



Department of Teaching & Learning
Parent/Student Course Information

Core English Grade 6
(LA1109)

Counselors are available to assist parents and students with course selections and career planning. Parents may arrange to meet with the counselor by calling the school's guidance department.

COURSE DESCRIPTION

Core English 6 provides a variety of opportunities in reading and writing through students' examination of various genres, authors, characters, people, and themselves. This course is organized around the overarching theme of Change and reflects a variety of encounters with literature: non-fiction, short stories, novels and excerpts, narrative non-fiction, and media. Major goals of the sixth-grade program include: strengthening writing and organization, reading comprehension, critical thinking, and research along with developing effective communication through group discussions and oral presentations. The students use the writing process to develop expository, narrative, persuasive, and reflective writing. Through writing instruction, students learn to analyze their own writing, and set goals to improve their composition and expression, and grammar, usage, and mechanics. With teacher support, they continuously revise and edit their work as they build their writing. Additionally, students begin to read and write critically in response literature.

Writing, reading, discussion, performance based assessments, and classroom presentations require that students move beyond a literal recall of facts to an interpretation of literature with cooperative written response. Students are provided opportunities to examine various purposes for writing and to consider how writers make choices based on audience and purpose.

At this grade level, students take a Reading Test for the English Standards of Learning.

PREREQUISITE

English 5

OPTIONS FOR NEXT COURSE

Enrollment for the next English course should be based on student performance, teacher recommendation, and parent input. The courses available are Core English, Grade 7 and Advanced English, Grade 7.

REQUIRED STUDENT TEXTBOOK

Hardbound and Online Access for *Holt McDougal Literature, 6*
Online Access for *Write Source Recharged*

SUPPLEMENTARY MATERIALS

The teacher may choose supplementary materials to extend and enrich the students' knowledge of course standards. These materials may be drawn from: supplementary novels, visual media, primary source documents, simulations, computer programs and other online educational resources.

ENGLISH LANGUAGE ARTS

Visit the Virginia Department of Education website to access the English 6 Standards of Learning
http://www.doe.virginia.gov/testing/sol/standards_docs/english/index.shtml

READING SELECTIONS

Amos Fortune, Elizabeth Yates
And Now Miguel, Joseph Krumgold
Banner in the Sky, James Ramsey Ullman
Becoming Naomi Leon, Pam Muñoz Ryan
Bud, Not Buddy, Christopher Curtis
The Big Wave, Pearl Buck
The Boy in the Striped Pajamas, John Boyne
Bridge to Terabithia, Katherine Paterson
Call It Courage, Armstrong Sperry
Carlotta, Scott O'Dell
The Cay, Theodore Taylor
Count Me In, Sarah Leach
The Endless Steppe, Esther Hautzig
Esperanza Rising, Pam Muñoz Ryan
Everything on a Waffle, Polly Horvath
The Eyes of the Amaryllis, Natalie Babbitt
A Gathering of Days, Joan W. Blos
The Great Gilly Hopkins, Katherine A. Paterson
Growing up in Coal Country, Susan Campbell Bartoletti
Hatchet, Gary Paulsen
The Hay Meadow, Gary Paulsen
The Heart of a Chief, Joseph Bruchac
Holes, Louis Sachar
Homesick, My Own Story, Jean Fritz
House of Sixty Fathers, Meindert DeJong
Hoot, Carl Hiassen
Island of the Blue Dolphins, Scott O'Dell
Julie of the Wolves, Jean Craighead George
My Brother Sam Is Dead, James Lincoln Collier
My Side of the Mountain, Jean Craighead George
Number the Stars, Lois Lowry
Old Yeller, Fred Gipson
One-Eyed Cat, Paula Fox
Onion John, Joseph Krumgold
Pearl Versus the World, Sally Murphy
Pinballs, Betsy Cromer Byars
River, Gary Paulsen
Sign of the Beaver, Elizabeth George Speare
Snow Treasure, Marie McSwigan
The Star Fisher, Laurence Yep
Summer of the Swans, Betsy Byars
The Taking Earth, Jean Craighead George
Tuck Everlasting, Natalie Babbitt
The View from Saturday, K. L. Konigsburg
Westing Game, Ellen Raskin
Wood Song, Gary Paulsen
Worst Case Scenario Survival Handbook, R Epstein

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For further information, please call (757) 263-1070.

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To seek resolution of grievances resulting from alleged discrimination or to report violations of these policies, please contact the Title VI/Title IX Coordinator/Director of Student Leadership at (757) 263-2020, 1413 Laskin Road, Virginia Beach, Virginia, 23451 (for student complaints) or the Section 504/ADA Coordinator/Chief Human Resources Officer at (757) 263-1133, 2512 George Mason Drive, Municipal Center, Building 6, Virginia Beach, Virginia, 23456 (for employees or other citizens). Concerns about the application of Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act should be addressed to the Section 504 Coordinator/Executive Director of Student Support Services at (757) 263-1980, 2512 George Mason Drive, Virginia Beach, Virginia, 23456 or the Section 504 Coordinator at the student's school. For students who are eligible or suspected of being eligible for special education or related services under IDEA, please contact the Office of Programs for Exceptional Children at (757) 263-2400, Laskin Road Annex, 1413 Laskin Road, Virginia Beach, Virginia, 23451.

Alternative formats of this publication which may include taped, Braille, or large print materials are available upon request for individuals with disabilities. Call or write The Department of Teaching and Learning, Virginia Beach City Public Schools, 2512 George Mason Drive, P.O. Box 6038, Virginia Beach, VA 23456-0038. Telephone 263-1070 (voice); fax 263-1424; 263-1240 (TDD) or email her at Cameron.Vadersen@vbschools.com.

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CHARTING THE COURSE

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