

*Elizabethtown Area
School District*

7th Grade Communication Arts

Name of Course

Course Number:

Length of Course: 184 days

Grade Level: 7

Total Clock Hours: 150 hours

Length of Period: 50 minutes

Date Written: January 17, 2005

Periods per Week/Cycle: 5 per week

Written By: 7th Grade
Communication Arts Teachers

Credits (if app.):

Course Description:

Reading, writing, speaking and listening are skills and abilities that are needed for all written and oral communication. By coordinating the PDE state standards and EASD curriculum, teachers will provide focused experiences that will enable students to develop and refine independent communication skills. This course is organized through themes to assist in connecting learning to real life situations. Students will progress through the continuum of skills and strategies while teachers monitor and address individual needs. The organization of themes and skills/strategies has been intertwined to allow for the revisiting of certain essentials to develop/maintain skill proficiency.

Elizabethtown Area

School District

I. Overall Course/Grade Level Standards

Students will KNOW and be able TO DO the following as a result of taking this course.

A. Read novels, plays, and short stories independently focusing on fluency, comprehension, vocabulary, and introduce skills of inference.

B. Select, read, explain and utilize several non-fiction pieces from various forms of media, learning to evaluate text organization and author's purpose according to author's accuracy and thoroughness.

C. Using various pieces of literature, including fiction, nonfiction, poetry, and drama, students will analyze and interpret their reading, making connections to self, society, and/or other texts. Introduction to literary genres is a key element of this standard.

D. Introduce a variety of writing modes. These modes include poetry, narrative, information, and persuasive pieces. Five paragraph essays are focused in the informational mode with an introduction to persuasive elements.

E. Write a five paragraph essay, which consists of an introduction paragraph, three supportive and detailed body paragraphs, and a concluding paragraph which includes summary. Students will be introduced to the use of sophisticated transitions and thesis statements and their use within an essay. Edit writing using the conventions of language.

F. Present a well organized speech which effectively demonstrates usage of information. Listen to and respond appropriately to instruction, oral readings, classroom discussions, and speeches.

G. Learn the origin of root words in order to be able to recognize, understand, and integrate new words into their reading vocabulary.

H. Select a topic of research, locate necessary information using appropriate sources and strategies, organize and present the information, and provide formal credit of sources.

***Elizabethtown Area
School District***

**II. Content
Major Areas of Study**

List all units of study below:

<u>Theme</u>	<u>Estimated Time</u>	<u>Materials</u>
Unlocking the Door to the Future	6 weeks	Literature Anthology Teacher made materials Writing Text
Animal Adventures	6 weeks	Literature Anthology Teacher created materials Writing Text Short Story
Influential People of the Past	6 weeks	Literature Anthology Teacher created materials Writing Text
Unsolved Mysteries	6 weeks	Literature Anthology Teacher created materials Writing Text Internet Articles PSSA Reading Coach
Discovering Literary Treasures	6 weeks	Novels Teacher made materials
Generations	6 weeks	Literature Anthology Teacher created materials Writing Text Short Stories

Elizabethtown Area School District

Name of Course: Comm Arts 7
 Name of Theme: Unlocking the Door to the Future

Essential Questions for the Theme

1. How do I write a multi-paragraph informational letter? 1.4B
2. How do I speak effectively to convey meaning? 1.6C
3. How do I define, spell, and apply weekly wordlist vocabulary? 1.1C,F
4. How do I use conventions correctly? 1.5F
5. What is the purpose of using prepositional phrases in sentences? 1.5F
6. How do I speak effectively to convey meaning? 1.6C
7. How do I listen effectively? 1.6A,B,D,E

Unit Objectives/Key Questions	Priority	Aligned to Course Standard	Aligned to PA Standard
A. Letter Home / Presentation			
1. What is a thesis?	E	E	1.5A
2. What is a transition?	E	E	1.5C
3. What are the three components to an essay?	E	D	1.4B
4. How do I write a rough draft of an informational letter?	E	D	1.4B
5. How do I revise and edit the rough draft of an informational letter?	E	D,E	1.4B, 1.5E,F
6. How do I write a final draft of an informational letter?	E	D	1.4B
7. What are the characteristics of an effective oral presentation?	E	F	1.6C
8. What are the characteristics of being an effective audience?	E	F	1.6A
B. PSSA Writing Requirements Review			
1. What are the PSSA writing requirements, and how do they help your writing?	E	E	1.5A-F
C. Weekly Wordlist Vocabulary			
1. How do I spell, define, and apply the ten weekly wordlist vocabulary words?	E	A	1.1C R7.A.1.1 R7.A.1.2 R7.A.2.2
D. Literature Concepts Review			
1. What are author's purpose, setting, characterization, plot, theme, style, and point of view?	E	C	1.3B R7.B.2.2
E. Preposition Review			
1. What is a preposition?	I	E	1.5F
2. What is a prepositional phrase?	I	E	1.5F

3. How do I locate a prepositional phrase in a sentence?	I	E	1.5F
4. How do I include prepositional phrases in my writing?	I	E	1.5D

Elizabethtown Area School District

Name of Course: Comm Arts 7

Name of Theme: Animal Adventures

Essential Questions for the Theme:

1. What are the literary elements in literature? 1.3B
2. How do I write a level 4 PSSA reader response? 1.1G, 1.3 A,F
3. How do I write an effective narrative piece? 1.4A
4. How do I spell, define, and apply the weekly wordlist vocabulary? 1.1C, F
5. How do I write an effective, complete sentence? 1.3C, 1.5C, F
6. How do I write an effective multi-paragraph informational piece? 1.1G, 1.3A, C, E, F, 1.4B, 1.5 A-F
7. How do I speak effectively to convey meaning? 1.6C
8. How do I listen effectively? 1.6A,B,D,E

Unit Objectives/Key Questions	Priority	Aligned to Course Standard	Aligned to PA Standard	
A. PSSA Reading Response 1. How do we write a proficient reader response? 2. How do we connect literature to experiences, texts, concepts, issues, and cultural settings?	E E	A,C A,C	1.1G, 1.3A.F 1.1G, 1.3A,F R7.A.1.3 R7.A.1.4 R7.A.1.5	
B. Scary Experience 1. How do I write a rough draft of a narrative piece? 2. How do I revise and edit the rough draft of a narrative piece? 3. How do I write a final draft of a narrative piece? 4. What are the characteristics of an effective oral presentation? 5. What are the characteristics of being an effective audience?	I I I I	D D,E D F F	1.4A 1.4A, 1.5E,F 1.4A 1.6C 1.6A	

<p>C. Sentence Study</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. What are the two key parts of a complete sentence? 2. What makes a fragment? 3. When do we use a comma with an introductory element, compound sentence, and dependent clauses? 4. What is the organizational structure of a circular story? 	<p>E E E E</p>	<p>E E E A</p>	<p>1.5C,F 1.5C,F 1.5C,F 1.1B</p>	
<p>D. "Rikki-Tikki"</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. What are the author's purpose, setting, characterization, plot, theme, style, and point of view of this story? 2. How do I use research to write a proficient multi-paragraph informational piece? 3. How do I make inferences and draw conclusions based on nonfiction text? 	<p>E E E</p>	<p>A C A,B,C,D,E</p>	<p>1.1A,D,G R7.A.3.1 R7.A.1.4 R7.A.1.5 R7.A.3.2 1.3B R7.B.1.1 1.1G, R7.A.1.5 1.3A, C,E,F, R7.A.1.3 1.4B,1.5A-F 1.2A R7.A.2.3</p>	
<p>E. Weekly Wordlist Vocabulary</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. How do I spell, define, and apply the ten weekly wordlist vocabulary words? 	<p>E</p>	<p>A</p>	<p>1.1C R7.A.1.1 R7.A.1.2 R7.A.2.2</p>	

Elizabethtown Area

School District

Name of Course: Comm Arts 7

Name of Theme: Influential People of the Past

Essential Questions for the Theme:

1. How have authors from the past influenced society today? 1.3A
2. How do I write a proficient persuasive piece? 1.4C, 1.5A-F
3. How do I write a level 4 PSSA reader response? 1.1G, 1.3 A, F, 1.4B, 1.5 A-E, 1.6A,B,D
4. How do I speak effectively to convey meaning? 1.6C
5. How do I listen effectively? 1.6A,B,D,E

Unit Objectives/Key Questions	Priority	Aligned to Course Standard	Aligned to PA Standard
A. "A Christmas Carol" 1. What was the author's purpose for writing the story? 2. How do I write a proficient persuasive piece? 3. How do I write a proficient PSSA reader response?	 E E E	 C D A	 1.3B,E R7.B.1.1 R7.A.3.2 R7.A.3.1 1.4C 1.1G R7.A.1.3 R7.A.1.4 R7.A.1.5
B. Weekly Wordlist Vocabulary 1. How do I spell, define, and apply the ten weekly wordlist vocabulary words?	E	A	1.1C R7.A.1.1 R7.A.1.2 R7.A.2.2

Elizabethtown Area School District

Name of Course: Comm Arts 7

Name of Theme: Unsolved Mysteries

Essential Question for the Theme:

1. How do I write a proficient informational piece? 1.1G, 1.3E, 1.4B, 1.3F, 1.5A-F, 1.6B,D
2. How do I write a level 4 PSSA reader response? 1.1G, 1.3A,F
3. How do I speak effectively to convey meaning? 1.6C
4. How do I listen effectively? 1.6A,B,D,E

Unit Objectives/Key Questions	Priority	Aligned to Course Standard	Aligned to PA Standard
A. Mysteries			
1. What are the elements of a mystery?	I	A	1.1G R7.A.1.3 R7.A.1.5 R7.A.2.4 R7.A.2.6 R7.A.2.7
2. How do I use research to write a proficient multi-paragraph informational piece?	E	A,C,D,E	1.1G, 1.3A, C,E,F, 1.4B,1.5A-F
3. How do I read a play effectively?	I	A,C	1.1H, 1.3F
4. What are the characteristics of an effective oral presentation?	E	F	1.6C
5. What are the characteristics of being an effective audience?	I	F	1.6A
B. Weekly Wordlist Vocabulary			
1. How do I spell, define, and apply the ten weekly wordlist vocabulary words?	E	A	1.1C R7.A.1.1 R7.A.1.2 R7.A.2.2

Elizabethtown Area School District

Name of Course: Comm Arts 7

Name of Theme: Discovering Literary Treasures

Essential Questions for the Theme:

1. How do I learn to read independently? 1.1A-D,F,G,H
2. How has language changed over time? 1.7A,B,C
3. How do I write a proficient informational piece? 1.4B, 1.5A-F
4. How do I proficiently use conventions when writing? 1.5F
5. How do I speak effectively to convey meaning? 1.6C
6. How do I listen effectively? 1.6A,B,D,E

Unit Objectives/Key Questions	Priority	Aligned to Course Standard	Aligned to PA Standard
B. Characteristics and Functions of the English Language <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. How do I use research to write a proficient multi-paragraph informational piece? 2. What are the characteristics of an effective oral presentation? 3. What are the characteristics of being an effective audience? 4. How do I define jargon, Standard American English, and slang? 5. What is figurative language? 	 E E I I E	 A,C,D,E,F F F G C	 1.1G, 1.3A, C,E,F, 1.4B,1.5A-F 1.6C 1.6A 1.7B 1.3C
B. Weekly Wordlist Vocabulary <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. How do I spell, define, and apply the ten weekly wordlist vocabulary words? 	 E	 A	 1.1C R7.A.1.1 R7.A.1.2 R7.A.2.2
C. Literature Circles <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. How do I learn and understand vocabulary and basic reading concepts found in the novel? 	 E E	 A,C,F C	 1.1C, D,G 1.3A,B,E,F 1.6A,D,E R7.A.1.1 R7.A.1.5 R7.B.2.2 R7.A.3.1 1.3A,F R7.A.2.1

<p>2. How do I learn and understand vocabulary and basic reading concepts found in a nonfiction piece related to the novel?</p> <p>3. How do I listen and contribute effectively to a group discussion?</p>	I	F	<p>R7.A.2.3 R7.A.2.4 R7.A.2.5</p> <p>1.6A,D</p>
<p>D. Capitalization</p> <p>1. What words are capitalized when writing?</p>	E	E	1.5F

Elizabethtown Area School District

Name of Course: Comm Arts 7

Name of Theme: Generations

Essential Questions for the Theme:

1. How do I appreciate poetry? 1.3D, 1.3F, 1.4A, 1.6A,C,D
2. How do I write a level 4 PSSA reader response? 1.1G, 1.3A,F
3. How do I speak effectively to convey meaning? 1.6C
4. How do I listen effectively? 1.6A,B,D,E

Unit Objectives/Key Questions	Priority	Aligned to Course Standard	Aligned to PA Standard
A. Family Short Stories – Fiction and Nonfiction 1. What was the author’s purpose for writing the story? 2. How do I write a proficient PSSA reader response?	E E	C A	1.3B,E R7.B.1.1 R7.A.3.1 R7. A.3.2 1.1G R7.A.1.3 R7.A.1.4 R7.A.1.5
B. Weekly Wordlist Vocabulary 1. How do I define and apply the weekly wordlist vocabulary words?	E	A	1.1C R7.A.1.1 R7.A.1.2 R7.A.2.2
C. Poetry 1. What are the forms of poetry? 2. How do I use description in poetry? 3. How do I read/recite poetry effectively?	I I I	C,D,F D F	1.3A,C, D,F 1.4A 1.6A,B,C R7.B.2.1 R7.A.1.5 1.4A 1.6D

Elizabethtown Area School District

III. Course Assessments

Check types of assessments to be used in the teaching of the course.
(Provide examples of each type.)

- | | |
|---------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Objective Tests/Quizzes
<input type="checkbox"/> Constructed Responses
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Essays
<input type="checkbox"/> Reports
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Projects
<input type="checkbox"/> Portfolios
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Presentations
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Performance tasks
<hr/> | <input type="checkbox"/> Response Journals
<input type="checkbox"/> Logs
<input type="checkbox"/> Computer Simulations
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Research Papers
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Class Participation
<input type="checkbox"/> Notetaking
<input type="checkbox"/> Daily Assignments
<input type="checkbox"/> Writing Samples
<hr/> |
|---------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|

Provide copies of common assessments that will be utilized for all students taking this course. Overall course/grade level standards will be measured by a common course assessment. Unit objectives will be measured on an ongoing basis as needed by the classroom teacher to assess learning and plan for instruction. List common assessments below and recommended date/time frame for administration (at least quarterly).

Name of Common Assessment	When given?
1. Objective Test/quiz	bimonthly
2. PSSA Domain Writing Rubric	one per marking period
3. Presentations	one per marking period
4. Performance Tasks	min. of two per marking period
5. Research Paper	marking period 2
6. Class Participation	daily
7. Project	October /November

Elizabethtown Area School District

IV. Expected levels of achievement

Current grading scale:
As per district policy

92 - 100 A
83 - 91 B
74 - 82 C
65 - 73 D
64 < F

PA Proficiency Levels
Advanced Proficient
Basic Below Basic

Attach rubrics, checklists, or other documentation noting how levels of proficiency will be determined for common assessments.