

8th Grade Language Arts
Ms. Krieger 2010 – 2011 School Year

SCHOOL SUPPLIES

● **You will need:**

- a 2 inch three-ring binder
- one/two packages of dividers (NINE DIVIDERS Total)
- loose leaf, college rule paper, NOT WIDE RULE
- pencils (**PENS ARE NOT ALLOWED!**)
- a dictionary and a thesaurus for home use

CURRICULUM

● **We will work on:** Writing Skills Vocabulary Skills Spelling Skills Reading Skills Grammar Skills

● **We will do units on:**

1. Expository Writing
2. Children's Story
3. Greek & Roman Mythology

VOCABULARY

● You will have a weekly vocabulary quiz on Wednesday. There are 10 words each week and 6 weeks per unit. After each 6th chapter quiz, there is a unit test.

● There are no **retakes** on quizzes. If you show mastery of words on your final test, but did not do so on the chapter quiz, final quiz grades will be changed to reflect this. **You will be expected to retake unit tests if you do not show mastery.**

● **If you are absent from school on the Wednesday of the quiz or test, you are responsible for the quiz or test upon the day you return to school. If you are here on Wednesday, you will take the quiz or test regardless of previous absences.**

SPELLING

● Every Wednesday you will be quizzed. You will take the final quiz and the next week's **prequiz** over the words. If you earn an 80% on the prequiz, you will be exempt from taking the final post quiz AND having to do that week's worksheet. Each spelling week has a worksheet.

GRAMMAR

● Grammar will be taught during the school year by doing grammar packets. The majority of these activities will be completed as homework. At the end of each mini-unit, you will be tested over the part of speech. **You will be expected to retake the grammar tests if you do not show mastery.** Mastery is 80%.

GRADING POLICY

● You will have two types of grades: Formative Assessments and Summative Assessments.

● **Formative Assessments** are those assignments (mostly homework and class work) that I use as a teacher to check for understanding. Formative Assessments must be completed to show a mastery grade.

This is 80% or higher. Any assignment that does not show mastery will be corrected or redone until mastery is shown. **Formative grades are 30% of your total grade.**

●**Summative Assessments** are those grades taken after a period of time or unit to show learning, such as quizzes, tests, projects, and papers. If mastery is not shown on these assessments, you must retest to show mastery. **Summative Assessments are 70% of your total grade.**

CLASSROOM PROCEDURES

- Classroom supplies are in the drawers. Each drawer is labeled. Just put the materials back when you are finished!
- You need to check out a book before it leaves the room. Just sign the check out card in the back of the book and give it to me.
- Writing paper and writing utensils are in the wooden tray. You do not need to ask to get them. Please return the pencils when you are finished with them.
- You need to come to class prepared, because I will not let you go back to your locker.
- Ask if you need supplies, please do not just take something that doesn't belong to you.
- All class papers are turned in to the tray in the back of the room. Make sure your name is on it and it is in the correct class period.

CLASSROOM EXPECTATIONS

- Raise your hand to talk. Don't just blurt out things.
- Do your homework when it is assigned.
- Come to class prepared.
 - You don't get to come back to your locker.
- Listen to and follow instructions.
- Be polite to everyone.
- Use only pencil unless specifically told not to do so.
 - Assignments completed in pen will be completed again.
- Respect yourself, others, and others' possessions.
- Ask to go to the restroom before class has started.
- Use work time effectively
- Ask for help when needed
- Ask for missing (absent) work before school, during mentor, study hall, after school, or during work time.
 - DO NOT prevent me from starting class.
- If you have concerns, please let me know sooner rather than later.

CONSEQUENCE

●**Disobeying the Class Rules will result in:**

1. A Verbal Warning
2. A Think Time
5. Student/Teacher Conference After School
6. Parent Phone Call or email home

3. 3 Think Times = Lunch Detention

7. Removal from classroom or classroom privileges

4. 5 Think Times = ALC

A PROPER HEADING FOR YOUR PAPERS

● **A Proper Heading is extremely important for the following reasons:**

- You will have student-led conferences, and you will need to know what the assignment is and when you completed it.
- It helps me know what the assignment is grading it.

● **What is the proper heading for my papers?**

The image shows a template for a paper heading. It consists of a rectangular area with a header section at the top. The header section is bounded by two vertical red lines and a horizontal blue line. The rest of the page is filled with horizontal blue lines. A small circle is drawn in the header section on the left side.

PLAGIARISM AND CHEATING POLICY

● **What is plagiarism?** To steal or pass off the ideas or words of another as one's own, whether this be from a published source or from one's classmates.

● **What is cheating?** To represent someone else's work as your own, whether this is through copying someone's work, having them do the work for you, or by looking at other's work while completing the assignment and representing it as your own.

● **The following will be considered cheating on the Quia website.**

- Using computer tools such as spelling check while taking a quiz or test.
- Having more windows open during the quizzes or test. You are only allowed to have the quiz or test window open while taking the exam.
- Talking during the exam.
- Peeking/looking at another student's computer screen during the exam.
- Having your vocabulary or spelling words at your computer station during the exam.

CONSEQUENCES FOR PLAGIARISM AND CHEATING

●Cheating and plagiarism will not be tolerated!

- ALL tests, quizzes, assignments, projects and papers that you cheat on will be given the grade of ZERO.
- Parents will be notified of each cheating offense.
- You will not be able to retake or make up the points from the assignment.
- Repeated cheaters will lose classroom privileges and may take all tests and quizzes in ALC or the office.
- Repeated cheaters will be referred to the office for further disciplinary actions.
- **Please note that if you are caught cheating on a vocabulary quiz, even if you show mastery on the unit final, the grade will not be changed.**

MANDATORY ASSIGNED STUDY HALL “MASH”

- Every day in study hall, your teachers will send a list of missing and late work.
- If your name is on this list due to missing or late work, you will be held in study hall until the work is completed.
- You will not be allowed to leave study, even if you have a pass.
- You will be expected to be working on this late work and to be using your time effectively.
- When the bell rings, you are not allowed to leave unless all the work is completed.
- If you still have late work, you will be held for 9th hour until the bell rings or the late work is completed.
- If you skip out of 9th hour, or do not go to the teachers classroom you are assigned to once you have left study hall will result in a email or phone call to parents. Skipping twice will result in ALC.

ODDS & ENDS

●My teacher website:

<http://www.beatricepublicschools.org/vnews/display.v/SEC/Beatrice%20Middle%20School%7CTeacher%20Websites%3E%3EKrieger>

●**Directions:** Go to the Beatrice Public Schools website. Click Beatrice Middle School. On the left-hand side, click on Teacher Websites. Click on Krieger.

Website contains all worksheets, handouts, and helpful information to be successful this school year.

●Quia practice website:

<http://www.quia.com/pages/hkrieger/page1>

Website contains practice activities to help you study for your tests and quizzes.