

# Curriculum Night: Language and Literature, Grade 8

Willows Preparatory School 2017-18

Ms. Larisa Merriman



## *I.B. Learning Aims & Goals*

- Use language as vehicle for thought, creativity, reflection, learning, self-expression, analysis and social interaction
- Develop the skills involved in listening, speaking, reading, writing, viewing and presenting in a variety of contexts
- Develop critical, creative and personal approaches to studying and analyzing literary and non-literary texts
- Engage with text from different historical periods and a variety of cultures
- Explore language through a variety of media and modes
- Develop a lifelong interest in reading
- Apply linguistic and literary concepts and skills in a variety of authentic contexts

## *I.B. Learning Objectives*

### Objective A: Analyzing (0-8)

Analyzing writing and choices of the creator

### Objective B: Organizing (0-8)

Using organizational structures and formatting tools

### Objective C: Producing Text (0-8)

Producing thoughtful writing and developing style

### Objective D: Using Language (0-8)

Using vocabulary and writing and speaking conventions

## *I.B. Grading Criteria*

Students will be assessed both by a traditional points system and by I.B. grading criteria. In I.B. grading, the students will receive a 0-8 achievement score in each of the four objectives described in the left column. These scores are added and then converted to a 0-7 final I.B. grade.

Please see handbook for more information about schoolwide grading practices.



**Trimester 1 – Connections, Perspective, Creativity**

Texts:  
*The Iliad*, Homer

*Anthem*, Rand

National Novel Writing Month

*Personal, Cultural Expression*

How does context influence the expression of themes, values and archetypes within a text?

How do specific stylistic choices influence the perspective of the audience?

How do creators appeal to audience imperatives and engage in the writing process?

**Trimester 2 – Communication, Perspective**

Texts:  
*Sorry, Wrong Number*, Fletcher (drama)

*The Rock and the River*, Magoon

*Personal, Cultural Expression*

How do intended modes of communication affect stylistic choices?

*Fairness and Development*

How are characters used as vehicles to explore multiple perspectives of social issues and their solutions?

**Trimester 3 – Communication, Perspective**

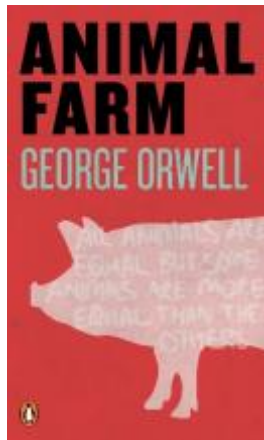
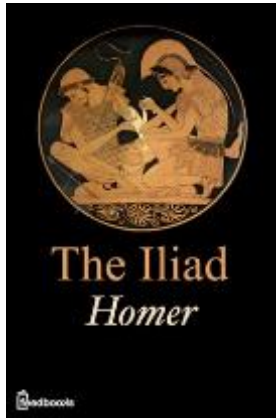
Texts:  
*Animal Farm*, Orwell

*Dust of Eden*, Nagai  
*Salt to the Sea*, Sepetys

*Orientation in Space and Time*

How can literary techniques be used to provide commentary on social issues?

How can the same setting be used within and across texts to provide multiple perspectives of historical events?



**Contact:** [lmerriman@willowsprep.com](mailto:lmerriman@willowsprep.com)

Expect responses within 24 hours on weekdays and 48 hours on weekends

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