

8th Grade English Course Description

The English curriculum is designed to develop the skills of communication: writing, speaking, listening, viewing, and researching. Development of these skills not only assists students in making their communications clear, but will help the students here at St. Joan of Arc School reach all their academic goals.

Grammar Units

All grammar units will consist of your child taking notes in class, various class activities, workbook pages and other writing assignments done in class and/or for homework.

Subjects and Predicates pg 325

Nouns pg 344 Common, proper, singular, plural, possessive, collective, appositives

Verbs pg 368 Action, indirect objects, predicate words, present, past, future tenses, progressive forms (continuing action), Main verbs, helping verbs, perfect tenses (indefinite time in the past), Irregular, active (does action) and passive (receives action) voice.

Pronouns pg 401 Personal, antecedents, possessive, indefinite, reflexive (same person involved, Needed for sentence to make sense) Intensive (adds emphasis, take out sentence still makes sense), interrogative (introduces an interrogative sentence, who, whom, what, whose which)
Demonstrative (points out something, this that these those)

Adjectives pg. 415 (adverbs & adj. One unit)
Proper, articles, demonstrative, adj that compare,

Adverbs pg. 424 (describes a verb, adj, or adverb)
Modifying verbs, modifying adj. Comparative and superlative adj. & adverbs.

Prepositions pg. 448 (relates a noun /pronoun with another word in the sentence)
Conjunctions (and, but or) pg. 454
Interjections pg. 458

Types of Writing

Listed below are the types of writing that will be covered this year in 8th grade English class along with the grammar units. There are numerous project and different types of writing assignments that will correspond with each type of writing. There are examples listed for each type of writing.

Personal journals

The writing process pg. 42 (prewriting, drafting, revising, editing/proofreading, publishing/presenting)

Descriptive writing pg. 100 (painting a picture with your words)

Narrative writing pg. 142 (tells a story)

Expository writing pg. 190 Research Paper (shares knowledge, informs, explains, defines, classifies, gives directions)

Persuasive writing pg. 254 (win over your audience, persuade them to see your side)

Example: students must write an essay to convince their classmates of something.

Why pizza is the best food on the planet?