



Class Syllabus

Instructor Love Henderson Gregg

Subject 8th Grade English/Language Arts

Grade 8th Grade

School Grassy Fork Elementary

August 2026-May 2027

Course Outcomes

- The state framework for sixth grade English/Language Arts (ELA) has content emphasis on the following five standards:
 1. Literature
 2. Informational Text
 3. Writing
 4. Speaking & Listening
 5. Language
- English/Language Arts Standards : <https://www.tn.gov/education/districts/academic-standards/english-language-arts-standards.html>

- Cocke County School System: <https://cockecountyschools.org/>
- As students master the standards, they will demonstrate independence; build strong content knowledge; respond to the varying demands of audience, task, purpose, and discipline; comprehend as well as critique; value evidence; use technology and digital media strategically and capably; and come to understand other perspectives and cultures.

Instruction

The class is a combination of lecture, discussion, and activity-based learning.

Students will complete the A.R. Books/Beanstack program every 9 weeks for a grade.

Complete Writing tasks.

Complete Amplify Lessons Below:

Time of Year	Name of Unit	Approximate Time
August	Unit 8A Perspectives and Narrative	15 Lessons
September/October	Unit 8B Liberty and Equality	25 Lessons
October/November	Unit 8C Science and Science Fiction	17 Lessons
November/December	Unit 8E The Holocaust	11 Lessons
January/February	Unit 8D-Shakespeare	21 Lessons
February/March/April	Unit 8F-Space Collection	24 Lessons
April/May	Novel-The Outsiders	Novel Unit

- Unit specifics are listed in the Amplify Program
- Listed dates are subject to change slightly at the teacher's discretion
- In conjunction with the Amplify program, students are required to read at least 6 books per grading period with a 70% or higher grade.
- Teachers will supply any required texts that will be used throughout the year. The Cocke County School System has approved the texts. There is one class set, so students will not be bringing them home.
- Students will complete Mastery Connect assignments weekly with Chromebook instruction.
- Materials needed: Amplify text, Chromebook, book student is reading, and regular classroom materials
- All ELA standards have been implemented by the state of Tennessee. The content of Amplify has been approved by the Tennessee Department of Education and edited for content by local board policy. The Cocke County School System approves all curriculum.
- Safety Procedures are posted in classrooms while practices are regularly held to ensure safety protocols.

- Students performing at or below the 25th percentile on the Universal Screener, Aimsweb Plus, may qualify for the Response-to-Intervention (RTI) program. The Response-to-Intervention is held for 45 minutes in addition to the regular English/Language Arts instruction.

Assessment and Grading

Final grades assigned for this course will be based on the percentage of points earned and are assigned as follows:

Letter Grade	Percentage	Performance
A	90-100%	Excellent
B	80-89%	Good
C	70-79%	Average
D	60-69%	Poor
F	0-50%	Failing

- Grades for this course are weighted for: Test/Quizzes 50%; Classroom Performance 40%; Daily Assignments 10%
- Make-up/Late work Policy: Be sure to pay close attention to deadlines. Late work is at the discretion of the teacher. Make-up work is to be completed within the next few days of school attendance. Make-up assignments are usually completed at school.
- Viewing grades on ASPEN is optional. Points received for grades will be posted on the ASPEN gradebook. Instructors will update grades each time a grading session has been completed; typically, grades are posted the Monday of each week during the grading period.

General Expectations

- Students
 - Attendance Policy can be found at:
<https://cockecountyschools.org/departments/attendance/>
 - Excused/Unexcused absences lead to chronic absenteeism:
https://cockecountyschools.org/wp-content/uploads/2021/11/Attendance-Works-Elementary_handout_101421.pdf
 - Classroom Policy/Procedures/Discipline procedures follow local board policy
 - Students are rewarded after many required assignments. Currently, reward activities are Kona Ice, treats, prizes, school lock-in, and reward trip for attendance. Reward trips for

attendance are earned each semester. To be part of the reward trip, students must be present at school for part of each day except for 4 or fewer days per semester. This time is regardless of excused/unexcused absences.

- Teachers
 - Parents/guardians may reach out to Grassy Fork Elementary:
423-487-5835
 - Love Henderson Gregg
 - 423-487-5835 <hendersonl@cocke.k12.tn.us>
 - ParentSquare/ASPEN

Plagiarism

- Include plagiarism regarding generative AI (see board policy)
 - According to Harbrace Handbook, 15th edition: Plagiarism is defined as “presenting someone else’s ideas, research, or opinions as your own without proper documentation, even if it has been rephrased.”
 - Copying verbatim all or part of another’s written work;
 - Using phrases, figures, or illustrations without citing the source;
 - Paraphrasing ideas, conclusions, or research without citing the source;
 - Using all or part of a literary plot, poem, or film without attributing the work to its creator.
- Consequences of Plagiarism
 - Plagiarism is a form of stealing and academic fraud. Students who are found guilty of plagiarism have the option of either redoing the assignment within a specified time period and accepting a letter drop or taking a zero on the assignment. Parents are to be involved in making this decision.

Religion in the Classroom

The Board affirms that it is essential that the teaching about religion - and not of a religion be conducted in a factual, objective, and respectful manner in accordance with the following guidelines:

1. Religious themes may be a part of the curriculum for school-sponsored activities and programs provided it is essential to the learning experience in the various fields of study and is presented objectively;
2. The inclusion of religion shall be for educational purposes only;¹
3. The emphasis on religious themes should be only as extensive as necessary for a balanced and comprehensive study of the curriculum. Such studies shall never be used to proselytize, establish, foster, or demean any particular religion, religious tenets, or beliefs; and¹
4. Student-initiated expressions to questions or assignments which reflect their beliefs or non-beliefs about a religious theme shall be accommodated.