



# Ms. Cuomo

## 8<sup>th</sup> Grade Language Arts

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Welcome to the 2020-2021 school year! I am excited to begin this adventure with you.

### Important Links

Planbook:

<https://planbook.com/planbook.html?t=1433329&k=lecuomo&v=W&c=15494150&y=1478675>

<https://planbook.com/planbook.html?t=1433329&k=lecuomo&v=W&c=15494151&y=1478675>

My Perspectives Account:

<https://sso.rumba.pearsoncmg.com/sso/login?service=https://k12integrations.pearsoncmg.com/ca/dashboard.htm&idpmetadata=https://www.murrieta.k12.ca.us/>

No Red Ink: [www.noredink.com](http://www.noredink.com)

### COURSE DESCRIPTION

Language Arts 8 provides students with opportunities and resources to develop the skills of reading, writing, listening, and speaking. Students read a variety of literature and informational texts as well as routinely write to examine a topic, convey ideas, and support claims. Focus is placed on developing analytical skills, where students cite textual evidence and provide elaboration to support that evidence. Speaking and listening skills, vocabulary development, and grammar instruction are integrated throughout reading and writing experiences.

Advanced middle school courses are intended to be a preparation for higher-level classes in high school. Students enrolled in embedded advanced courses will be responsible for extended responsibilities and expectations, both inside and outside of class. It is vital for students to have strong work habits and be ready and willing to put forth the effort necessary to be successful.

### ESSENTIAL STANDARDS

<i>Writing</i>	<i>Reading Literature/Informational Text</i>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• W8.1: Write arguments to support claims.</li><li>• W8.2: Write explanatory texts to examine a topic and convey ideas.</li><li>• W8.3: Write narratives to develop experiences or events.</li><li>• W8.9: Use evidence from text to support analysis, reflection, and research.</li><li>• L8.1: Use correct grammar and sentence structure.</li><li>• L8.2: Use correct spelling, capitalization, and punctuation.</li></ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• RL/RI 8.1: Cite textual evidence that supports analysis of text; make inferences.</li><li>• RL/RI 8.2: Determine themes and central ideas; summarize text.</li><li>• RL 8.3: Analyze characterization, conflict, and dialogue.</li><li>• RL/RI 8.4: Determine the meaning of words, including figurative and connotative meanings; analyze the impact of word choice on meaning and tone.</li><li>• RI 8.6: Analyze an author's purpose.</li><li>• RI 8.8: Identify and evaluate arguments and reasoning.</li></ul>

## **SUGGESTED MATERIALS**

- Spiral-bound notebook for use with My Perspectives textbook
- College ruled filler paper (may be used instead of spiral-bound notebook)
- Pens/pencils
- Highlighters
- Sticky notes
- Colored pencils or markers

## **TECH INFORMATION**

All students are assigned a Microsoft 365 account through MVUSD. Student login is: 9-digit number@mvusd.org

All writing assignments, PowerPoints, etc. should be saved to the Microsoft 365 account so that they are easily accessible from both school and home. Although students may choose to use Google accounts, Microsoft 365 is supported by MVUSD.

All information will be posted and updated weekly on Planbook. This includes copies of all class assignments, handouts, and PowerPoint presentations.

Students will have access to My Perspectives online to complete assignments in the digital textbook. Student My Perspectives account use the same log in as Microsoft 365.

## **GRADES**

Students will be assessed in the standard category areas listed below. Students may monitor their scores on Aeries and are encouraged to check gradebooks at least once a month.

**Reading** 35%

**Writing** 35%

**Speaking/Listening** 15%

**Language** 15%

Within each category, students will complete formative and summative assignments. Summative assignments are more heavily weighted in the gradebook (60%) than formative assignments (40%).

## **ABSENCES**

It is the student's responsibility to obtain and complete work missed due to any absence, for any reason. If something is due and you are absent, it must be submitted the day you return, or it will be considered late.

## **LATE WORK**

Late work will be accepted without penalty to the grade during the 6-week grading period in which it is due. Students are encouraged to complete late work and seek help when needed. *Late work is better than no work!*

## **Corrections**

Students can make corrections to assignments and assessments. Students must communicate their intention to make corrections with me and share their plan of action. ALL students can make corrections, regardless of their initial score. Students may make corrections up through the end of a

unit, or within a week after the final unit assessment has been scored and returned. *I am here to support students with their learning!*

## **BEHAVIORAL EXPECTATIONS**

I have two major expectations in my classroom: Be Respectful and Be Responsible (see breakdown below). I expect all school rules to be followed. Disciplinary action will occur if a student is disruptive or acting with disrespect to the teacher or to other students. This includes all posting within the online classroom. Students will be given a grade for meeting expectations regarding respect and responsibility.

*Daily Expectations:*

- Show respect for your peers at all times
- Arrive on time and prepared to each class
- Take responsibility for your actions; if you make a mistake on an assignment or behavior, learn from it and do better in the future
- Show maturity when discussing serious subject matter
- Challenge yourself: ask questions, give class presentations, work with different classmates, read new books
- Be honest and accept failure and success

## **NON-CLASS MATERIALS**

- Students may have water out in class, but no other food or drink is permitted.
- All non-class materials must be kept in the student's backpack.
- It is the student's responsibility to keep track of any devices brought to school. Students taking cell phones out in class may have their device sent to the office, which may be picked up at the end of the school day.

## **ACADEMIC INTEGRITY**

Any student who plagiarizes, lies, cheats, or otherwise misuses the academic environment will be referred to school administration. Violations include, but are not limited to:

- Knowingly allowing another student to copy from your paper
- Copying from another student's paper or any other prohibited material
- Copying directly from the text, other printed material, or an internet source without citation