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| **Language Arts 9** **Course Outline****September 2019-January 2020****Maria Lynch****maria.lynch@nbed.nb.ca** |

Language Arts 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- class novel | -group work-writing/reading conferences-book talks/ presentations |
| **Nonfiction**  | -persuasive writing -commentary | -non-fiction essays and editorials-infographics-reading strategies for informational writing | -group work-writing/reading conferences-book talks/ presentations |
| **ELPA Preparation** |  | -reading strategies-reading a variety of genres | -group work |
| **Poetry** | -“playing” with poetry in Writers’ Notebooks | -poetic devices-poetry analysis-daily poetry | -group work-writing/reading conferences-reciting |
| **Weekly/Monthly** | -daily quick writes-writing craft mini-lessons-editing mini-lessons-Article of the Month Critical Reflection | -daily SSR (sustained silent reading)-minimum 2 hours of reading homework a week-reading goals-Article of the Month | -book talks-partner discussions |

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
* Pens and pencils
* Highlighters
* Looseleaf
* Novel

**Evaluation:**

* Daily Class work (writing workshops, homework checks, Writer’s Notebook) 15%
* Speaking and Listening: (book talks, reading/writing conferences, participation,

group work, presentations): 20%

* Assignments/Tests (projects, tests, quizzes, final writing tasks,

 final assignments): 70%

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

 January 2020

**Important information regarding late assignments:** All assignments are due by 3:20 pm on the due date and must be handed in on paper (no emails or flash drives accepted). Students are responsible for printing assignments and class time will not be provided for this. 10% will be deducted for each day an assignment is late. After day 5, the maximum mark that an assignment can receive is 60%.

**I look forward to working with all of you this year! Good luck!**

Note to Parents/Guardians:

Contact with students’ families is very important, and I would like to have as much communication with you as possible this year. Please let me know your preferred means of contact, whether by email or phone. I also have a teacher page on the school website (mvhs.nbed.nb.ca), I will keep homework and assignments posted on my teacher page

You will notice that students will not have a lot of homework for Language Arts to complete. This course operates as a reading and writing workshop, so the majority of the work is done in class, and I conference with students to help them with their reading and writing. They will be given assignments that have to be typed outside of class, but other than that, writing is completed at school so they can get support with the process. Our school library has is opened each day at lunch and from 3:15-4pm to allow students access to computers and a quiet place to work on their studies.

Students are expected to be reading from their independent novel at home, however, so please ensure that students are reading on a daily basis. The expectation is that students read approximately two hours outside of class each week. They can choose their independent novel from my classroom library, the school library, or bring one for home. I encourage students to choose a novel that they will enjoy, and I will work with them through the semester to set goals in their reading. Goals are all personal, ranging from reading a longer novel, reading a novel outside of their comfort zone, reading more challenging texts, etc.

I will also gladly accept book or magazine donations for my classroom library. Lots of choice of reading material is important, and I appreciate any donations you can make!

Thank you for your support,

Maria Lynch

*Please sign and return this portion*

**Name of student \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_**

**Parent/Guardian name(s):\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_**

**Contact information:**

**Phone: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_**

**Email (if you would like to be contacted this way): \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_**