# Ms. Engle's 7th Grade English Class



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**DFMS phone number:** 801-798-4052



#### Dear Learner,

Welcome to 7th Grade English! This year you will gain skills through reading, writing, and research that will help you throughout your life. To be successful in this class, you will need to become familiar with the information below:

# **Expectations for Student Behavior**

We will discuss more in class about rules and expectations. Be aware that this class will adhere to Diamond Fork's core values of **Respect, Compassion, Courage, Curiosity, Integrity,** and **Perseverance**.

## Citizenship

Students start each term with 100 citizenship points. Failure to follow class and school rules will result in a loss of citizenship points. Your citizenship is Satisfactory (S) until you drop below 85 points. If you fall below 85 points, your citizenship Needs Improvement (N). Students below 70 points have Unsatisfactory Citizenship (U). Maintaining Satisfactory Citizenship is important, not only for its correlation to classroom learning but also for eligibility reasons.

\*\*Students below S cannot participate in any school activities. \*\*

# Make-up and Late Work

Students are expected to come to class prepared. Assignments must be completed on time in order to earn full credit. If you are absent, please coordinate with me to make up any missing work. Apart from absences, I will accept late work for partial credit until we have moved into the next unit. Late work must be turned in on Canvas or in the late work bin.

#### **Materials**

- Writer's Notebook
  (Has at least 100
  pages. Will be kept
  in my classroom.
  Do NOT share
  with other
  classes!)
- Pencil or Pen
- Highlighters or thin markers for annotating

# Grading

Our grading scale is as follows:

A=84.5% and up

B=69.5% to 84.4%

C=54.5% to 69.45%

F=54.4% and lower

## **Academic Honesty**

Academic honesty is non-negotiable in this class. It is expected that all work turned in be completed by the student themselves unless collaboration is explicitly mentioned in the directions. Using another person to complete work is considered cheating. Using AI to generate writing is considered cheating. Students who cheat will have their citizenship dropped to a "U". The student will redo the assignment for 50% credit.

#### **Cell Phones and Electronic Devices**

The school is not responsible for devices that are brought to school. Students are not allowed to use cell phones, electronic devices, or headphones in the classroom, unless directed by the teacher. All inappropriate use of electronic devices will result in the confiscation of the device. Students will not receive a warning. The devices will be available for pick-up from the front office.

#### **Classroom Library**

Classroom libraries play a key role in providing access to books and promoting reading achievement and motivation. Furthermore, when students possess the skills necessary to access, select, use, and effectively evaluate their reading materials, their ability to become engaged members of their communities and productive citizens is enhanced.

Our classroom library is stocked with a wide variety of materials for various interests and levels. Please be advised that I have not read every book in our classroom library and know that no book is right for every student. I invite parents to work with their students to find books that are appropriate and engaging.

If you have any questions or concerns about what books your student is reading from the classroom library, please contact me.

#### Writer's Notebooks

Writing each day is the most effective way to improve student writing ability. Each class period will begin with a shared experience such as a read-aloud or video. Following the experience, students will be given time to write based on inspiration from the experience, or their daily thoughts. After the time has passed, there will be time for students to share their writing. Sharing is volunteer based. Students will not be required to share each day, but should share at least 3 times throughout the course in order to receive full points. Throughout the course, these notebooks will be turned in to check that the student is writing productively. These notebooks will be kept in the classroom.

## Additional Help

Everyone in this class is human. We are all experiencing unique challenges. If there are times where you become overwhelmed or confused with an assignment, please reach out. If you reach out before the assignment is due, often I will provide an extension. I will make myself available to help, if you reach out.

#### **Positive Classroom Environment**

I am committed to maintaining a classroom environment where students feel safe and comfortable. In our classroom we will respect each other, value each other, and always give our best effort for the day. This type of environment leads to the best level of learning. Each student plays an important role in maintaining the level of peace we need to learn effectively. I will facilitate this environment, but students will be held to a standard of maintaining positivity in the classroom as well.