

ELA Core 7-1

Course Description: Welcome to 7th Grade ELA! Our focus this school year will be learning and developing our skills as critical thinkers, readers, writers, speakers, and listeners. The development and mastery of these important literary skills not only is important to achieving success in the ELA classroom, it is a critical component in achieving success in other school subjects, building strong relationships with others, and attaining a flourishing career as an adult. Basically, the quality of life you experience now through adulthood will depend a lot on how well you read, write, and communicate with others.

Where do I find assignments and agendas? On our class website! This site will house the weekly agendas, assignment due dates, PDF copies of class handouts, important announcements, and more. Please bookmark the following site and check it daily. **Website:** <http://garicaliteracy.weebly.com/>

We also use Google Classroom for class assignments, discussions, and projects will be posted and turned in. ****** Please be aware that my website is updated as much as possible; however, there will be times when I cannot update it as often. Please be patient with this and contact me with any questions.**

What happens if I am absent (unplanned) or know I will be absent (PLANNED IN ADVANCE)? Use the class website first! If you still are unclear, ask a reliable friend if you can copy their planner. IF THEN YOU STILL AREN'T SURE, ask Mrs. Garcia. When you are at home sick, check the website. Be proactive so you can stay up to date with the class.

How will I check my grade for this class? Class progress reports are often sent home once a week on paper form through the student's advisory. Parents and students are also strongly encouraged to check the Parent Vue on a weekly basis to view the most current grades for EVERY class.

Do I have HW in this class and what are your retake policies?

Homework is often assigned if an assignment did not get completed in class. Therefore, if you work hard and utilize class time, the amount of HW you have is determined by you! I encourage you to make an effort to read for at least 20 minutes each night.

Retakes are available UP TO ONE WEEK after the grade is posted on Student Vue. Retakes must be discussed with Mrs. Garcia in advance. You may not ask to take a re-take on the final day of the one week window. It is never an option to complete a retake during class time.

What do we READ in this class? We read every day independently with your book of choice (some guidelines apply) in class. Students keep a reading response log every week and complete a structured reading response paragraph each week. This is a HUGE part of your overall ELA grade. We also

Classroom Rules The 5 P's

PATIENT



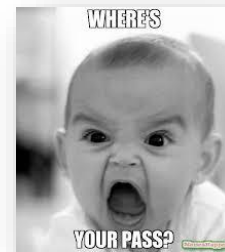
PREPARED



PRODUCTIVE



PROMPT



POLITE



read 3 novels as a class: *The Wednesday Wars* by Gary Schmidt, an abridged version of Mary Shelley's *Frankenstein*, & *The Outsiders* by SE Hinton. An assortment of short stories and poems will also be utilized throughout the year.

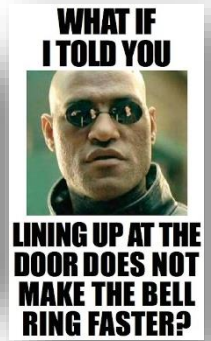
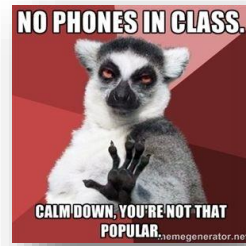
What do we WRITE in this class? You will have a daily warm-up, which includes a variety of different types of writing practice, multiple argumentative writing assignments, and a daily journal (prompts provided).

What do I need to bring to class EVERY DAY? Your literacy binder is CRUCIAL! We use it every day and it houses everything you will need to be successful. We will spend a lot of time setting it up and keeping it organized throughout the year. Learning behavior grades will be given on the upkeep and organization of this tool. You must ALWAYS have your free reader, a useful writing tool, and your school planner.

Can I check out a book from your library? YES! Once you find a book, fill out the checkout card and place it in the correct PAPER CLIP (color coded). Please put the book in the return basket when you are done. If they are not returned, you are fined just like the library!

When I walk into Mrs. Garcia's class what should I do? Every day is very routine so you have no surprises (or anxiety 😬) about what each day will entail. Here's is the low down for an average day in Mrs. Garcia's class:

1. When you enter my room you immediately write down the agenda in your planner. **EVERY DAY! NO EXCEPTIONS THIS IS A CORE EXPECTATION!**
2. Next, go to your warm up section and complete the day's warm up (independently unless told otherwise).
3. Once you have done that, get out your reading log and book and begin to free read.
4. Then the day's lesson will take place.
5. The last 15 minutes of class will be designated for Journal Writing.



Class Expectations

- Be in your seat on time.
- Put proper MLA heading on all papers.
- Do not use electronic devices in class without teacher permission.
- Use restroom during passing periods.
- Maintain a clean and orderly work area.
- Bring all of your supplies to class daily.
- Complete all of your work and turn it in on time.
- All RMS rules and policies shall be observed within the classroom.



Supplies

- 3 Ring Binder
- Spiral Notebook
- Lots of Page Protectors
- Color Copy Paper
- Paper & Pencils
- Highlighters & Sticky Notes
- Flash Drive (one for all academic classes)
- Color Markers & Pencils
- KLEENEX