



7th Grade Honors Language Arts

Contact Information

msdean@madisoncity.k12.al.us

School Phone: 256-431-0001, ext.83230

Room 230 (Blue Pod)

Planning: B Block

Email is the best way to contact me. (Please allow at least 24 hrs to reply, and more over the weekends.)

Please sign up for my email distribution list on my teacher page in order to receive periodic updates on my class.

lms.madisoncity.k12.al.us ➡

Our Teachers ➡ Megan Dean

Supplies

Always come prepared every day with the following:

- ❖ Binder
- ❖ Loose leaf paper (may need to be refreshed throughout the year)
- ❖ Dividers (labeled: Reading, Grammar, Vocabulary, Writing, Graded Papers)
- ❖ Pencils/Pens
- ❖ Sticky Notes
- ❖ Highlighters
- ❖ Composition Notebook
- ❖ Copy of Novels

Independent Reading

Students are required to read 6 books outside of class this year (3 per semester) and complete an independent reading project for each novel. See details when assigned.

Testing Days

ELA classes test on Tuesdays and Thursdays to ensure that students are not testing in multiple classes on the same day.

Course Description

To help students prepare for college and future careers, the foundation for 7th Grade Language Arts stems from the Alabama College and Career Ready Standards for incoming 7th graders who will eventually progress to 8th Grade Honors Language Arts. The content standards focus on four specific areas: reading, writing, speaking/listening, and language. Reading, writing, speaking, listening, and collaborative strategies are used purposefully to build knowledge and skills and to help students become independent readers, writers, and thinkers as they continue to progressively build the skills necessary for academic success. In addition, they will be guided through the research process. The primary goals of the course are to foster independent learning, encourage in-depth exploration of the content, and develop academic habits of mind. Outside reading and summer reading are required." (Madison City Middle School Catalog, p. 6)

Class Novels

Please note that all HONORS students are required to purchase the novels for this class. More details will be provided in class.

Class Novels for the year:
Uglies by Scott Westerfield
The Wednesday Wars by Gary D. Schmidt
A Christmas Carol by Charles Dickens

Letter from Mrs. Dean

Hello! My name is Mrs. Megan Dean, and I am excited to be your child's 7th grade ELA teacher. This will be my 6th year teaching, but my first as a Liberty Lion! I feel that educating your child is a team effort, and I promise to do my best to challenge, engage, and inspire your child through this year's curriculum. I value your support as we work together to shape your child into a responsible citizen. I am looking forward to working with your child this year!

Class Expectations

1. Show RESPECT for Mrs. Dean, the other students, and the classroom.
2. Keep all electronics PUT AWAY (unless specifically designated by teacher).
3. Be in your seat working on the bell work when the bell rings.
4. Be ON Time, ON TASK, and PREPARED to learn every day. Have all materials every day.
5. Follow directions the FIRST time they are given.

Consequences

1. Verbal warning/ student conference
 2. Behavior form/ Parent Contact
 3. Detention Referral
 4. Office Referral
- **Parents may be contacted at any point per teacher discretion.**
*****Certain offenses may warrant immediate office referral as found in the LMS Student Handbook.**

Grading Policy (District Wide)

60%: Major assessments (Tests, quizzes, projects, essays, etc.)
40%: Daily Grades (homework, classwork, pop quizzes, notebook checks, etc.)

****Progress reports are sent home periodically; grades are also accessible via iNow throughout the semester.**

Student Responsibility

It is the responsibility of the student to write down all homework assignments and due dates. Reminders for tests, projects, and homework stay on the board until the day the assignment is due, and verbal reminders are given frequently. Students will not be allowed to use the excuse "I didn't know." Please use a planner to help you keep up with dates.



Technology Policy

No cell phones/personal devices are to be used in class for any reason at any time unless specified by the teacher for the lesson. Students will not be allowed to charge their devices or make/receive calls, text, or utilize social media during class. Students will keep their devices on silent and will only use their device if it is announced as a BYOD (Bring Your Own Device) day. Otherwise, students will use school laptops or labs for activities or research. School technology should be treated with care and use can be revoked from misuse at any time.

- I. Warning
- II. Cell phone placed in "cell phone jail" until end of class
- III. Repeat offenders will have parents called and/or detention
- IV. Cell phone will be given to administration for parent to pick up

****Students will not take photos or record any staff member or student unless express permission is given from the teacher.**

Plagiarism/ Cheating

I will only accept work that is unique to you. Cheating is defined as giving or receiving information on homework, quizzes, or tests or submitting duplicate work for outside assignments. Plagiarism is using another person's ideas or writing as your own. If you are found guilty of cheating/ plagiarism, you will receive a zero on the assignment and will be referred to the office for disciplinary action.

Absent/ Late Work Policy

It is the student's responsibility to contact me within 3 days for an excused absence. All needed material for make-up work will be in the hanging absent folders in the front of the classroom. Late work will be accepted up to 3 days after the original due date for a 10% deduction per day. Late work will not be accepted after the third day. No extra credit work will be given.

Passes out of Class

If you need to leave for any reason, you **MUST** have permission and must follow the school policies in place.

You will be given three passes out of class for your locker/restroom/water per nine weeks, so please take care of all those needs before coming to class. No additional passes will be given unless there is an extenuating circumstance.

Students must sign in and out on the clipboard by the door in addition to taking a pass. Passes will only be issued when the teacher is not actively teaching. You should not distract active teaching to ask to use the bathroom.

Class Time



The moment the bell rings, be in your seat with your pencil sharpened, books out, cell phones put away, and brain ready to learn. Bellwork will appear on the board every day, and you should begin this **BEFORE** the bell rings. I follow the LMS Student Handbook policy on tardiness. During class time, I expect you to be on task and attentive. I try my hardest to make even the most challenging aspects of the course engaging, but your attitude will make the difference. Class is not over until I dismiss you; you should not pack up before I tell you to or line up at the door early. If you finish work early, you should move onto the next task or begin working on your independent reading assignments.

Google Classroom



We will utilize Google Classroom to post reminders, assignments, etc.

Join **your** class using the Google Classroom codes below:

A Block: 2cx15a

C Block: 13h2jnz

D Block: c37q1j

E Block: 94trb8

INOW

Please check INOW frequently to monitor grades and progress in the class. Please note that codes such "ABS", absent, or "EX", exempt, in INOW will show up as a "0" if you are using a cellular device and will possibly miscalculate your grade. Please use a desktop/laptop to see the correct calculations and codes appearing.

Please sign and fill out the bottom portion of this page to acknowledge that you have read the policies/procedures and syllabus. (Students should keep the other pages of the syllabus in their binder at all times.)

****Please return by Monday, August 12th.**

2019-20 Mrs. Dean's Honors Language Arts Signature Form

Please complete the following with either **YES** or **NO** in the blank, and then sign below.

_____ I have read and understand Mrs. Dean's classroom policies, procedures, expectations, and syllabus.

_____ My child will have internet access daily at home.

_____ I have additional comments/concerns about my child. (If so, please list below)

_____ I have submitted my email address through your email distribution list. (If NO, please write the best mode of contact for your family here: _____)

Student signature: _____

Student Printed Name: _____ Block: _____

Parent signature: _____

Today's date: _____

Additional Comments/Concerns: