

**Mrs. Finch**  
**English 8**  
**Mountain Brook Junior High**  
[fincha@mtnbrook.k12.al.us](mailto:fincha@mtnbrook.k12.al.us)

Welcome to 8th grade English. I am looking forward to an engaging and meaningful school year. Students will improve their writing, reading (fiction and nonfiction), grammar, speaking, discussion, and listening skills. Below is an overview of information, policies, and expectations for this class.

**Texts:**

Novels: *Tunes for Bears to Dance To*, by Robert Cormier  
*And Then There Were None*, by Agatha Christie  
*King Arthur and His Knights of the Round Table*, by Roger Lancelyn Green  
*To Kill a Mockingbird*, by Harper Lee

Nonfiction: *Chasing Lincoln's Killer*, by James L. Swanson

Literature Textbook: *Prentice Hall Literature*

Grammar Workbook: *Prentice Hall Writing and Grammar*

**Grades:**

- Major Assignments: 50% of overall grade  
Tests, essays, research paper, other assignments specified by the teacher
- Mid-level Assignments: 30% of overall grade  
Vocabulary, literature, and grammar quizzes, projects,  
summer reading activities, other assignments specified by the teacher
- Minor Assignments: 20% of overall grade  
Classwork, homework, vocabulary lessons, quick writes/journals, notebook, participation

**Classroom Rules:**

- 1. Be respectful.**
  - Be polite
  - Use good manners
  - Have a positive attitude
- 2. Be responsible.**
  - Keep up with your materials
  - Complete your assignments
  - Manage your time wisely
- 3. Do what's right.**
  - In all situations, academic and social, be honest and kind

**Timeliness:** All work is to be submitted on time. Consequences for late work include, partial credit, parental contact, homework detention, or referral to administration.

**Assignments and Announcements:**

**1. Canvas:**

All assignments and communication with students will be found on Canvas. Stay tuned for instructions after teacher training. Many thanks for your patience.

## **2. Google Classroom Codes:**

3rd Period: p7tmej

4th Period: 4kr1mlj

5th Period: dxsrcqw

6<sup>th</sup> Period: 4zps6b

7th Period: e820qg

**Remind:** text @afinch to 81010

**Punctuality:** The classroom runs from bell to bell. Be on time and prepared with all supplies for class each day.

**Academic Honesty:** Every student is expected to follow school policy and to do their best work when completing assignments. Plagiarism and cheating on an assignment will result in a failing grade for that assignment. Additionally, parents and administrators will be contacted.

**Electronic Devices:** Personal electronic devices should remain in lockers according to school policy.

### **General Classroom Manners:**

1. Keep hands and feet to yourself
2. Do not take, hide, or move other people's supplies and materials
3. Bring your own supplies to class so that you are not burdening others
4. Take all your supplies and materials with you when you leave
5. Be respectful of the teacher's desk and work area
6. Be kind, positive, and polite in interacting with other students
7. When in doubt, raise your hand and ask permission