



St. Matthew Catholic High School

Grade 7 Language Arts



Description and Overall Expectations: The language curriculum is based on the belief that literacy is critical to responsible and productive citizenship, and that *all students can become literate*. The curriculum is designed to provide students with the knowledge and skills that they need to achieve this goal. The study of language and the acquisition of literacy skills are not restricted to the language program, and this curriculum promotes the integration of the study of language with the study of other subjects.

ORAL COMMUNICATION: listen in order to understand and respond appropriately in a variety of situations for a variety of purposes; use speaking skills and strategies appropriately to communicate with different audiences for a variety of purposes; reflect on and identify their strengths as listeners and speakers, areas for improvement, and the strategies they found most helpful in oral communication situations.

READING: read and demonstrate an understanding of a variety of literary, graphic, and informational texts, using a range of strategies to construct meaning; recognize a variety of text forms, text features, and stylistic elements and demonstrate understanding of how they help communicate meaning; use knowledge of words and cueing systems to read fluently; reflect on and identify their strengths as readers, areas for improvement, and the strategies they found most helpful before, during, and after reading.

WRITING: generate, gather, and organize ideas and information to write for an intended purpose and audience; draft and revise their writing, using a variety of informational, literary, and graphic forms and stylistic elements appropriate for the purpose and audience; use editing, proofreading, and publishing skills and strategies, and knowledge of language conventions, to correct errors, refine expression, and present their work effectively; reflect on and identify their strengths as writers, areas for improvement, and the strategies they found most helpful at different stages in the writing process.

MEDIA LITERACY: demonstrate an understanding of a variety of media texts; identify some media forms and explain how the conventions and techniques associated with them are used to create meaning; create a variety of media texts for different purposes and audiences, using appropriate forms, conventions, and techniques; reflect on and identify their strengths as media interpreters and creators, areas for improvement, and the strategies they found most helpful in understanding and creating media texts.

Subject Resources: [Key resource\(s\) along with supplementary resources / digital tools and sites / passwords; include replacement cost for resources if lost/damaged.](#)

Catholic Graduate Expectations: Our goal for all students is to experience an education based on our Catholic Graduate Expectations. <http://www.iceont.ca>

We work in community to develop graduates that are:

- Discerning Believers Formed in the Catholic Faith Community
- Effective Communicators
- Reflective and Creative Thinkers
- Self-Directed, Responsible, Life-Long Learners
- Collaborative Contributors
- Caring Family Members
- Responsible Citizens

Assessment, Evaluation and Reporting: The primary purpose of assessment and evaluation is to improve student learning. Students will understand what is expected of them, using learning goals, and success criteria, based on the overall expectations. Feedback (self, peer, teacher) supports learning, and plays a critical role in academic achievement and success.

The development of learning skills and work habits is a key indicator of future success. The following learning skills and work habits will be developed, assessed, and reported during this course:

1. Responsibility fulfills responsibilities and commitments (*e.g. accepts and acts on feedback*)
2. Organization manages time to complete tasks and achieve goals (*e.g. meets goals, on time*)
3. Independent work uses class time appropriately to complete tasks (*e.g. monitors own learning*)
4. Collaboration works with others, promotes critical thinking (*e.g. provides feedback to peers*)
5. Initiative demonstrates curiosity and an interest in learning (*e.g. sets high goals*)
6. Self-Regulation sets goals, monitors progress towards achieving goals (*e.g. sets, reflects goals*)

Group work supports collaboration, an important 21st century skill. This will be assessed only as a learning skill. Homework may also be assessed as a learning skill. Evaluation completed in class will be based only on individual student work. Regular attendance is important to support group work, various forms of feedback, and to allow students to demonstrate evidence of their learning. Students are responsible for providing evidence of their own learning in class, within given timelines. Next steps in response to academic integrity issues, such as lack of work completion, plagiarism, or other forms of cheating, range from providing alternate opportunities, to a deduction of marks.

The achievement chart identifies four levels, based on achievement of the overall expectations:

Level 1	achievement falls below the provincial standard	(50-59%)
Level 2	achievement approaches the provincial standard	(60-69%)
Level 3	achievement is at the provincial standard	(70-79%)
Level 4	achievement surpasses the provincial standard	(80-100%)

Reporting on Student Learning:

Student learning will include a variety of assessment tasks designed to demonstrate students' development in their knowledge and understanding, thinking, communication and application of all overall expectations.

The fall progress report gives feedback on learning skills (i.e, needs improvement, satisfactory, good or excellent) and emerging student achievement (i.e. progressing with difficulty, progressing well, progressing very well)

The report card grade will be based on evidence of student learning, including observations, conversations and student products. Consideration will be given to more recent evidence (skill development) and the most consistent level of achievement.

Student and Parent/Guardian Acknowledgement

We have read the above course outline and are aware of the student responsibilities to attend class on a regular basis and to provide evidence of learning within the established timelines.

Student's Name (print): _____ Student's Signature: _____

Parent/Guardian Name (print): _____ Parent/Guardian Signature: _____