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| **Language Arts 9****Course Outline****September 2014-January 2015****Mrs. MacDonnell (Mrs. Mac)****http://mvhs.nbed.nb.ca/teacher/mrs-oneill-macdonnell****anno@nbed.nb.ca** |

Language Arts I is structured as a reading and writing workshop with an emphasis on not only preparing students for the English Language Proficiency Assessment, but also developing life-long literacy skills.

**Writing and Reading Skills Covered in LA 9**

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|  | **Writing** | **Reading** | **Speaking and Listening** |
| **Narrative** | -snapshot moment -extended narrative | -short stories-memoirs-personal reading | Group workWriting/Reading conferences |
| **Argument** | -persuasive writing -commentary | -non-fiction essays and editorials | Group workWriting/reading conferences |
| **ELPA Preparation** | -demand writing | -reading strategies-reading a variety of genres | Group work |
| **Informational Writing** | -making and supporting claims based on data from graphs/charts. | -reading strategies for informational writing. | Group workWriting/reading conferences |
| **Poetry** | -“playing” with poetry in Writers’ Notebooks | -poetic devices-poetry analysis | Group workWriting/reading conferences |
| **Weekly/Monthly** | -daily quick writes-writing craft mini-lessons-editing mini-lessons-Article of the Month Critical Reflection | -daily SSR (sustained silent reading)-2 hours of reading homework a week-reading goals-Article of the Month | -book talks-sharing of daily writing |

Speaking skills will be incorporated into each unit of study, and students are expected to be active participants in class, partner and group discussions.

**Class Expectations:**

* Students are expected to be prepared each day for class with:
* an independent novel
* Writer’s Notebook
* Pens and pencils
* Students are expected to be on time for class and treat others with respect.
* Attendance is very important. Students are responsible for catching up on missed class work and assignments, and must present a written excuse upon return to class.

**Materials Needed:**

* 1 hard cover journal for Writer’s Notebook (150-200 pages)
* Post-it notes or tabs
* 1 binder
* Writing portfolio (2 pockets)
* Pens and pencils
* Highlighters
* Looseleaf

**Evaluation:**

* Daily Class work (writing workshops, book talks, homework check, Writer’s Notebook) 30%
* Speaking and Listening: (book talks, reading and writing conferences, participation, group work): 15%
* Assignments/Tests (projects, tests, quizzes, writing tasks): 55%

* N.B. English Language Proficiency Assessment: Graduation requirement

 January 2015.

**I look forward to working with all of you this year! Good luck! -Mrs. Mac**