



# Critical Reading Syllabus

5<sup>th</sup> Grade -2<sup>nd</sup> Semester 2012

Mrs. Laura Archer

Wesley 258, extension 4118

Email (preferred): [larcher@wesleyanschool.org](mailto:larcher@wesleyanschool.org)

**TEXT:** AfterSHOCKS by Burton Goodman

Heroes by Henry Billings and Melissa Billings (Jamestown Publishers)

<b>GRADING:</b>	Classwork / Quizzes	50%
	Tests / Projects / Papers	30%
	Homework / Journal	20%

**COURSE OVERVIEW:** Students will frequently collaborate with classmates, actively participating in the exploration and application of various reading techniques and strategies. Students will be encouraged to exchange ideas, ask questions, make predictions, infer, and compare their thinking with others. Through these interactions, students will improve their ability to discover, understand, apply, analyze and evaluate information within texts.

## **EXPECTATIONS:**

- Students will come to class prepared to learn and with the required supplies and materials. Students who fail to come prepared may experience academic penalties (For example: If there is a pop quiz, he/she may earn a low grade) or be required to come to extra help after school.
- Students will participate in all class time activities and treat others with respect and courtesy. Non-participatory students will be required to come to extra help after school.
- Students will use tablets only when allowed and as directed during class time. Any unauthorized use, emailing, etc. will result in a detention. There will be no “warnings.”
- Students will arrive on time for class. Students who are not on time will be counted as tardy.
- All assignments will include correct MLA heading. Papers lacking any information will lose 5 percent.
- Students will complete and turn in all assignments on time. Homework for Critical Reading will be approximately 10 minutes, twice each week. There will be a deduction of 10 percent for homework that is one day late. Homework that is two days late will receive a zero. A late paper or project will lose ten points for the first two days that it is late. On the third day, a zero will be given. Students who fail to turn in an assignment will be required to come to extra help.

- Students will be responsible for contacting me about making up work missed during an absence. Students have the same number of days to make up assignments as the number of days they were absent.
- Students will access the 5<sup>th</sup> grade Wiki page for homework assignments and additional information, and participate in blog-style journaling at <https://archerwiki.wikispaces.com/>
- Students will complete their own assignments without assistance from others except when they have specifically been encouraged to collaborate with others. *Please note: Study aids can be useful as a study supplement along with reading the text. However, the best study aids are well taken notes based off of class lecture and reading the text itself. Cliff Notes, Spark Notes, and other study aids are not allowed at school, as these are a distraction from note-taking and the emphasis your teacher places on the text. Study aids can be used at home, but only as a supplement to your reading and class notes, not as a substitute.*
- Students are expected to spell correctly and write in complete sentences. Up to 5 points per assignment will be deducted for misspelled terms and/or incomplete sentences.
- Students will not violate the school's honor code. *The honor pledge must be written in full and signed on any work that you complete independently and submit for a grade. Plagiarism will not be permitted. Plagiarism includes taking information from a source and not citing the source, claiming credit for an idea that is not your own, copying information from a source and not documenting that source.*
- Completed assignments will be graded and returned to students within four class periods of completion.
- I will be available to provide extra help every Monday- Thursday from 3 until 3:30 pm. *Please note: A student should seek help first from the classroom teacher and the school Writing Lab. When a tutor's services are obtained, communication between the tutor and the teacher is recommended for success. A tutor should guide the student with parallel examples that further aid the student's ability to work self-sufficiently and become an independent learner.*

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Please sign and return lower portion to Mrs. Archer. Remember to keep your syllabus all semester☺



I understand the expectations for  
**Critical Reading,**  
 and I agree to meet them.

Student Signature: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_

Parent Signature: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_

