



# Chandler Unified School District

ENG800A Language Arts 8  
SY 2023-24



## Course Overview

### Course Description

Builds upon students' prior knowledge of grammar, vocabulary, word usage, and the mechanics of writing. Includes the four aspects of language use: reading, writing, speaking, and listening. Uses various genres of literature to improve reading skill. Links writing exercises for different purposes to those reading selections.

### AP/IB/Dual Enrollment

No

### Prerequisite/Fee(s)

None

### Course Materials

Pencils, Highlighters, Headphones that work with your laptop, Tissues,

### Adopted Resource(s)

Savvas My Perspectives

*\*An asterisk will indicate a resource containing sexually explicit materials per legislative definitions. CUSD has determined that all resources listed above are of exceptional educational value.*

## Site and Faculty Information

### School name and address:

Willis Junior High School, 401 S McQueen Rd, Chandler, AZ 85225

### Building principal:

Jeff Delp  
delp.jeff@cusd80.com

### Teacher:

Kristen Babicke Secondary Education (English), BAE  
babicke.kristen@cusd80.com

**Office hours:** Monday after school

## Course Access

This course is taught in-person at Willis Junior High School. Students will have access to the curriculum and instruction in the classroom. Google Classroom is the primary location for students to access material when absent from classes taught in person.

## Help

### Academic Support

- Contact the teacher to schedule an appointment during office hours
- [Ed Tech](#) support for students, parents/guardians, and community link ([cusd80.com/Page/45109](https://cusd80.com/Page/45109))

### Mental Health Support

- CUSD mental health support [cusd80.com/Domain/10528](https://cusd80.com/Domain/10528) or 480-573-8808 (talk or text)
- Suicide & Crisis Lifeline: 9-8-8 hotline
- 24-hour Crisis Line Talk: 602-222-9444, Text: 741-741

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## Student Conduct, Success, and Responsibilities


### Student Handbook

Students must follow the policies and procedures established in the Student Handbook. Copies of the handbook can be found at [cusd80.com/handbooks](http://cusd80.com/handbooks). Printed copies will be provided upon request.

### Student Responsibilities

In ELA, students are expected to LEARN:

-  Listen to instructions and each other
-  Enter and exit prepared
-  Always try your best
-  Respect yourself and others
-  No excuses

 Follow WJHS policies in the student handbook—especially the Willis Core Values.

- We will, as a class, further discuss these expectations and other specific routines/procedures.
- All students will be held accountable to these expectations, and they can expect consequences if these expectations are not met. Typically, I will take the following steps: warning, phone call home, and, if needed, a referral or being sent to the office/Refocus Room (ISS). Of course, if there is a serious violation, I will skip the first two steps.

### Late work

- Late Work is accepted but will result in points lost.

## Assessments and Assignments

Students will complete assessments during each unit of study to assess their understanding. Students will complete the CUSD Common Final at the end of the first and second semesters. The Common Final will count for 20% of the student's final semester grade in grades 9-12 and 10% in grades 7-8 (some exceptions may apply at the Junior High level). Common finals will be in ELA, Math, Science, Social Science, and World Language.

Final exams will be given during the CUSD Jr High/High School Early Dismissal days in December and May, as identified on the [District Calendar](#).

If students are requested to participate in a survey, the survey questions will be provided to parents/guardians seven days before student contact.

## Grading

### Grade Percentage

A	B	C	D	F
90% - 100%	80% - 89%	70% - 79%	60% - 69%	<60%

### Quarter grades

- Grading Scale: 90%+ = A, 80%-89% = B, 70%-79% = C, 60%-69% = D, 59% and below = F.

### Semester grades

Semester grades are calculated using 45/45/10: Each quarter accounts for 45% of the semester grade and the final exam accounts for the remaining 10%.

## Units of Study and Selected Novels

### Units of Study

### Selected Novels

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Rites of Passage  
The Holocaust  
What Matters

The House on Mango Street

*\*An asterisk will indicate a unit of study containing sexually explicit materials per legislative definitions.*



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### SY 2023-24



**Site:** Willis Junior High School  
**Building Principal:** Jeff Delp, delp.jeff@cusd80.com  
**Teacher:** Kristen Babicke, babicke.kristen@cusd80.com

## Parent/Guardian

### Acknowledgment

Parents/Guardians should indicate if they “Acknowledge” or have a “Potential Conflict” with their student’s participation in the following units by checking the appropriate box for each unit of study listed. Students cannot opt out of a standards-based unit. Marking “Potential Conflict” will prompt the teacher to make contact regarding assignment alternatives.

Unit of study	Acknowledge	Potential Conflict
Rites of Passage	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
The Holocaust	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
What Matters	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

Selected Novels	Acknowledge	Potential Conflict
The House on Mango Street	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

*\*An asterisk will indicate a unit of study containing sexually explicit materials per legislative definitions.*

**By signing and returning this form**, the parent/guardian acknowledges they have reviewed the resources and units of the study included in the syllabus.

- As the parent/guardian, I understand that I may contact the teacher if I have questions about the resources, content, or units of study.
- As the parent/guardian, I understand I can check my student’s grades in Infinite Campus anytime during the school year.

Student name (printed) \_\_\_\_\_

Student signature \_\_\_\_\_

Parent/Guardian name (printed) \_\_\_\_\_

Parent Signature \_\_\_\_\_

Date \_\_\_\_\_

**Please return this page to your student’s teacher.**