



Journey Middle School

217 Celtic Drive, Madison, Alabama 35758

English Language Arts, 7th Grade

Ms. Eve Davis

Teacher Contact Information	Email: eadavis@madisoncity.k12.al.us Classroom Phone: 256-774-4695 ext. 84212
Classroom Digital Platforms	Webpage Link: Meet Ms. Davis Schoology Link: Madison City Schoology Distribution List Link: Distribution List
Textbook Information	Textbook: StudySync Grade 7, McGraw-Hill This is an online and print text. The online platform is available to students via the “McGraw Hill” link in Schoology. Students will have their own consumable copy of the textbook as well. These will remain in the classroom until the end of the school year.
Required Novels	It is NOT required that you purchase these. Please do not read these novels ahead of time, except the summer reading novel. <i>Flipped</i> by Wendelin van Draanen (summer reading) <i>A Long Walk to Water</i> by Linda Sue Park Students will read ONE of the following texts for our literature circle unit: <i>The Crossover</i> by Kwame Alexander <i>Before the Ever After</i> by Jaqueline Woodson <i>Brown Girl Dreaming</i> by Jaqueline Woodson <i>Inside Out & Back Again</i> by Thanha Lai
Course Description	Language Arts 7 is based on the Alabama Course of Study Standards for 7th grade. Student learning will be focused on analyzing various texts, expressing personal views, supporting various points of view through various modes of writing, participating in thoughtful discussions, and practicing digital citizenship. The course helps transition students from a focus of building foundational literacy skills to the application of those skills in order to read and respond effectively to various types of literature.
Course Objectives	By the end of seventh grade ELA, students will effectively comprehend and analyze fiction and nonfiction texts, identifying literary devices and central themes with supporting textual evidence. Students will demonstrate writing proficiency in narrative, expository, and persuasive modes, employing the writing process for improved quality. Students will adeptly construct clear and well-supported claims using relevant data and insightful commentary in their writing. Through engaging in collaborative discussions, students will develop strong communication skills, adapt speech to different contexts and tasks, and actively respond to others' ideas. These

	objectives align with Alabama College and Career Ready Standards, equipping students with essential skills for academic and future professional success.
Course Outline	<p>Unit 1/First 9 Weeks: Thematic focus: Perspective. Summer Reading Review (<i>Flipped</i> by Wendelin Van Draanen); Narrative writing; Parts of speech review; Punctuation review; Greek & Latin Roots; Summary Writing Strategies and CDC.</p> <p>Unit 2/Second 9 Weeks: Thematic focus: Empathy. Nonfiction text structures; Literary devices; Rhetorical strategies; Point of view and purpose; Research writing; Sentence types; Subject-verb agreement.</p> <p>Unit 3/Third 9 Weeks: Thematic focus: Effective Communication. Argumentative writing; Subject-verb agreement; Dangling & Misplaced Modifiers; Poetic devices; ACAP Test Preparation</p> <p>Unit 4/Fourth 9 Weeks: Thematic focus: Identity. Novels in verse; Expository writing; Finals.</p> <p><i>*This is subject to change.</i></p>
Classroom Expectations	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Be seated and ready for class when the bell rings. 2. Come prepared for class. Bring all necessary supplies, including homework. 3. Respect your teacher, your classmates, and yourself. 4. Listen and follow directions. 5. If it's not yours, don't touch it. If you break something, be prepared to replace it. 6. Keep your hands and feet to yourself. 7. Follow all school rules.
Progressive Discipline (JMS Policy)	<p>All progressive discipline will correspond with the Madison City Schools Code of Conduct regarding Class I and II offenses. Class III offenses are a direct office referral.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Warning ● Conference with student with parent notification ● Parent contact ● Detention ● Referral to administration for repeat Class I violations and initial Class II and III violations - Consequences determined to be reasonable and appropriate by the school administration.
Cell Phone Policy	Cell phones and earbuds/headphones will <i>not</i> be allowed to be used during classroom instruction time. Phones and earbuds/headphones will be put away in a location designated by the teacher and placed in silent mode. In secondary schools, students will have access to their phones and earbuds/headphones outside of the classroom instruction time, such as between classes and during lunch, but devices should be put away when students are in the lunch serving time. Failure to follow these procedures will result in a disciplinary referral to the office.
Grading Policy (MCS Policy)	<p>60% = Assessments (Tests, Essays, Projects)</p> <p>40% = Daily Grades (Quizzes, Homework, Classwork, and Participation)</p>
Late Work Policy	Students present in class on the day of instruction are expected to turn in all in-class and out-of-class assignments on time. Late work will be accepted up to 3 days after

	the initial due date, with a deduction of 10% each day it's late. Late work will not be accepted after 3 days. Students must email the teacher upon submitting late work in order to receive credit.
Make-up Work/Test Policy	Madison City Code of Conduct Policy on Make-Up Work: “Students are permitted to make up work, tests, and other assignments, activities, etc., when absences are excused. Under normal circumstances, it is expected that students will submit previously assigned work upon return to school after an excused absence. All work missed on the day(s) of excused absence(s) must be made up within three school days after returning to school. However, for extended excused absences when homebound services are not necessary, the teacher may grant additional time, but not to extend beyond two weeks past the return to school.” (pg. 12) Unexcused absences will not be eligible for late work submission.
Technology	Student laptops should not be hard-wired to the network or have print capabilities. Discs, flash drives, jump drives, or other USB devices are not allowed on Madison City computers. Neither the teacher nor the school is responsible for broken, stolen, or lost laptops. Laptops and other electronic devices will be used at the teacher's individual discretion.
Cheating/Plagiarism	A student who cheats will not receive credit for the work in question. If any other student has cooperated in cheating, that student is also considered to have cheated and will not receive credit. Cheating students will also be subject to the consequences in the disciplinary consequences in Section XXII of this CSC. Cheating is defined to include, but is not limited to: (a) copying someone else's work in or out of class and identifying and submitting it as your own (b) failing to quote and/or list appropriate citations for material derived from published sources (including the Internet) and identifying and submitting it as your own (c) the use of unauthorized notes, other materials, or assistance during the accomplishment of graded work in or out of class (d) any other situation in which the student attempts to or accepts credit for work not his or her own.
Materials & Supplies	JMS School Supply List
Homework	During novel studies, students may be asked to read outside of class. Excluding novel studies, homework is rarely assigned. It is typically an extension of the day's lesson and/or work not completed in class.
Parent & Student Acknowledgment Form	Complete this Acknowledgement Form after you and your child/children have read the syllabus. If you have more than one child in any of my ELA classes, please add their name in the space provided on this form. Syllabus Acknowledgement Form