The aim of English Language Arts 9 is to provide students with opportunities for personal and intellectual growth through speaking, listening, reading, viewing, writing, and representing to make meaning of the world and to prepare them to participate effectively in all aspects of society:

• **comprehend and respond to oral and written language** critically, creatively and articulately.

• **communicate ideas, information, and feelings** critically, creatively and articulately, using various media

• **think** critically and creatively, and reflect on and articulate their thinking and learning

• **develop** a continuously increasing understanding of self, others, and the world

**Content**

**Prose**: Short Stories, *Novel Study (literature circles)*

**Poetry**: Traditional, Contemporary, Spoken Word

**Drama**: *A Midsummer’s Night Dream*

**Writing**: Personal Reflections, Expository, Descriptive, Narrative

**Grammar and Vocabulary**: The mechanics of good writing and building sophisticated vocabulary

**Reading:** Strategies to understand fiction and non-fiction

**Assessment**

Assessment will be both *Formative* (informal feedback, marked discussions, and conferences to help you learn) and *Summative* (to demonstrate what you have learned such as tests, projects, essays). Assessment will be based on skills, comprehension, creativity and participation.

**Grading**

* Formative Assessment – daily homework, marked discussion and participation: 25%
* Summative Assessment - Tests, Quizzes, essays and projects: 75%

**Materials**

Must bring everyday:

* Writing utensil (only blue or black pen or pencil)
* English texts/books you have been assigned, if any.
* Notebook or small binder for possible handouts
* Electronic device with a charger. Organize on your desktop (or to One Drive) a digital backpack with the following files:
  + **English** 
    - Short Stories
    - Grammar and Writing
    - Novel and/or Literature Circles
    - Non-fiction
    - Poetry
    - Shakespeare

You should be prepared to download documents from Ms. Shong’s blog so that you have them on your desktop in your organized file in case the network is slow etc. Do not download until you are asked to do so.

I look forward to working with you this semester. If you have any questions or concerns, please email me at [kshong@sd43.bc.ca](mailto:kshong@sd43.bc.ca). I am also available for help most lunches and after school.