# 6th Grade English

# Mrs. Veronica Walters

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# While email is the preferred method of communication, teachers may also be reached by school voicemail.

# Dial 215-809-6220; when prompted, scroll for teacher’s last name.

**Class Description:** This language arts class is designed to increase your communications skills through reading, writing, speaking, and the study of the English language. Our primary focus in language arts class will be mastery of different writing styles, demonstration of the rules of grammar, and the ability to express yourself orally.

This year you can expect to read a variety of fiction and non-fiction including novels, short stories, dramas, poetry, and essays. These writing pieces will model the different writing styles we will be working on ourselves. Writing assignments will include timed responses, journal writing, essays, critiques, and creative pieces. Vocabulary and grammar assignments will also be an important part of this class. Because we are a community of learners, please also expect to work in group situations and to present information to your peers in groups or individually.

Please understand that at-home reading and writing is expected and is a component of our course. You will be held accountable for at-home assignments by various methods.

**Our major units of study will include but are not limited to:**

* Narrative writing\*
* Expository writing (descriptive, explanation, comparison and contrast, problem/solution)\*
* Technical writing (friendly letters, thank-you notes, instructions, web pages)\*
* Persuasive writing/Speech writing and delivery\*
* Poetry
* Short stories
* Sentence Fluency and Construction
* Vocabulary (related to readings/novels)
* Standard grammar and mechanics

\*Throughout all of our writing, we will also utilize the multi-step writing process to develop, revise, evaluate, and improve our products. In our course of study in all the units, we will address the various elements of specific genres (including but not limited to organization, purpose, audience, narration, conflict, sound, graphics, tone, and theme).

**Grading Policy:**

In our class, you will be graded informally and formally, using several different types of assessments. The largest percentage of their grade will be assessed through applying newly learned skills in written assessments, projects, conferences, and tests.

Grades will be available on Home Access.

90-100% A

80-89% B

70-79% C

60-69% D

50-59% F

**Required Materials:**

\*Binder (No larger than 2 inch)

\*Independent reading book (can be the same book for reading class)

\* marble notebook

\*5 Dividers

\*Notebook paper

\*Writing Utensils (Black/blue pens or mechanical pencils are required.)

**Returned Work:**

All work will be graded and returned in-class in a timely manner. Please allow a while longer for lengthier writing assignments. Students will have an opportunity to review their graded work, and then they will be asked to file the writing assignments into their class portfolios. Portfolios are used to gauge student progress throughout the year.

**Assignments:** All assignments must be submitted by the given due date and are due at the beginning of the class period unless otherwise stated. All homework is due the next day unless otherwise stated.

**Late Assignments/Missed Work:** Any assignments not received on or before the due date are considered late. In order to receive credit for any missed assignments, students must have an excusable absence, tardy, or early dismissal. It is the student’s responsibility to check with the teacher regarding any late/missed assignments and their due date. Points will be deducted for late work.

**Cheating/Plagiarism**

Cheating and/or plagiarism will not be tolerated and will result in an automatic grade of zero. This includes copying homework, classwork, test answers, talking during a test or quiz, allowing someone to copy your work, and trying to pass off someone else’s work as your own.

**Electronic Devices**

All **Chromebook** must be charged on a nightly basis; they will be used for instruction.

I am looking forward to this year. Thank you for sharing your child with me!

If you have any questions, please contact me.