

Six Keys to Studying for Language A



Manage Your Time

Make a plan to study nightly even if it is only for 5 or 10 minutes. Use “to-do” lists, your agenda, a calendar (digital or regular), or a notebook to record assignments. Plan study time around social, family, and extra-curricular commitments. Make effective use of your time!



Literature and Reading

Use literary terms to identify parts of literature as you are reading. Recognize main ideas or points in literature. Compare literary works using literary terms. Discuss author’s voice in literature. Read for content, make predictions, and discuss pro and con positions when reading.



Writing and Grammar

Write persuasive, expository, and narrative essays. Use the HCPS Writing Rubric as a checklist of criteria for all essays. Read the writing prompt and identify the purpose and type of essay. Use pre-writing skills including the 5 Square organization methods for writing essays. Write an opening sentence, detailed sentences, a closing sentence, and use transitions. Plan, draft, revise, edit, and proofread. Practice grammar usage on all writing assignments in all content.



Vocabulary

Make flashcards and flashcard games for vocabulary terms. Make sure terms can be used in context with examples. Use vocabulary from the dictionary and thesaurus and make connections with synonyms and antonyms. Check homonym clues. Learn prefix, suffix, and root words to help determine vocabulary definitions.



Research

Use the Big6 Skills. Design cycle. Access databases. Use MLA, APA, and works cited resources. Understand paraphrase, summarize, and direct quote. Reliable and unreliable sources.



Use Your Resources

Study guides, study games, links to resources, practice sheets, tutoring, pre-test “Boot Camp.” Listen to the teacher, identify areas the teacher stresses or repeats often. Make a study group. Have parents or siblings help you study in the car or during periods of waiting.