



7th Grade English 2020-2021

Mrs. Locke-Jones

In 7th grade English, students will focus on developing strong reading, writing, speaking and thinking skills. Students will be challenged and engaged every day in the following:

Writing

Students will write daily in class in both informal and formal styles throughout the year. The writing process will be used (prewriting, drafting, editing, revising, publishing) as students explore different types of writing and different purposes for writing. Writing skills are extremely important to succeed at the best Baltimore City high schools and the most prestigious colleges and universities. Specific types of writing in 7th grade include:

- Journal Writing
- Expository Writing
- Argumentative Writing
- Creative Writing
- Writing Poetry

English: Springboard Curriculum

For English this year, students will be using The College Board's Springboard curriculum. All work will be completed on Google Classroom.

Note-Taking

7th-grade students will learn a specific style of note-taking called Double Entry Journal, and we will refine our note-taking skills throughout the year. Students are expected to keep a neat notebook on Google Classroom with their notes and class assignments in order.

Speaking and Listening

Academic talk plays a very large and very important role in Mrs. Locke-Jones' class. Students will be expected to speak to each other in an academically appropriate way as well as actively listen to what others have to say. Many assignments will involve speaking and listening, including:

- Oral presentations (individual and group)
- Literature Circles
- Group work
- Whole class debates
- Socratic Seminars

Mrs. Locke-Jones' Classroom Rules

- Follow the directions the first time they are given.
- Use respectful and appropriate language.
- Respect personal space.
- Respect airtime.
- Clean and Safe Environment.

Student Behavior and Consequences

Students are expected to behave in accordance with the classroom rules. Failure to follow the rules will result in specific consequences that are consistent with the consequences for Hampstead Hill Academy.

- Verbal Warning
- Demerit
- Hallway Conversation + 2nd Demerit
- Restorative Room Referral + 3rd Demerit
- Detention, Loss of all daily points.

Grading

Students will receive progress reports from Mrs. Locke-Jones to give them feedback on their grades in class, and grades are weighted in the following categories:

- Assessments & Quizzes 60%
- Classwork + Participation 30%
- Homework 10%

All work will be due by 7:45 am the following day.

Portfolios

Throughout the year, students will be compiling their best work into a 7th-grade student work portfolio. Students will end the year with four portfolio pieces per class (12 portfolio pieces total).

Contact/Communication

- You can reach me by using the Bloomz app or by scheduling a zoom call 48 hours in advance. I am available for contact from 8 am-5 pm.
- You can expect me to answer any Bloomz message within 24 hours M-F and the first thing on Monday morning during the weekend.
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The 7th Grade team is excited to tackle the adventure of virtual learning. In order to best support your virtual learning experience and academic success, the 7th-grade team has created a set of Virtual Learning and Zoom Norms.

Virtual Learning Norms

1. Login in daily! Please remember to check your email and Google Classroom at the beginning of each morning.
2. Read all instructions on Google Classroom and each assignment.
3. Plagiarism is unacceptable. Any work submitted that is not your own will result in a zero.
4. Always use appropriate and academic language when communicating with staff and students.
5. Complete work on time and to the best of your ability. Feel free to ask questions via Bloomz.

Zoom

1. During our class time, please turn your video on! It's important to see your face so we can create a connection between you and your name. We want to make sure that we can continue to build our relationships throughout a year. If there is a specific concern or you do not have a device with video access, please contact your homeroom teacher for support.
2. During our class time, we want to make sure that we can hear from you! If you have an answer to a question or want to speak, please use the "raise your hand" feature through Zoom. For more information on how to do that, check out this [helpful video](#).
3. We want to make sure that we're keeping our Zoom classes as professional as possible! Please make sure you're wearing appropriate attire during our class time. Some simple rules are:
 - a. No pajama-type attire, undershirts or other bedtime attire is allowed during the school day or during school-sponsored activities.
 - b. Apparel with vulgar statements or statements promoting illegal drugs, alcohol, sex, violence, or gangs is not allowed.
 - c. No undergarments worn as outerwear are allowed. Clothing should be worn so that undergarments, including boxer shorts, thongs, or bras, are not exposed.
4. Just a reminder that all Zoom classes will be recorded. This will allow missing students to be able to gain access to instruction as well as support students who might need it. Please contact your homeroom teacher with any additional questions or if you're absent.
5. All zoom links and schedules will be posted on your Google classroom. Please allow a five-minute window for tech issues and software updates to make sure you're on time for class!