

*Notre Dame Academy
Language Arts Curriculum
6th through 8th Grades
Adapted to the California Adopted Standards*

WRITING

Essay: Standard 3 to 5 paragraph essay using textual evidence as support for an argument. MLA format for heading and citation. Proficiency in demonstrating logical order of ideas and organization

Types/Styles: Informative, Controversial, Persuasive, Narrative, Creative, Expository

Audience: Students will practice and be knowledgeable of speech, presentations, technology use, professional and informal

Vocabulary: synonyms, antonyms, roots, suffixes, prefixes

Grammar and Sentence Structure: mechanics, usage, parts of speech, spelling

Use of dictionary and thesaurus

READING

Figurative and Connotative Meaning: Use word recognition & word meaning skills to build vocabulary and comprehend text through reading

Literary Terms: To understand deeper and complex meaning of the text

Critical thinking and analytical reasoning

Theme and Central Idea: Use textual evidence to create argument beyond summary in various styles of text.

Inference: Adapting text to the meaning for the reader

Point of View and Tone: Understanding how time period and biography of author relates to the story

Plot Diagram: Exposition, Rising Action, Climax/Conflict, Falling Action, Resolution and Denouement

Compare/Contrast: Modern and Past, Film and Book, Live Performance and reading of a play, Character comparison from other works

Genres: Novel, Poetry/Song, Drama, Short Story, Film
6th grade emphasizes expository/informational

SELF-ACKNOWLEDGEMENT

Self Evaluation: Students will learn the process of writing, editing, and publishing

Independent Active Reading: Students will learn annotating, active reading skills, underlining textual evidence, dialectical journals

Challenge and Growth: Students evaluate their own progress, compare their own life to characters in the text, combine time period with text meaning

Cross Curriculum: Students will be able to identify, analyze, compare/contrast, recognize and interpret cross curricular units.