

## 5<sup>th</sup> Grade Reading Course Overview, SY 2008-09

### Major Topics of Study

Reading Strategies (main idea, context clues, compare/contrast, predictions, inferences, etc...)  
Comprehension Strategies  
Connections to text, self, and world  
Book genre exploration  
6+1 Traits of Writing  
Writing Process

Each reading class will cover these major topics of study in a variety of ways, drawing from such resources as the Literacy Place Anthologies, novel studies, read-alouds, and class projects.

### Grading System

Grades will be computed electronically and weighted as follows:

Homework: 25%

Classwork/Participation: 25%

Quiz: 25%

Test: 25%

### Homework Policy

Homework will be assigned periodically. When assigned, it should be turned in during the next class meeting. Assignments turned in one day late will be given a -10 pt. penalty. Assignments turned in two days late will be given a -20 pt. penalty. After two days from original due date, no credit will be granted. Late assignments may be turned in during Seminar or after school. In the event of lengthy absences, an appropriate schedule for make-up work will be coordinated between the teacher and student.

Extra Credit opportunities will periodically be made available to students by the teacher. However, student requests for extra credit will not be granted. Students need to take advantage of Extra Credit when offered!

### Daily Expectations

Students are expected to come to class prepared with the required school supplies (pencil, red pen, highlighter, loose-leaf paper in binder, trade book they are currently reading) and their completed homework. In the event that a novel has been distributed to students for a class novel study, the book needs to come to class, as well. Occasionally, Literacy Place textbooks will be signed out to the students for home use. ***Students will not be allowed to go to their lockers and get forgotten supplies once the bell rings.***

All papers submitted for a grade need to be written in cursive handwriting (few exceptions granted) and have the standard 5<sup>th</sup> grade heading. Papers submitted without the standard heading will lose 5 points. The standard heading is 4 lines and should be written in the upper right hand corner of assignments: Name, Date, Class (ex: Black 5 or Black 7), Assignment.

Students are expected to write their homework in their Student Agenda. Parents should check this nightly.

**Students are expected to read 15-30 minutes each night as they work toward the DODEA goal of 25 books read during the year.** Shared reading with an adult or older sibling is encouraged!

In order to help our students reach their reading goal this year, students are expected to read 4 books per quarter within an appropriate range of their reading lexile, as determined by the SRI (Scholastic Reading Inventory). Students will take the SRI at the beginning, middle and end of the year. Reading Counts quiz grades on each book will be recorded as part of the final quarterly grade.

***Being unprepared is disruptive to the class***, and repeat offenders will be handled in accordance with the West Point Middle School discipline policy.

**Discipline Policy**

In response to disruptive behavior (to include missing homework and supplies), the following steps will be taken in succession:

1. I will conference with the student after school or during recess.
2. The student will receive a classroom consequence for their behavior.
3. I will contact the parent via email or telephone and, if necessary, set up a conference.
4. I will fill out a Discipline Referral Form and submit it to Mr. Rudy.