

# 7<sup>th</sup> Grade

## English Language Arts

### Key Instructional Activities

- Analyzing how the form or structure of a play or poem contributes to the development of themes and how the author develops that theme across the text
- Analyzing how particular elements of a story or play interact (like how the setting shapes the characters or plot)
- Determining how an author develops and contrasts the points of view of different characters or narrators in a text
- Conducting short research projects, drawing on several sources and identifying related questions for further research and investigation
- Using a range of reading strategies to determine the correct meaning of a word based on the context in which it is used
- Comparing and contrasting a variety of texts such as poems, stories, historical fiction
- Identifying a speaker's argument and specific claims and evaluating the reasoning and evidence behind those claims
- Using clues such as word roots or add-ons to a word to determine the meaning (e.g., semi-, semiannual, semicircle)
- Interpreting figures of speech or references to literature or mythology in a text
- Evaluating a speaker's key points and reasoning, asking questions, and stating his or her own well-supported ideas in discussions
- Writing arguments that provide clear reasons and relevant evidence supported by citations from credible sources
- Writing brief informational reports that examine a topic, have a clear focus, and include relevant facts, details, and quotations
- Writing narratives that develop real or imagined experiences or events using effective technique, relevant descriptive details, and well-structured event sequences
- Producing clear and coherent writing appropriate to the task, purpose, and audience
- Reviewing and paraphrasing key ideas and multiple perspectives of a speaker

In 7<sup>th</sup> grade, your student will analyze, define, compare, and evaluate ideas when reading, writing, speaking, and listening. He or she will continue to analyze how themes in fiction and nonfiction develop over the course of a book or article. In 7<sup>th</sup> grade, students' ability to cite specific evidence when offering an interpretation of a text matures. They use relevant evidence when supporting their own points in writing and speaking, making their reasoning clear to readers or listeners or constructively evaluating others' use of evidence.



HOUSTON COUNTY  
BOARD OF EDUCATION  
HIGH-ACHIEVING STUDENTS

*By the end of 7<sup>th</sup> grade, all students are expected to:*

- *Use words, patterns in words, and word meanings to read fluently and comprehend effectively;*
- *Apply grade-appropriate language skills in writing;*
- *Self-monitor to correct errors when reading and writing;*
- *Talk with and listen to peers about one's reading and writing to become lifelong readers and writers; and*
- *Use reading and writing to communicate through listening, speaking, and viewing.*

# Helping Your Student in 7<sup>th</sup> Grade ELA

Learning does not end in the classroom. Students need help and support at home to succeed in their studies. Try to create a quiet place for your student to study, and carve out time every day when your student can concentrate on reading and writing uninterrupted by friends, brothers or sisters, or other distractions. Sit down with your student at least once a week for 15 to 30 minutes while he or she works on homework. This will keep you informed about what your student is working on, and it will help you be the first to know if your student needs help with specific topics. By taking these small steps, you will be helping your student become successful both in and outside the classroom.

- Read, read, read! The amount your student reads independently is directly connected to his or her success in school.
- Listen with your student to a television reporter, politician, or other speaker. Ask your student to tell you the speaker's main points. Was the speaker trying to convince the audience of something? How?
- Visit a library or bookstore together and ask the librarian or bookseller to recommend young adult books. To find popular young adult books for your student to read, visit <https://tinyurl.com/y3rjcelh>.
- Make time for conversation at home. Discuss current events, shared interests, and future aspirations for education and career.
- Invite your student to participate in an adult gathering, such as a meal with friends, to practice listening skills and making conversation.
- Practice determining meanings of unknown words when you encounter them in written texts, television shows, radio, etc.
- Provide time and space for your student to read independently. This time should be free from distractions such as television.
- Ask your student what topics, events, or activities he or she likes. Then look for books, magazines, or other materials about those topics that would motivate your student to read.
- It is also helpful when your student sees other people reading at home. You could share what you have read.
- Visit museums, zoos, theaters, historical sites, aquariums, and other educational places to help increase your student's exposure to new knowledge and vocabulary.
- Use technology to help build your student's interest in reading. There are several websites where students can read books or articles online. The computer will help with words the student cannot read independently. Libraries also have computers students can use to access those sites. Feel free to ask a librarian or teacher for suggestions.



# 7<sup>th</sup> ELA System Pacing Overview



This guide provides an overview of what your student will learn in his or her 7<sup>th</sup> Grade English Language Arts course. It focuses on the key skills your student will learn, which will build a strong foundation for success in the other subjects studied throughout middle school. This guide is based on the state-adopted Georgia Standards of Excellence.

<p><b>1<sup>st</sup> 6 weeks</b></p> <p>Essential Question: What can blur the lines between what's real and what's not?</p>	<p><b>2<sup>nd</sup> 6 weeks</b></p> <p>Essential Question: How do actions define us?</p>	<p><b>3<sup>rd</sup> 6 weeks</b></p> <p>Essential Question: Is space exploration a daring adventure or dangerous risk?</p>
<p><b>Performance Goal: Developing an informational essay</b></p>	<p><b>Performance Goal: Developing an informational essay</b></p>	<p><b>Performance Goal: Developing an argument essay</b></p>
<p><b>Learning Goals:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● Informational Writing</li> <li>● Analyzing Plot and Flashback</li> <li>● Analyzing Character Traits</li> <li>● Determine Author's Purpose</li> <li>● Citing Evidence</li> <li>● Analyzing Rhyme</li> <li>● Analyzing Rhyme Scheme and Mood</li> <li>● Comparing Moods</li> <li>● Analyzing Narrator</li> <li>● Analyzing Graphic Novels</li> <li>● Comparing Versions</li> <li>● Suffixes</li> <li>● Reference Resources</li> <li>● Glossary Skills</li> <li>● Word Origins</li> <li>● Correlative Conjunctions</li> <li>● Commas</li> <li>● Complex Sentences: Subordinating Conjunctions</li> </ul> <p><b>Vocabulary Words:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● Abnormal</li> <li>● Feature</li> <li>● Focus</li> <li>● Perceive</li> <li>● Task</li> </ul>	<p><b>Learning Goals:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● Informative Writing</li> <li>● Analyzing Character</li> <li>● Analyzing Conflict</li> <li>● Analyzing Myths</li> <li>● Determining Themes</li> <li>● Analyzing Form in Poetry</li> <li>● Analyzing Word Choice</li> <li>● Analyzing Plot</li> <li>● Making Inferences</li> <li>● Determining Author's Purpose</li> <li>● Citing Evidence and Evaluating Details</li> <li>● Analyzing Setting and Conflict</li> <li>● Analyzing Structure</li> <li>● Comparing Characters and People</li> <li>● Greek Prefixes</li> <li>● Suffixes</li> <li>● Latin Roots</li> <li>● Denotation and Connotation</li> <li>● Possessive Nouns</li> <li>● Context Clues</li> <li>● Types of Clauses</li> <li>● Commas and Coordinate Adjectives</li> <li>● Sentence Structure</li> <li>● Precise Language</li> </ul> <p><b>Vocabulary Words:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● Aspect</li> <li>● Cultural</li> <li>● Evaluate</li> <li>● Resource</li> <li>● Text</li> </ul>	<p><b>Learning Goals:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● Writing Argument</li> <li>● Analyzing Science Fiction</li> <li>● Analyzing Mood</li> <li>● Analyzing Central Ideas</li> <li>● Analyzing Structure</li> <li>● Analyzing Author's Purpose</li> <li>● Analyzing Repetition</li> <li>● Analyzing Form</li> <li>● Analyzing Theme</li> <li>● Analyzing Argument</li> <li>● Analyzing Rhetorical Devices</li> <li>● Comparing Arguments</li> <li>● Latin Roots</li> <li>● Greek Roots</li> <li>● Word Origins</li> <li>● Connotations and Denotations</li> <li>● Using a Dictionary</li> <li>● Dangling Modifiers</li> <li>● Capitalization</li> <li>● Commas after Introductory Phrases</li> <li>● Subordinating Conjunctions in Complex Sentences</li> <li>● Subject-Verb Agreement</li> </ul> <p><b>Vocabulary Words:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● Complex</li> <li>● Potential</li> <li>● Rely</li> <li>● Stress</li> <li>● Valid</li> </ul>

<p align="center"><b>4<sup>th</sup> 6 weeks</b></p> <p align="center">Essential Question: What does it mean to be in harmony with nature?</p>	<p align="center"><b>5<sup>th</sup> 6 weeks</b></p> <p align="center">Essential Question: How do games impact our lives?</p>	<p align="center"><b>6<sup>th</sup> 6 weeks</b></p> <p align="center">Essential Question: How can changing the world change you?</p>
<p align="center"><b>Performance Goal: Developing an argument essay</b></p>	<p align="center"><b>Performance Goal: Developing a narrative essay</b></p>	<p align="center"><b>Performance Goal: Developing a research report</b></p>
<p><b>Learning Goals:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● Argument Writing</li> <li>● Analyzing Theme</li> <li>● Analyzing Style and Figurative Language</li> <li>● Analyzing Argument</li> <li>● Analyzing Point of View and Purpose</li> <li>● Analyzing Memoir</li> <li>● Analyzing Sonnets</li> <li>● Analyzing Rhyme Scheme</li> <li>● Analyzing Odes</li> <li>● Analyzing Lyric Poetry</li> <li>● Comparing Forms and Elements</li> <li>● Analyzing Persuasive Media</li> <li>● Analyzing Video</li> <li>● Analyzing a Poster</li> <li>● Analogies</li> <li>● Synonyms and Antonyms</li> <li>● Figures of Speech</li> <li>● Sentence Variety</li> <li>● Sentence Structure</li> <li>● Precise Language</li> </ul> <p><b>Vocabulary Words:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● Affect</li> <li>● Element</li> <li>● Ensure</li> <li>● Participate</li> <li>● Specify</li> </ul>	<p><b>Learning Goals:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● Analyzing Conflict</li> <li>● Analyzing Point of View</li> <li>● Analyzing Purpose and Perspective</li> <li>● Predicting</li> <li>● Determining Central Ideas</li> <li>● Analyzing Organizational Structures</li> <li>● Analyzing Novel in Verse</li> <li>● Analyzing Figurative Language</li> <li>● Analyzing Two-Voice Poetry</li> <li>● Making Inferences</li> <li>● Comparing Themes</li> <li>● Writing a Short Story</li> </ul> <p><b>Vocabulary Words:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● Attitude</li> <li>● Consume</li> <li>● Goal</li> <li>● Purchase</li> <li>● Style</li> </ul>	<p><b>Learning Goals:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● Analyzing Realistic Fiction</li> <li>● Analyzing Character</li> <li>● Questioning</li> <li>● Analyzing Point of View and Irony</li> <li>● Analyzing Themes</li> <li>● Analyzing Free-Verse Poetry</li> <li>● Paraphrasing History Writing</li> <li>● Determining Central Ideas</li> <li>● Analyzing Historical Fiction</li> <li>● Analyzing Setting and Motivation</li> <li>● Comparing Authors' Perspectives</li> <li>● Analyzing a Documentary</li> <li>● Writing a Research Report</li> <li>● Participating in a Panel Discussion</li> </ul> <p><b>Vocabulary Words:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● Contrast</li> <li>● Despite</li> <li>● Error</li> <li>● Inadequate</li> <li>● Interact</li> </ul>