

Gifted Language Arts

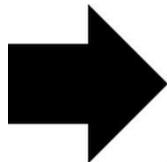
Gifted vs. Honors	Benefits to Gifted	Reading List
<p><u>Similarities</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Same class sizes • Same expectation of excellence • Same common assessments <p><u>Differences</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Rigor • Processes • Products produced • Reading assignments (occasionally) • BETTER PREP FOR AP and DUAL ENROLLMENT 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Greater emphasis on critical and creative thinking and writing skills, especially analysis and synthesis • More opportunities for enhanced core knowledge • Expanded exposure to important traditions in literature such as archetypes and structure • Frequent class discussion and interaction occurs • Increased development of clarity, fluency, and specificity in composition • Independent and cooperative learning experiences are frequent 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>The Odyssey</i> • <i>Night</i> • <i>Romeo and Juliet</i> • <i>Much Ado About Nothing</i> • <i>To Kill a Mockingbird</i> • Various poems, short non-fiction pieces, and short stories

Language Arts Course Recommendations for Gifted Students

Mountain View High School expects gifted students to strive for excellence at the highest level, and those students will, with few exceptions, take all of their English language arts courses at the gifted level. We, in turn, strive to present a challenging environment that will best serve to prepare gifted students for college-level rigor and expectations.

The chart below shows the path gifted students will follow in their language arts courses:

9th	10th	11th	12th
Gifted 9th LA			
Course grade of 74-100 ?	Gifted 10th LA	Gifted AP Language (with American Literature) or Dual Enrollment	Gifted AP Literature or Dual Enrollment
Course grade of 73 or below ?	CP 10th LA	CP 11th American Literature	CP 12th British Literature



And now, some advice from the experts.....

PARENTS SHARE WITH TEENS: PASSING EVERY COURSE MATTERS

Important information to share and frequently discuss with your child in grade nine is that every course that she or he takes in high school has a profound impact on graduating on time! National graduation statistics

indicate that **students who fail just one course** in grade nine significantly decrease their chances of graduating, and **students who miss three or more days per month** are considered at risk of not being successful as well.

These skills honed in language arts increase success across disciplines:

- Close Reading
- Critical Thinking
- Clear Writing
- Concise Communicating

HIGH SCHOOL: IT IS HARDER THAN MIDDLE SCHOOL

Mr. Chris Alexander is the MVHS grade 9 language arts teacher leader. His team is dedicated to supporting your student. His advice for freshmen is: Be confident in your work and yourself. High school is harder than middle school, so you might take a while to acclimate to your new surroundings and the rigors of the curriculum. Don't get discouraged if grades are not immediately as high as they were last year; use it as motivation to study harder. Study. Talk to your teacher. Form study groups. Solicit tutoring and advice from upperclassmen. You can do well!!

Sincerely, Mr. Alexander



THE INSIDE SCOOP: HOMEWORK TALKS WORK

Today's students have busier schedules than their parents may have had when they were in high school and face greater demands on their time outside of school. Today's parents have busier schedules than their parents may have had. The one constant, however, is a parent's natural desire to help a child succeed.

One way parents can help their children is to discuss homework assignments with them. Students should make time every day for studying, reviewing notes, reading, and practicing skills taught in class that day. When parents take time to talk with them about their studies, students can better recognize the value of homework, and both parents and students can better understand the course requirements. Parents do not need to know the material their students are studying to convey to them the importance of learning.

Take some time each day to talk over assignments with your student. You will find it beneficial to learning and to your student's success in high school.

Warmest regards,
Mrs. Elaine Gouge
Language Arts Department Chair
Mountain View High School