

## **7th Grade ELA/Advanced ELA**

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Select staff websites then Hannah Alkhori, then follow the links on the left hand side.

**Welcome to a new and exciting school year!**

**I am looking forward to working with each of you. This year, you will encounter new challenges as you prepare for 8th grade and high school. I am looking forward to an amazing year!**

### **Description of Course**

The 7th grade ELA class is based on Arizona's Career and College Readiness Standards and the Deer Valley Unified School District Curriculum. The curriculum includes the following domains:

- Reading Standards for Literature and Informational Text
- Writing
- Speaking and Listening Standards

### **Materials:**

College Ruled One Subject Spiral Notebook (for journal)

Loose leaf paper

Pens

Pencils

Highlighters

Glue Stick

Tissues

Wipes

Jolly Ranchers or Other individually wrapped candy for rewards

\* Please let me know if you need assistance with any of these items. Arizona law requires public schools to provide supplies required for academic success. This list represents optional, supplementary items which you may supply at your discretion.

### **Determining Quarter Grade and Final Grade**

Your student's official grade will be in Power Schools, NOT Canvas. Grades will be determined on the students' cumulative earned points and weighted by category.

**Assessments:** Summative tests, projects

**Coursework** (check for understanding): **MUST BE COMPLETED IN CLASS.** Quizzes, independent practice, assignments, exit tickets, checks for understanding, and daily activities.

**Practice** (in the process of learning): Student work that is completed inside or outside of class, such as classwork and homework.

**Grades will be based on the following:**

80% - Assessment

20% - Coursework

0% - Practice

The final (year-end grade) will be based on each of your grades from each of the 4 quarters and will follow the Deer Valley Unified School District's Promotion, Retention, Acceleration and Grading Handbook.

**Late Work/Missing Work**

All practice tasks are expected on their assigned due dates. If students are absent on a date that an assignment was due, the work is expected on the day of the student's return. If a student is on campus,

but not in class, the work must still be handed in on time. If a student is absent, the student will have 1 day

for each absence to complete work that was assigned while absent. Math concepts build upon each other

and turning work in late could hinder students' learning of the concepts being taught. This could mean a lower level of understanding the 7th grade math standards and lower performance on assessments which will affect the overall grade.

**Missing Work:** An assignment is considered as missing work when it is not submitted by the due date.

**Late Work:** An assignment is considered late work when the assignment is not submitted by the due date that was established, but is submitted within the late work timeframe listed below:

- Assignment is not due within the class period
- assignment is not a long-term assignment
- Assignment is turned in within 5 school days after the end of the unit

**Classwork:** An assignment expected to be submitted within the class period.

**Homework:** An assignment expected to be completed fully or partially at home independently.

**Practice:** (classwork/homework) This category includes tasks, completed inside and outside of the classroom, that a student completes while in the process of learning specific skills.

**Extra Credit:** A student's grade is based on his/her performance of the 7th grade ELA standards and therefore no extra credit will be awarded.

## **Classroom Environment**

In order to be successful in learning 7th grade ELA, students MUST engage in the learning activities. Engaging in your learning means: listening to the teacher and other students; completing tasks; asking questions of the teacher and of other students; presenting your thinking to other students and the class; and taking risks. Do not be afraid to make mistakes. THAT'S HOW LEARNING HAPPENS!

*Disruptions to the learning environment are not acceptable and consequences will follow the school discipline policy.*

## **Absences**

Students who are absent, are still responsible for the learning that occurs in class as well as any assignments that are missed. Information about missed learning assignments will be available in Canvas under Modules by week. If students need help understanding, they should sign up and attend FLASH. Students must make up assessments missed due to an absence within two weeks of the original assessment date. Students should be scheduling and attending FLASH class to make up missed assessments. If there are extenuating circumstances, please contact the teacher to make other arrangements.

*\*\*\* Being absent does NOT exempt you from the learning or the assignments. \*\*\**

## **Plagiarism**

All tasks should be completed by the student. Any practice and/or assessment that has been plagiarized (copied) from any source i.e. apps that give answers, other students, or the internet may receive consequences as noted in the district policies and the student may have to complete an alternative task to demonstrate his/her knowledge. This includes getting answers from others off of social media applications. Turning in work that is NOT your own IS plagiarism.

## **A.I.**

After careful consideration and in alignment with the developmental needs of our students and the Children's

Online Privacy Protection Act (COPPA), DVUSD has determined that the use of Large Language Models

(LLMs), such as ChatGPT, are not suitable for students in grades K-8 and will not be utilized or endorsed in academic contexts.

## **Additional Help**

Extra help is for students who are engaging in class learning activities but continue to struggle with specific ELA objectives. Make sure to always complete ALL assignments, even if they are difficult, and then ask for help in class and/or schedule and attend FLASH for additional help.

## **Assessments**

Assessments must be completed the day they are given within the class period. The only exception is if the student misses the previous TWO days before the assessment. An absence the day before the assessment may not excuse the student from the assessment.

## **Reassessments**

In order to ensure mastery of the standards for which a student did not demonstrate proficiency; students may be required to make corrections on assessments, complete missing assignments (not for credit but for learning), complete alternate learning tasks/assignments, and/or meet with the teacher to explain misunderstandings. Then, they may take an alternate assessment of the same learning targets.

A student *MAY NOT* retake an assessment without *all* coursework and practice tasks that lead up to that assessment, being completed.

## **Cell Phone/Electronic Device Classroom Policy**

Cell phones and technology are a large part of our world today. There are times that using cell phones/electronic devices are permitted during the school day and during class learning experiences at the discretion of the teacher. Cell phones/electronic devices are expected to be turned OFF upon entering the campus and are expected to be placed in the students' backpack. This includes ear-buds, air-pods, and head-phones. The only time a cell phone/electronic device should be out or in use is when the teacher has specifically stated that it may be used for educational purposes. If the cell phone policy is not followed, the following consequences may occur:

- 1) Verbal warning and documentation
- 2) Incident report and/or phone call to parent
- 3) Turned into office for student pick-up at the end of the school day
- 4) Turned into office – follow school discipline procedures for cell phones/electronic devices

## **Canvas (Deer Valley's Learning Management System)**

Deer Valley USD uses Canvas to support the district's technology initiative. Designed specifically for K-12 teachers and students, Canvas is an easy-to-use, cloud-based learning management system (LMS) that connects all the digital tools and resources teachers use into one simple place. It integrates seamlessly with hundreds of apps, empowering teachers and students with countless tools to make teaching and learning easier and more engaging. The Canvas grade book is connected to our student information system, PowerSchool. Parents can create a Canvas parent account to observe progress, view grades and sign up to receive teacher announcements and notifications. Observers can link their Canvas account to their student's account so they can see assignment due dates, announcements, and other course content. Observers can view the course content but cannot participate in the course. When your student logs into Canvas, he/she should go to "account", then "settings", then "pair with observer" and this will give you a code where you can link your parent account to your student's account.

**How can you be successful in ELA?**

1. Be prepared for class
2. Complete all learning progressions on your own or according to directions
3. Pay attention in class
4. Study at home for all tests
5. Fully engage in class activities
6. ASK FOR HELP IF YOU DO NOT UNDERSTAND

Remember, I cannot read your mind. If you do not ask questions, I assume that you understand the material.

The only stupid question is the one that goes unasked!