. Teacher discretion in an emergency.

**Absences:**

Students will be responsible for gathering their work when they are absent. Virtual work will be added to Google Classroom so students can find their missing assignments under each week’s tab. It is their responsibility to complete the work by the following day to ensure they stay on track with the rest of the students.

**Course Materials:**

- 1 three-ring binder with dividers
- 1 composition notebook
- Homework Folder
- Pencils
- Paper (Looseleaf to add to three-ring binder)

*I am looking forward to this school year with your child! It is important that we communicate clearly throughout the year to ensure your student has a successful school year. Feel free to email me at [theitmeyer@columbus.k12.oh.us](mailto:theitmeyer@columbus.k12.oh.us) anytime. You can also reach me through the school phone number at 614-365-5558. If unavailable at the time, you will be able to leave a voicemail and I will get back to you as soon as possible.*

Sincerely,

Miss. Heitmeyer

Print Student Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Period: \_\_\_\_\_

I have read Miss. Heitmeyer's English Language Arts syllabus and understand the consequences.

\_\_\_\_\_  
Student Signature                      Date

\_\_\_\_\_  
Parent/Guardian Signature                      Date