

# 7<sup>th</sup> Grade Language Arts

## 2019-2020 Magnolia Jr. High School

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### CURRICULUM AND GRADING

We will be using district adopted texts, reading an equal amount of literature and informational pieces. We will also be accessing video and audio recordings that support the lessons, including, but not limited to The Pit and the Pendulum, A Christmas Carol, and The Outsiders (PG-13). In accordance with Board Policies and Administration Registrations 6161.11 and 6161.12, a parent/guardian must give written permission for a student to participate in assignments using supplemental material. By signing this syllabus, you are consenting to your student's interaction with the supplemental materials used to support our lessons. If, at any point in the year, you do not give permission for participation in a unit activity, please contact me, and your child will be given an alternate assignment.

The newly adopted district curriculum integrates technology, so students can expect to have assignments that require computer use. The textbook, in its entirety, is available online. If computer access an issue, students can use the computers in the MJHS library or at the Chino Library.

As a part of this class, students are expected to provide evidence to support their claim or answer, as well as reasoning to prove not only WHAT they know, but also HOW they know it.

Speaking and Listening skills are key. Students will be expected to discuss concepts during partner and whole-class activities. They will be required to do individual and group presentations periodically. They will also be encouraged to discuss class activities with you.

Feedback and revision are an important part of our class. Throughout each unit students will receive feedback, both from peers and me, to improve their work and make it the best possible – if they put in the effort.

Grades are weighted and based on mastery: 70% assessments, 30% classwork and homework.

Late work will be accepted up to one week following the end of each unit. Late work that is accepted will not be given full credit.

## Welcome to 7<sup>th</sup> Grade English!

The following are some basic expectations:

1. Do your work and turn it in when it is due. Completing homework is a part of coming to class prepared each day.
2. Take part in class discussions and projects. We learn and grow from interacting with others, as well as cement our own thoughts and opinions as we put them into words and express them.
3. If you were absent, check the appropriate spot in the classroom or get the information from a friend. Do the assignments and turn them in. You have one day for every day you were absent to complete the work.
4. Use your agenda to help you navigate having six different teachers with six different expectations. Write your homework at the beginning of each period. Once you get home, use it as a checklist to insure that you complete all of your assignments. Parents, this is a good way to check what your students should be doing for homework.
5. Bring your materials to class every day. Don't come to school without pencils and paper. Enable your success by being prepared.
6. Show Mustang PRIDE (perseverance, respect, integrity, self-discipline, and empathy).
7. Take responsibility for your education. If you have questions, ask. If you don't agree with a grade, talk to the teacher. Be ok with taking risks and making mistakes. You'll find success once you start learning from your mistakes. Check your grades online through the Aeries portal to keep an eye on missing assignments and your grades.
8. Get involved in school. Participate in your classes, go to dances, buy grams for your friends, be active in lunchtime activities, dress up for spirit days, buy a yearbook, listen to announcements, etc. School should also be fun and memorable, so take advantage of the opportunities we provide.
9. Keep your folder organized and tidy. Hold onto your graded assignments until the end of each grading period. Keep your notes in your ELA notebook all year long.
10. Kindness and character matter. You always have a choice to make someone's day better or worse. Choose wisely.



# STUDENTS



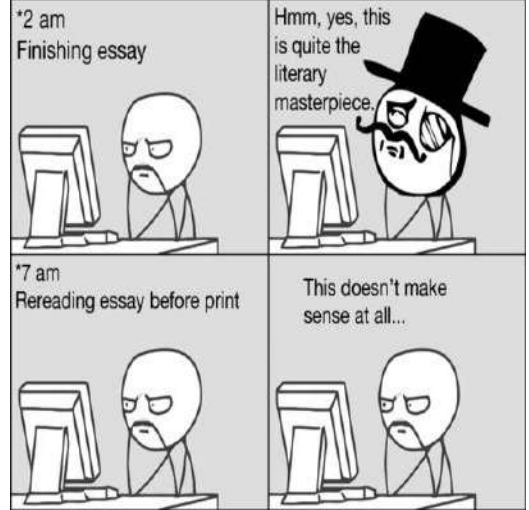
**Y U NO BRING  
WRITING UTENSIL  
TO CLASS?**

[www.traceorman.com](http://www.traceorman.com)

## Recommended Materials List

- 3-ring binder, minimum 1.5", with dividers for each class (same binder that is used for all of your classes)
- 70-page spiral notebook
- student agenda
- glue stick or mini stapler
- pens, pencils, paper
- white board pen, eraser/sock
- red/colored pen
- highlighters (3 colors minimum)
- Silent reading book

We recommend you have ALL of these materials in class EVERY day. If supplies are an issue, please let your teacher know. Donations for materials are always welcomed



## Essays and Final Drafts

Writing throughout the year will be in the genres of:

**Argument** (focuses on claims, counterarguments, logical reasoning, and evidence, etc.)

**Informative/Explanatory** (entails closely examining a topic and then correctly conveying the information)

**Narratives** (consists of developing real or imagined experiences or events)

The following are the requirements when turning in a final draft of a writing assignment:

- Final drafts will always be turned in typed and/or submitted online. Handwritten final drafts will not be accepted.
- Final drafts must be double spaced, use 12-pt type in a "normal" style such as Times New Roman or Arial, in black ink only.
- Have no larger than one-inch margins all around.
- Include your name, the due date, and your period number in the upper right corner.
- Most papers will be submitted online through turnitin.com. For papers collected in class, come with your outline, edited rough drafts, and final copy **ALREADY STAPLED TOGETHER** before entering the room. Failure to have your final draft stapled and ready to be turned in when the beginning bell rings on the due date will result in it being considered late (-1 grade per day late).

**Plagiarism will not be tolerated and will result in an automatic failure of the assignment.** If you are referencing or quoting a source, be sure to give the author credit.

UPDATED 3/16/2020

## Distance Learning

- **How to submit work**  
Use Google Classroom
- **Assessments**  
Will be assigned through Google Classroom/GoFormative (check Google Classroom for any assignments or assessments)
- **Grades/Feedback**  
Continue to check Aeries for updated grades  
Feedback will be through Google Classroom and GoFormative.

## Writing Workshops

Writing is a process. Be prepared to write multiple drafts of the same material over and over again until you produce your best version. Think: Austin's Butterfly. ☺

It's important to turn in drafts on time so that you can get appropriate feedback to help you achieve mastery in your writing. Therefore, **no late work will be accepted for writing workshops.**

Expectations for writing workshops:

- Write each draft to the best of your abilities
- Turn in each draft on time
- Reflect and revise based on feedback
- Don't forget the basics – capitalization, punctuation, no texting language/slang

Dear Parents/Guardians,

In order to better get to know your child, please tell me about him/her below. Please include anything that I might need to know that will affect your child's learning, academic success, or well-being. Thank you in advance for your help.

***I have read the syllabus and understand the expectations and requirements of ELA7. I also approve of the supplemental videos and materials being used this year.***

Student first and last name \_\_\_\_\_

Parent/Guardian name \_\_\_\_\_

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

Best parent/guardian contact number \_\_\_\_\_

Email address \_\_\_\_\_