

6th Grade English Language Arts***Important Due Dates***

Essays are worth 30% of the quarterly grade!		Accelerated Reader Quizzes comprise 10% of the quarterly grade!		
Quarter 1: Narrative Essay	10/11/2019	AR Quiz #1	AR Quiz #2	AR Quiz #3
Quarter 2: Persuasive Essay	12/20/2019	Quarter 1	9/6/2019	9/27/2019
Quarter 3: Expository Essay	3/6/2020	Quarter 2	11/8/2019	12/2/2019
Quarter 4: Solo & Team Poems	5/4/2020	Quarter 3	2/7/2020	2/28/2020
Tests: We will take a Spelling or Reading test <i>almost</i> every Friday.		Quarter 4	4/17/2020	There is only one quiz during 4th quarter.
Homework: Students will have a very short (generally 5-10 minutes at most) homework assignment Monday through Thursday of each week. The homework is specifically to help them study for their weekly test.		Books need to be at least Book Level (BL) 4.8 , and they need to be worth at least 3 points . To find this information for a book your student is interested in reading, search for its title at www.ARBookFind.com .		

TEXTBOOKS & ACADEMIC RESOURCES:

- A **class novel** for the first 3 quarters of the school year. Students will be required to take the Accelerated Reader quizzes for these books.
 - ★ Quarter One: **Hatchet** by Gary Paulsen.
 - ★ Quarter Two: **Freedom Walkers: The Story of the Montgomery Bus Boycott** by Russell Freedman.
 - ★ Quarter Three: **Black Ships Before Troy: The Story of the Iliad** by Rosemary Sutcliff.
- **Spelling Workbook** for Grade 6
- Digital media provided on each student's tablet.
 - ★ **Clever.com** is our district's digital portal to academic resources.
 - ★ **StudySync** curriculum by Prentice Hall. Accessible via Clever.
 - ★ **Google Classroom**.
 - ★ <https://game.ClassCraft.com> student participation and rewards/consequences tracker. Students can log in with their school-provided Google accounts.
- Additional materials provided by the teacher.

REQUIRED MATERIALS:

Students need to have these items with them every day, and they will lose points in ClassCraft if they are unprepared.

I. Their school-assigned computer **tablet**.

II. A three-ring binder (or similar organizer) in which to keep their Spelling Workbook and writing exercises.

III. A blue or black **pen**.

IV. Two sharpened, number two **pencils** (or mechanical pencils).

V. White, wide-ruled **paper**.

VI. Their school-issued planner to keep track of assignments and important dates.

GRADES:

The following areas will make up the student's total grade.

Classwork/Homework Assignments = 30%

Tests = 30%

Projects/Essays = 30%

Accelerated Reader quizzes = 10%

MAKE-UP WORK:

No late work will be accepted without an excused absence. The teacher reserves the right not to accept late assignments. Any assignments that ARE accepted late will lose 10% of the grade per day that they are late.

1.) Always contact the teacher (email is the best method), or a classmate when you need to find out about missed assignments, or need help completing them.

2.) Students are responsible for arranging make-up tests with the teacher. Make sure that you speak with Mr. Gadd when you know that you need to make up work.

3.) If you cannot be at school on the date that an assignment is due, but you have completed it, you can email **most** assignments to Mr. Gadd at this email address: CGadd@wccusd.net .

CONTACTING THE TEACHER:

Parents and students can always reach Mr. Gadd by email. In addition, Mr. Gadd will send out periodic updates through the Remind service <https://www.remind.com> . The sign-up information for your class is located on my teacher website at <https://MrGadd.net> .

CLASSROOM RULES:

West Contra Costa Unified Schools have adopted the PBIS model, and students will be rewarded when they exemplify it. We will cover PBIS in more detail, but the basic rules are:

1.) Be kind.

2.) Be responsible.

3.) Be safe.

CHEATING/PLAGIARISM:

Students caught cheating or plagiarizing work will automatically be given a failing grade on that assignment or test, and they will not be given an opportunity to make up that work. Their parents will be contacted about the incident, and a referral will be sent to their counselor in the office. Hercules Middle School does not tolerate cheating or plagiarism.