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| **Language Arts 9**  **Course Outline**  **September 2013-January 2014**  **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** |
| **Narrative** | -snapshot moment  -extended narrative | -short stories  -memoirs |
| **Argument** | -persuasive writing  -commentary | -non-fiction essays and editorials |
| **ELPA Preparation** | -demand writing | -reading strategies  -reading a variety of genres |
| **Informational Writing** | -making and supporting claims based on data from graphs/charts. | -reading strategies for informational writing. |
| **Poetry** | -“playing” with poetry in Writers’ Notebooks | -poetic devices  -poetry analysis |
| **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  -book talks  -reading goals  -Article of the Month |

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:**

* Class work/ Speaking (participation, book talks, homework check etc.): 15%
* Assignments/Tests (Writer’s Notebook, projects, tests, quizzes,

writing tasks): 70%

* Practice Literacy Assessment: 15%
* N.B. English Language Proficiency Assessment: Graduation requirement

January 2014.

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

**-Mrs. Mac**