



COURSE DESCRIPTION

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LANGUAGE ARTS & TEST PREP - GROUP CLASS (Grades 5-8)

This class emphasizes grammar fundamentals, essay writing essentials, reading comprehension, and vocabulary acquisition. The materials used in this course have been especially developed by *MERCER EDUCATION* and offer each student a comprehensive, effective learning experience. Through weekly reading assignments and interactive activities, students strengthen their critical reading skills, study different genres of literature, learn literary terms and the basic components of literary analysis, and expand their understanding of topical subjects through newspapers, magazines, and the internet. Additionally, students learn basic research techniques, proper documentation, the fundamentals of essay writing, practice oral presentations, as well as become familiar with standardized test formats and test-taking strategies for tests such as the ISEE* and ITBS.

COURSE HIGHLIGHTS

- ▶ **Essay Writing Essentials**
(brainstorming, outlines, structure and content)
- ▶ **Self-Editing and Revision Skills**
- ▶ **Grammar Fundamentals**
- ▶ **Literary Analysis Tool Kit**
- ▶ **Reading Comprehension**
(paraphrasing, interpreting, drawing inferences)
- ▶ **Expanded Range of Reading Material**
- ▶ **Strategies and Preparation for Standardized Tests** (WASL, ITBS, ISEE, and SSAT)
- ▶ **Sophistication and Depth of Ideas**
- ▶ **Vocabulary**
- ▶ **Interest, Attitude, and Organization**

Unlike other after-school programs, Mercer Education's emphasize learning using a variety of customized, engaging materials that develop critical thinking, analysis, and writing skills that extend beyond test-taking and increase students' success in their ongoing academic endeavors.

- Meets *once a week* for 1 hour and 50 minutes.
- Class size limited to no more than 8 students per group.
- Students receive free assessment upon enrollment and are grouped according to skill level and age.
- Cost of the course is based on 2-month blocks of pre-scheduled classes (7-9 classes each two-month session or \$280 to \$360) ongoing throughout the year (Jan-Feb, Mar-Apr, etc.).
- Parents receive a Progress Report with scores, comments and recommendations during the fall, spring and summer sessions.
- Groups meet year round; classes are usually held on weekdays 4–9pm and weekends 9am–5pm.

* Test names and other trademarks are the property of the respective trademark holders. ISEE is a registered trademark of the Educational Records Bureau. ITBS is a registered trademark of the Riverside Publishing Company. Neither of these trademark holders are affiliated with or endorse Mercer Education, its website, products or services.