

Miss Walton's

7th Grade English Class



Contact Information
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DFMS phone number:
801-798-4052

Dear Reader,

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.

Mastery of Concepts

The purpose of this class is to help you master skills in reading and writing. On Mastery Assignments, you must earn a score of 80% or higher or you will have to redo it. Like all other assignments, you have one week to redo Mastery Assignments.

Make-up and Late Work

Besides turning in quality work, you must also turn in assignments on time to earn full credit. I will still collect assignments up to a week after the due date for partial credit. If you are absent when I give an assignment, you are responsible to get any missing work as soon as you get back, either before or after school, in class, or during E-Time.

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.



Materials

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

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

Artificial Intelligence Policy:

I value writing as a way to express thinking. ChatGPT and other AI platforms are useful tools, but I want you to work through the challenges and victories of the writing process--this will strengthen your ability to think and communicate your ideas. You may not use AI to automate your writing, but we may use AI to help improve your writing. I will let you know when AI is acceptable to use for your assignments.

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.

Need Extra Help?

There are times that you may be confused or overwhelmed with your work. Please talk with me to arrange a time to come in before school, after school, or during E-time so that we can get you started. I want to help you be successful!

Student and Parents/Guardians,

After reading the information above, print and sign your names below to show that you understand this class's policies and procedures and are willing to adhere to them.

Student Name:

Student Signature:

Parent/Guardian Name:

Parent/Guardian Signature:

For Parent/Guardian:

Additionally, if there is anything you want me to know either about your student or your family that would help me best support them in the classroom, feel free to write it below or send me an email!