



Swan Valley Regional Secondary School

SWAN VALLEY SCHOOL DIVISION

P.O. Box

SWAN RIVER, MANITOBA R0L 1Z0

TELEPHONE 1-204-734-4511

CBEHRMANN@SVSD.CA



PRINCIPAL

Mrs. Jacquie Mydynski-Arp

VICE PRINCIPALS

Mrs. Jen Zamzow & Mrs. Kirsten Glen

2025-2026

Course Title: ELA

Class Times: Block 3

Teacher: Mr. Behrmann

Language is a social and human means of representing, exploring, and communicating meaning. Language is a defining feature of culture and an unmistakable mark of personal identity. It is essential to thought and personal expression, to forming interpersonal relationships, and to functioning and contributing within a democratic society. Language is the primary instrument of thought and the primary basis of all communication.

The study of English language arts enables students to understand and appreciate language and to use it competently and confidently in a variety of situations for communication, personal satisfaction, and learning. Students become competent and confident users of all six language arts through many opportunities to listen, speak, read, write, view, and represent in a variety of combinations and through a wide range of relevant texts. In keeping with the literacy demands placed on them, students now learn to read and produce a wide range of texts.

English language arts instruction is concerned with the language uses of expressive ("the language of being and becoming), pragmatic ("the language of getting things done), and aesthetic (expressive language shaped and captured to represent experiences).



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At the Grade 11 and 12 levels, the materials are divided as follows:

| | |
|---------------|-----------------------------|
| Transactional | 70% Pragmatic/30% Aesthetic |
| Comprehensive | 50% Pragmatic/50% Aesthetic |
| Literary | 30% Pragmatic/70% Aesthetic |

The Six Language Arts

English language arts instruction encompasses six strands:

- o Reading
- o Writing
- o Viewing
- o Representing
- o Speaking
- o Listening

Instruction in all six language arts equips students for effective participation in a technological society in which information, communication, arts, and entertainment are increasingly conveyed in language forms other than print.

English Language Arts - Learning Outcomes

Five general learning outcomes serve as the foundation for each of the English language arts curricula. The general learning outcomes are broad statements describing student learning. They are interrelated



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and interdependent.

The five general learning outcomes are:

1. To explore thoughts, ideas, feelings and experiences
 - o Consider the merits of a range of ideas, observations, opinions, and emotions
 - o Assess diverse, challenging information and questions and alternative perspectives
 - o Explore how new knowledge, ideas, experiences, and perspectives reshape understanding of texts
2. To comprehend and respond critically to oral, print, and other media texts
 - o Apply a broad repertoire of appropriate comprehension strategies to monitor and develop texts
 - o Use syntactic, semantic, graphophonic, and pragmatic cueing systems to construct and confirm meaning and interpret texts
 - o Evaluate the effect of forms and genres on content and purpose
 - o Create original texts to communicate ideas and enhance understanding of forms and techniques



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3. To manage ideas and information

- o Determine audience characteristics and needs, topics, and purpose to identify a range of primary and secondary information sources
- o Use knowledge of text cues and organizational patterns to extract, infer, synthesize, organize and integrate ideas

4. To enhance the clarity and artistry of communication

- o Consider audience, purpose, and context in evaluating and revising drafts to ensure appropriate content and language and to enhance precision, unity, and coherence
- o Analyze and edit texts for word choice, grammatical structures, and register to achieve clarity, artistry, and effectiveness
- o Know and apply capitalization and punctuation conventions

5. To celebrate and build community

- o Use language to demonstrate openness and flexibility in working with others; listen attentively and encourage differing viewpoints, use tactful language to disagree and solve problems
- o Recognize inclusive, respectful verbal and non-verbal language and appropriate tone
- o Evaluate diverse ideas, factual evidence, and viewpoints to develop an informed understanding of texts, others, and self



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Assessment and Evaluation

Summative evaluation will be used to determine your grade.

Summative evaluation will be categorized and weighed as follows:

Rich Performance Task (RPT) - creative writing, visual representations, presentations

Demonstrations - quizzes, journal responses, grammar sheets, vocabulary activities, small in-class assignments that are handed in to show progress, oral reading

Essays - long answer, planned, organized, structured writing, including essays, paragraphs, expository writing, comparative writing, analysis

Project - end of unit final representation of skills learned, group or individual

Tests - unit tests, summative testing

Exam - end-of-semester Process/Course Exams

Exam Weights

Grade 9 - 15%

Grade 10 - 15%

Grade 11 - 20%

Grade 12 - 20% (Provincial)



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Weights for Categories for English on PowerSchool:

| | Grade 12 | | | Grade 11 | | | Grade 10 | Grade 9 |
|-------------------|----------|------|----|----------|------|-------|------------|------------|
| Category | Lit | Comp | | Lit | Comp | Trans | Foundation | Foundation |
| RPT | Trans | | | 20 | 20 | 25 | 20 | 20 |
| Demonstration | 20 | 20 | 25 | 20 | 25 | 25 | 25 | 25 |
| Organized Writing | 20 | 25 | 25 | 20 | 15 | 10 | 20 | 20 |
| Tests | 20 | 15 | 10 | 10 | 10 | 10 | 10 | 10 |
| Exam | 10 | 10 | 10 | 20 | 20 | 20 | 15 | 15 |
| Project | 20 | 20 | 20 | 10 | 10 | 10 | 10 | 10 |
| | 10 | 10 | 10 | | | | | |

All summative assignments must be completed to earn your credit.

Assignments

Summative assignments are those which are designed to showcase your understanding of course content and to reveal mastery.

Summative assignments are weighted higher than other assignments and fall into the categories of rich performance tasks, essays, projects, tests, and exams. You will need to do well on these assignments to maintain a passing grade. Demonstration assignments are formative assignments; these assignments are designed to give you practice and to help you prepare for success.

In accordance with the Swan Valley School Division Assessment of Learning Policy, at least 80% of work for summative assessment must



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be completed by the student in the presence of a teacher.

Late Assignments and Missing Assignments

The Provincial Assessment Policy Kindergarten to Grade 12 states the following:

"... students are ultimately responsible for the timely completion of their assignments and for knowing that there are consequences for failure to adhere to those parameters." Manitoba Curriculum Doc. 2011

Assignment dates will be clearly stated and noted on PowerSchool. Students should make every effort to complete assignments on time. If a student cannot meet a due date due to exceptional circumstances such as illness, hospitalization, family medical or emergency situations, he/she must meet with the teacher to establish a timeline for completion. If a student still does not follow through, parents will be contacted; the student will be given a zero as a final result at the teacher's discretion.

Once the unit is over, the assignments for that unit are considered closed. Students will not be permitted to hand in late or overdue assignments once the unit is complete.

English Language Arts 20F Course Outline



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Language learning is an active process that begins at birth and continues throughout life. We improve our language by using what we have previously learned in new and more complex situations. When we reflect or think about our learning, we can incorporate new skills and gain greater insight.

In this English course you will become more competent and confident in communicating in a variety of situations. In this course you will be presented with many opportunities to speak, listen, read, write, view and represent. You will develop a greater understanding and appreciation of language.

The Manitoba English Language Arts Curriculum is based on outcome learning. Each student is expected to demonstrate specific knowledge, skills, strategies, and attitudes by the end of the course. Each unit will address these outcomes.

Expectations:

- I expect each student to behave in a manner respectful towards classmates and to the teacher - in the event that there is a substitute teacher in the class, you will be expected to be courteous and attentive.
- I expect students to respect the Educational Assistants in the classroom.
- I expect all homework and assignments to be completed and handed in promptly. You will have deadlines to meet in this course and you will be expected to meet them.
- I expect you to attend class regularly and to be in class before



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the bell rings to avoid lateness.

- If you are absent from school, you are expected to bring a note from home explaining your absence. If you have unexcused absences, your parents will be notified by phone, letter, or will be called in for a conference, as the situation requires. Exceeding the number of acceptable absences may result in failure.
- I expect you to complete assignments with effort and completeness - incomplete assignments will be returned to you unmarked until you apply yourself fully to the work at hand.
- I expect you to do all work yourself. Copying another student's work, stealing from the internet or any source that is not your own, or failing to document your borrowed sources is plagiarism. There are serious consequences for plagiarism resulting in a permanent mark on your performance record. Your teachers and your parents will be notified if you plagiarize; you will be given extra work, and your school activities may be restricted.

Homework

Homework helps you to practice and prepare for your next class. Any assignment given in class and not completed in class will be considered homework. Assigned reading will also be given as homework, especially during the novel study unit. Homework is a formative assignment that will be recorded, but it will not affect your grade.

Tests



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There will be a test at the end of each unit, and periodic quizzes along the way. Passing mark for tests is 50%. If you are absent on a test or quiz day, you must provide a note from a parent, guardian, or doctor to account for your absence.

Final Exam: The final exam is 50% cumulative/50% process - all work done throughout the term is tested. You must achieve a minimum of 50% overall in order to pass the course. The exam is compulsory; there are no exemptions.

Materials

Throughout the term we will cover the following units:

- Short Stories - text - Inside Stories I
- Nelson Literacy
- Poetry - Inquiries into Literature
- Novel Study
- Drama - Romeo and Juliet
- Grammar/Mechanics
- Film Studies - Various G or PG rated, related to literature covered in class.

Note: All novels are curriculum-approved. At this level, novels deal with more adult topics and themes. If you or your parents have concerns with the literature or film covered in class, please let me know in advance.



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Supplies

You will need the following items:

loose-leaf binder and paper

pencils/erasers/pens/white out

pencil crayons

Come to class with your texts for the day and be prepared to work.

Class Work

You are required to take notes and participate in classroom discussions. I encourage you to complete your work in an organized manner and try to maintain a high standard.

In class, you will work in both individual and group settings. You may be asked to choose a partner, or at times you will be assigned to groups. Group work is intended to help you learn to work cooperatively with others. All members of the class are expected to participate equally in group work and to treat classmates with respect. In my room, all students' voices are important. □

Assignments and General Work:

Work that is not completed during the class is considered HOMEWORK. Homework checks may be held randomly, and you will be evaluated on them. Although it is a formative assessment, it will be shown in the student portal and will reflect in all summative assessments. Simply put, if you do the homework, you are more likely to succeed. All projects, presentations and assignments will be given due dates that are appropriate for the work they involve. Once the set due date has passed, a mark of '0' with the teacher comment 'no evidence of learning submitted' will be pushed through to the



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student portal for parents to see. This will be treated as an incomplete grade until the student submits the assignment for evaluation. If assignments remain outstanding, the following steps may be taken as per the provincial assessment policy: (not in any order)

- 1) Students may be required to come into class to work during RTI time.
- 2) Students may miss out on extra-curricular activities
- 3) Parents, teacher and student develop an agreement when the work will be completed
- 4) An alternative assignment may be agreed upon that shows achievement of the required learning outcome(s)
- 5) I will set a final due date, and notify your guardians.
- 6) The last consequence will be a mark of '0' and assignment will no longer be accepted for evaluation.

Attendance:

Attendance is checked daily. Please let me know if you are going to be away so I may provide you with the work you will be missing. Most often, all slides will be uploaded to Microsoft Teams. If you are late for class, it is your responsibility to let the secretary know that you are now at the school. If you miss a test (with a valid reason and a note from your parent or guardian), you must write the test during the next available period or class. (Next class, RTI or at lunch).

Test Preparation:

Students will be given sufficient notice before major tests. (4 days minimum). Proper attendance and participation will provide you with the knowledge you require to be successful in this course. I can't stress the importance of taking notes while in class. At this grade level, you should be able to start creating your own notes. This is an important skill to develop. Without notes, we forget!

Expectations:



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1. Arrive on time and be prepared to work, as you will not be allowed to go back to your locker. Washrooms should be utilized during breaks/RTI.
 2. Respect for the staff and students in the classroom is essential. A failure to show this will result in the student being removed from the room.
 3. Snacks or drinks (preferred water) are allowed in the room during class time; however, the students must clean up after themselves and be responsible to ensure it does not disrupt their learning. If these conditions cannot be met, the privilege will be revoked.
 4. Electronic devices are not to be in the classroom, unless otherwise stated. (for example: iPod to listen to music if there is a work period). If caught using them, they will be held in my desk for the duration of the class. A second offence, they will go to the office.
 5. ALL CELL PHONES WILL REMAIN ON SILENCE AND ARE NOT TO BE SEEN DURING THE LECTURE CLASS TIME. Any misuse of this rule will result in it being put in my desk until the end of the class.

Contact Information:

Any time you have any questions or concerns, feel free to come see me or contact me in any of the following ways:

- I'll be in my room most days in the mornings up to and including RTI.
- Email: cbehrmann@svsd.ca



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