**Course Name**: English Language Arts

Term 1, 2015-2016 Academic Year

September 9th, 2015 – January 25th, 2016

Teacher: Mr. Key & Ms. Tom

Email: key@whsad.org

Room: 202

**Office Hours:** Wed-Fri – 8th period

(1:55pm-2:40pm)

**Course Description**:

10th Grade English Language Arts is a course built to challenge students intellectually and to facilitate all individual’s abilities to grow in each of the four literary major domains:

* Reading
* Writing
* Listening
* Speaking.

This course is specifically designed to prepare students for the English Language Arts Common Core Exam in June 2016 which is a demanding exam focused on student’s independent reading skills, analytical writing skills, and their ability to formulate and support an argument using evidence from provided texts.

Topics in this course will include but are not necessarily limited to the following: grammar, vocabulary, personal reading, group reading, fiction, non-fiction, drama, poetry, writing about multiple texts using complex thesis statements, the use of evidence in claim-making.

**Materials**:

* Loose-leaf Paper
* Notebook
* Pen or Pencils

All reading materials will be provided unless otherwise stated in advance.

**Rules & Expectations**:

All rules in our classroom are centered around creating an environment that facilitates effective and responsible learning. There will be ZERO tolerance for any form of disrespect, including towards others or myself. All thoughts and opinions are valid learning tools that demand our attention and thoughtfulness.

Classroom Rules and Responsibilites:

1. **Bring Energy to the Classroom**

Much of what creates a productive day is based on the energy and attitude we bring to it. That includes both teacher and student. Expect that you will get out of each day exactly what you bring into it in terms of energy, willingness to experience new ideas, and general open-mindedness towards others.

1. **Be Organized and Prepared**

Bringing the proper materials to class and being able to locate what we need cuts down on wasted time and helps productivity. Have all materials you need when you come into class.

1. **Interact Properly**

Respect yourself, your peers, the classroom, and me.

1. **Grow and Develop**

Expect a lot out of yourself. Know that if you put in work, you will grow.

1. **Be Responsible and Develop Good Habits**

Each day builds toward the next one. Being responsible and developing good, consistent habits will allow you to keep up with the work and prepare you for your next phases in life. Consistency is key. Your habits tell you who you are; break the bad ones and replace them with positive ones

All school-wide policies will be enforced in this classroom.

**Lateness and Attendance**:

**DON’T BE LATE!** Lateness is a major disruption and it affects the entire class. If you arrive to class late, you may miss important announcements and classroom instruction. Repetitive lateness will result in parental notification and possible guidance referral.

As you can imagine, regular attendance is necessary to keep up with the material that we will be focusing on and learning. In addition, lateness and absences will negatively affect your grade. Being absent or failing to pay attention in class will end up being extra work because it will require you to learn the material that you missed along with the current material.

**\*NOTICE**: Any time you miss any class, you are responsible still responsible for that day’s work.

* **What do I do if I miss a day?**

That’s fairly easy. There is a table by the door with a box of five folders. Each folder is marked Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday, Thursday, or Friday. If you missed Tuesday, go grab the work.

Once you have the work, you must make an appointment with me either during office hours or another time I may be free to receive the instruction that goes with the handout.

After one school week, the work will be removed.

* **What if there isn’t a handout for the day I missed?**

You still must come see me. Just because there isn’t a handout doesn’t mean you didn’t miss anything.

* **How do I know when office hours are?**

Either ask me, “Hey, Mr. Key, when are your office hours?” and I’ll tell you, or you can check the door where I’ll keep them posted year round.

* **What if I know I’m going to be out for a couple days?**

Talk to me. Let me know the dates so you may get your work in advance. If you don’t, you will still be responsible for the work.

**Grading Policy**: You are expected to know how the grading policy works.

**Assessments**— 40%

* Exams, Writing Tasks, and Projects are 30%
* Quizzes are 10%

**Notebook/Daily Student Work**— 40%

* Classwork is 30%
* Homework is 10%

**Participation**— 20%

 **100%**

\*For more detailed information, see the next page.

**Assessments**: 40%

*Exams, Writing Tasks, Essays, and Projects 30%*

* Unit tests will be given at the end of each **unit** and will be designed to prepare students for the Common Core exam in June. Other writing tasks and projects will be assigned and counted as assessments throughout the term. Assessments will be given weekly and unit exams will be given at the end of each unit.
* Writing is a key component of English and will therefore be practiced and assessed. There will be a variety of writing assignments that will factor into this grade.

*Quizzes 10%*

* Quizzes will be given **once per week**. Quizzes are short and designed to take about 5-10 minutes of class time. Don’t stress out about these quizzes. This is your chance to see how you are doing and what you need to do to improve your understanding of class topics and skills. These quizzes will most likely focus on short grammar pieces and/or vocabulary words.

**Notebook/ Daily Student Work**: 40%

*Classwork (30%)*

* All students must keep a single subject notebook/ 3-ring binder. Your daily notebook entries should have the following heading:

**Student Name**

**Date**

**Aim**

**Do Now**

* All student notebooks will be collected and reviewed regularly. Students will be graded on the overall organization of their notebooks, completion of Do Nows, completion of class notes, and completion of independent in-class student tasks (see rubric).

*Homework (10%)*

* There will be between 5-10 HW assignments per marking period. Assigned homework will be written on the board every day and will be posted on my website. When you enter the classroom, take out your homework so it may be collected while you complete the Do Now.
* Homework Format: Non-Negotiable

**Student’s Name Date Assigned**

**Class Period Teacher’s Name**

 **Assignment**

* Standards:
* Standard 8 ½ x 11 inch loose leaf paper
* Neat and Legible
* Students must speak and write in **COMPLETE SENTENCES**
* Late Work:
1. Any student work turned in one day late will be subject to loss of 1 letter grade.
2. Any student work turned in two days late will be subject to loss of two letter grades.
3. Any student work turned in more than two days late will be subject to no credit. (Hint: Turn your work in *on time*.)

**Participation (20%)**

If you consistently ask questions, attempt to answer questions, remain on task, and follow the classroom expectations, then you will receive full credit. ***Disruptive behavior will result in deductions from your overall classwork/participation grade (see participation rubric).***

**Classroom Procedures:**

**BATHROOM**

As stated by school policy, no bathroom passes will be allowed during the first and last ten minutes of any period. If you need to use the restroom, raise your hand. I will silently acknowledge you with a yes or no. If you are allowed to use the restroom, simply get up, grab the bathroom pass, and leave the room.

**DISMISSAL**

I dismiss you, **not** the bell! Please remain in your seats until I say you may leave. I will always give you a late pass to your next class if I need to hold you over.

**CLASSROOM CULTURE**

We will work hard to have a positive classroom environment. This classroom should be a space of collaboration and questioning, both important to learning science. In instances where that culture is disrupted, a record will be made and the Assistant Principal will determine the consequences.



**Williamsburg High School**

**for Architecture and Design**

Student Partnership Contract for Living Environment

Fall 2015

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

**I have read the classroom rules and requirements for English Language Arts. I understand the rules and requirements and will honor them for the 2015/2016 School Year.**

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

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

Student Partnership Contract for English Language Arts

Fall 2015

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

**I have read the classroom rules and requirements for the Science Department. I understand the rules and requirements and will honor them for the 2015/2016 School Year.**

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

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

Parent/Guardian Home Phone: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

Parent/Guardian Cell Phone: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

**TEACHER COPY**