

CALVARY ACADEMY: SYLLABUS

Class name: English 8

Instructor: Janet Brandenburg

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Textbooks: Vocabulary, Spelling, and Poetry II

Grammar and Composition II

Of Places

Publisher: A Beka Books (no ISBN numbers)

I. COURSE DESCRIPTION

English 8 is the second of a three-year basic curriculum of junior high level basic skills in language arts. It continues to reinforce spelling and vocabulary, expands on parts of speech and basic parts of the sentence. Reading comprehension, book reports, and poetry memorization are stressed. A research paper is assigned in the second semester where library research, notetaking, bibliographic form, and composition writing skills are taught.

II. COURSE OBJECTIVES

1. To accurately spell basic eighth grade level spelling and vocabulary words
2. To accurately define eighth grade level vocabulary words and use them in context correctly
3. To recognize the eight parts of speech within a sentence and the clause
4. To identify all basic parts of the sentence and the clause
5. To write a clear, well-ordered composition adequately covering an eighth-grade level novel
6. To successfully read and comprehend on at least an eighth grade level, 200 wpm at 100%
7. To memorize two designated poems per quarter, eight poems within the four-quarter period
8. To write an at least five-page research paper, using a minimum of eleven bibliographic sources, and a topical outline

III. METHODS OF TEACHING

1. Bi-weekly reading comprehension assignments with tests in class
2. Daily in-class review/discussion of grammar concepts
3. Daily in-class homework grading
4. Weekly peer tutoring review
5. Question and Answer
6. Daily homework assigned
7. Testing twice a week

IV. EVALUATION

1. Book reports: 10%
2. Poetry tests: 10%
3. Grammar tests: 20%
(Research paper one quarter)
4. Literature tests: 20%
5. Spelling tests: 20%
6. Homework: 20%

V. GRADING SCALE

- A 100--94%
- B 93--86%
- C 85--78%
- D 77--70%
- F 69—below

VI. COURSE OUTLINE

1. Grammar yearly substance: Capitalization, punctuation, sentence structure (quarter one)
Verbs, nouns (quarter two)
Nouns, pronouns (quarter three)

Adjectives, adverbs, prepositions, conjunctions,
interjections (quarter four)

2. Spelling and vocabulary weekly: Tuesdays, Wednesdays, Fridays
3. Grammar each day
4. Literature testing: Mondays and Wednesdays
5. Poetry review three days per week; testing two times per quarter
6. Book reports reviewed one time per week: Thursdays. Reports due twice per quarter

VII. BOOK REPORT GUIDELINES

The book reports are in two forms: written and oral format. Students do four of each format. Both formats include the basic structure:

1. Introduction
2. Setting
3. Characters
4. Plot overview
5. Theme/message
6. Evaluation
7. Recommendation/conclusion