

# Course Syllabus

## 6th Grade English Language Arts

2023-2024



Spirit, Pride, Excellence

### Course Description

Throughout the school year, students will be introduced to the Georgia Standards of Excellence (GSE) curriculum. The main implementation tool used for instruction will be the *McGraw-Hill StudySync*, English Language Arts Grade 6 textbook. The newly adopted program is a complete ELA curriculum designed to meet the rigorous academic needs of today's classroom. In print or online, *StudySync* is designed to engage every student and offers the most diverse and culturally responsive texts to ensure students are able to see themselves in the literature they are reading, as well as learning about others. This textbook is also aligned with the GSE and is inclusive of the necessary performance elements needed for student mastery. Each day, students will be exposed to a rigorous curriculum in which they will work towards gaining an enduring understanding through skills and strategies that address their individual learning modalities. Activities within the curriculum include close reading of texts, oral interpretations, collaborative discussions and assignments, and written analyses.

**Academic honesty** – Receiving or giving information for an assignment is cheating and when caught in the act students will not receive credit nor receive the opportunity for a chance of make-up. Plagiarism is not acceptable: If a student takes information from the Internet or any printed resources without a citation or copies directly from a source, it is considered plagiarism and the assignment will not be accepted.

**Make-up work** – Announced work, such as homework, quizzes and major assessments are due the day the student returns. For each day's excused absence, students will have one day to make up missed work. If a student is absent under extenuating circumstances, special arrangements can be made to make up work. Please refer to the student handbook for further information about excused and unexcused absences. IT IS THE STUDENT'S RESPONSIBILITY TO CHECK THE CALENDAR AND/OR REQUEST MISSED WORK.

**Parent Portal** – Newton County provides student grade-book information through the Parent Portal. (<https://campus.newton.k12.ga.us/campus/portal/newton.jsp>). This site allows parents to access grades and to monitor their child's progress in his or her courses. Parent Portal will be updated at least once a week.

Weight	Category Title	Types of Assignments
30%	Activities to Support Mastery	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>❖ In Class Assignment</li><li>❖ Homework</li><li>❖ Bell Ringers/Opening Activities/Summation Activities</li><li>❖ Written Journal Prompts</li><li>❖ USATestPrep and other digital platforms</li><li>❖ "Participation" Grades – Debates, Simulations, etc.</li><li>❖ Labs (used to practice skills, vocabulary, and concepts)</li></ul>
30%	Working Toward Mastery	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>❖ Formative Assessments (District Created)</li><li>❖ Quizzes (Teacher and/or Teacher Created)</li><li>❖ Writing Prompts (From Activities and Curriculum Maps)</li><li>❖ Daily In-Class Formative Assessments</li><li>❖ Labs (that assess understanding during the unit)</li></ul>
40%	Assessment of Mastery	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>❖ Unit Assessments</li><li>❖ Projects</li><li>❖ Labs (that assess understanding at the end of the unit)</li><li>❖ Essays</li></ul>

### Textbooks & Materials

We will use a combination of learning materials to achieve our learning goals. If the textbook is lost, stolen, or damaged, it is the student's responsibility to pay the "replacement cost" of the book before another book is issued. In the event that the lost book is found, please retain all receipts.

*McGraw-Hill StudySync*

Grade 6 –  
Reading and Writing Companion:  
\$5.99/each workbook for Units 1-6

Independent Reading Sources from recommended novels

**Homework** – Teachers expect homework to be completed as assigned as a method of helping students prepare for the lessons.

**Late work** – Late work is not accepted unless the student has a legally excused absence. Extenuating circumstances will be addressed on an individual basis at the discretion of the teacher.

**Note: The types of assignments are suggested but not limited to what is in the chart.**

**Academic Grading Scale:**

A = 90—100

B = 80—89

C = 70—79

F = 69 and below

**Note: Any extra credit that a student receives from the Summer Reading Assignment will be added (Up to 20 points to the first Unit Assessment.)**