

ENGLISH 7		YEAR 2023-2024
Location	Room 113/ Periods 1, 4, 7	
Instructor	Nicole Walzer and Doug Edney	
Planning, Lunch, and Office Hours	Planning: Period 3 Lunch: Period 5 Advisory Period Office Hours: 3:15-3:30 or by appointment	Parent/ legal guardians who have questions or desire a parent teacher conference should call the guidance department at 724-662-2272, ext.20.
Email	nwalzer@mercerc.k12.pa.us	
Class Website	Google Classroom and Infinite Campus	
Additional Communication	Parents can join the Google Classroom and/ or access information on Infinite Campus and the Mercer District Website.	
Description	<p>English 7 combines the ELA common core standards for grade 7 learners with the tools necessary to be proficient on the PSSA ELA test.</p> <p>Reading and writing go hand-in-hand. This class will use articles and literature as foundations for developing arguments and analysis in writing. Students will also strengthen grammar and vocabulary for communicating ideas.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Students will be asked to <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Annotate complex texts ○ Cite evidence from a text in a literary analysis ○ Trace how an argument develops based upon the validity of evidence ○ Develop a working vocabulary ○ Write with a clear focus and structure in multi-paragraph responses ○ Write and share a variety of styles ○ Master 7th grade grammar skills <p>All 7th grade English students will need to join the Google Classroom for the 2023-2024 school year. Additional learning extensions will be required for students and parents as well. Information regarding how to download and join these platforms will be provided by the teacher as needed.</p>	
Texts Used	<p style="text-align: center;">Non-Fiction Articles Short story selections Persuasive Essays <i>A Long Walk to Water</i>, Linda Sue Park Selections of Poetry Excerpts from <i>Edith Hamilton's Mythology</i> <i>Anthem</i>, Ann Rand</p>	

Homework Policy and Behavioral Philosophy	<p>Homework will be assigned as needed to provide students an opportunity to practice concepts taught in class that day or be a review of previously covered material. It is expected that each student will give his/her best effort on homework assignment-utilizing the textbooks and class notes/examples as references to complete homework. Appropriate <u>work will be shown</u> which will enable the student and/or instructor to identify errors. Students will be expected to have homework with them when they arrive to class.</p> <p>Having your homework is part of being prepared for class. Subsequent offenses will receive the consequences as stated in the school handbook. Any student who displays habitually negative behaviors will meet with the principals.</p>	Homework Philosophy <p>"The application of homework within almost every learning activity is a valuable means of reinforcement and evaluation. It is the teacher's role to define such assignments and the responsibility of the students to complete them on time. Parents must also assume their responsibility in regard to student homework; therefore, proper communication between the home and the school are vital in establishing assignments, which can significantly contribute to the overall educational process."</p>
Grading 96.5 A+ 92.5 A 89.5 A- 86.5 B+ 82.5 B 79.5 B- 76.5 C+ 72.5 C 69.5 C- 66.5 D+ 62.5 D 59.5 D- Below F	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Quizzes • Tests • Homework • Projects • Participation • Journals • Writing Assignments • Presentations • Practice Assignments <p>Grades are calculated using total points system. Your writing will be evaluated using the PA Writing Rubrics and a teacher generated rubric specific to the assignment. Projects will be graded using rubrics and checklists as well. Test and quiz grades are entered into my grade book by points for correct answers. Keep up with your work and do not fall behind in reading the assigned literature because "pop" quizzes are possible. No matter what, you will always know how something is graded before you start the assignment. Students should keep a record of point totals in case there is a discrepancy. Grades will be posted online Friday mornings.</p> <p>Do not be afraid to ask for help or advice to improve your work. I am here to help you. I <u>do not</u> give bonus points, however, students have opportunities to revise/ reattempt some projects during the year.</p> <p>Late assignments, other than daily homework, will result in a deduction of one letter grade for each day late.</p>	Academic Integrity <p>"Students caught cheating, plagiarizing, copying homework and/or test, quizzes, and using a paper from the Internet will be given a "o" (zero) on that assignment. In addition, their name will be reported to the office and filed in the event of future violations. Repeated violation could result in removal from class and a non-passing grade."</p> <p>When a student is in jeopardy of failing, a progress report will be sent home.</p>

Classroom Rules	<p>To be GREAT in Grade 7, I expect you to...</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Treat everyone with dignity and respect. 2. Acknowledge and respect the right of others to learn. 3. Be prepared, on time, in your seat and ready to begin when the bell rings. 4. Ask questions and seek out help when necessary. 5. Complete all assignments to the very best of your ability in a timely manner. 6. Assume the responsibility to gather and complete make-up work when absent. 7. Stay on task and know your learning target. <p>All rules and consequences described in the Mercer Area Middle-High School Student Handbook will be observed in the English classroom. Students are asked to read the handbook and sign the pledge to indicate that they understand the policies and procedures of the building.</p>	<p>Make-Up Work</p> <p>Assignments and Homework are posted daily on the Google Classroom page. When a student misses class for any reason, it is his/ her responsibility to check Google Classroom for assignments and make-up work.</p> <p>Students who plan to be absent for an approved trip or field experience should check with the teacher beforehand for all assignments.</p> <p>Late to Class</p> <p>A student who is late to class will receive a warning the first time and detention for a second offense.</p>
Required Materials	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • For this class students will need a 1 ½ inch 3 ring binder, pencils, and a charged Chromebook every day. Some projects may require crayons and colored pencils, these materials will be made available in the classroom for use during school. Headphones are optional. 	
Additional Help	<p>I will provide multiple opportunities for extra help. Please check the Google Classroom weekly for more information.</p>	<p>TUTORING</p> <p>If you need tutoring in English, talk to me or Ms. Brown in the guidance office. It is the responsibility of the student to ask for help.</p>