

# English 8 Course Outline

Ms. Sanders



## Course Objectives:

- **Oral Language.** You will be encouraged to develop your speaking, listening, and group work skills. This includes responding (out loud) to texts in a personal, critical, and creative manner.
- **Reading and Viewing.** You will learn to deconstruct and analyze a variety of visual images. You will also be focusing on strategies to improve your silent reading, reading comprehension, and personal responses to reading. These strategies will include: questioning, connecting, inferring, visualizing, synthesizing and justifying your opinions.
- **Writing and Representing.** You will create personal goals that will aim to improve your writing in many of the following areas: organization, ideas, voice, word choice, sentence fluency, conventions and presentation. To apply these skills, we will do a variety of activities: daily vocabulary work, regular journal responses, plenty of persuasive writing, plenty of creative writing, and several visual representations.
- **Critical Thinking:** You will be encouraged to think critically and creatively, and to reflect on your thinking and learning. We will discuss strategies, which you will use in order to do this effectively.
- **Connections:** You will be challenged to make connections between texts and the world around you and to develop a continuously increasing understanding of self and others, with a focus on diversity.
- **One of the most important objectives of this class is for you to discover and explore new sources of personally enjoyable literature.**

## Classroom Expectations:

- **Be Respectful:** A respectful attitude will help all of us be comfortable enough to express our ideas, to make mistakes and to learn. It is important that students respect themselves, respect others and respect their environment. We need to respect each other's heritage and to demonstrate an awareness and acceptance of diversity.
- **Be Prepared:** It is important that you be on time, come to class willing to work and bring all necessary supplies to class (especially your silent reading book). Your level of preparation will impact the **work habit** mark on your report card. Read your OKM student handbook to make sure you know what is expected of you!
- **Hand in all assignments on time!** This makes life easier for both of us. Each assignment you have returned to you will have a work habit mark assigned. Read your GMS student handbook to make sure you know what is expected of you!
- **Missed Classes:** You are responsible for all of the work that you miss and you must take the initiative to check with a friend or to check my website to find out what work you should hand in.

## Grades:

<b>Primary Learning Objectives:</b>	
Oral Language	30%
Writing and Representing	30%
Reading and Viewing	40%

## Work Ethic Rubric:

- See your school calendar.

## Contact Information

- I am available for extra help most days before and after school.
- Email: [jennifer.sanders@sd23.bc.ca](mailto:jennifer.sanders@sd23.bc.ca) - This is the best way to reach me!
- Website: [www.sandersgms.com](http://www.sandersgms.com) – Check this if you are absent!