Weebly: [www.missk-ela.weebly.com](http://www.missk-ela.weebly.com)

Check here FIRST if you are absent for information and homework!

# **7A -- Writing**

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## Welcome to 7A Writing, a course focusing on critical writing, thinking, and speaking. Your analysis in this course will compliment the word you do in ELA – Reading and will push you in new ways. With a focus on the writing process, grammar, vocabulary, and composition, 7A Writing requires extensive in-class participation and focus.

*Throughout the course, you will:*

* compose formal and informal essays, narratives, and responses
* approach vocabulary with an emphasis on Greek and Latin roots
* improve sentence construction by intensively studying grammar within the context of composition

**Materials**

* Three-ring binder
* Composition notebook
* Pen / pencil
* All packets and handouts as distributed, organized in your binder by the corresponding tabs

Per the Rutherford Student Handbook and Discipline Code, **“Students are only permitted to use electronic devices with teacher permission and for educational purposes.”** Please plan NOT to use your phone during our time together – I won’t be checking mine, either, as you deserve my full attention. I deserve yours as well. ☺

**Turning in Work**

Your work must be turned in by the end of the day to be considered on time. For some assignments I may ask for you to turn in the assignment in print or online.

Please be aware that simply staying home from school on the due date does not grant you an extension – if you are unexpectedly ill or otherwise unable to attend school, please email me your essay by 3:00 pm. If necessary, I am always available to discuss possible exceptions to this policy.

**Expectations**

*Here is what I will expect from you:*

* You will perform the assigned tasks outside of class so that you are an active participant during in-class discussion.
* You will submit your own work. Please be familiar with the school’s plagiarism consequences.
* You will work slowly, carefully, and strategically in your thinking and writing.

*Here is what you can expect from me:*

* I will treat you like an adult and create a positive and welcoming environment.
* While I will find positive components of your written and verbal work, I will also offer constructive criticism.
* I will keep you challenged by consistently pushing you to surpass your current skill levels.

**Attendance**

Attendance is crucial for the writing process; the collaborative, discussion-based work is of a nature that cannot be replicated on your own outside of class. Therefore, please be very mindful of your attendance. If you must be absent, please check in both with a classmate **and** via my Weebly site. Please only see me after you have done both and still need further clarification.If you miss part of the day only, you are always welcome to attend another section of the class.

9 August 2017

Dear 7A Writing Student and Parent/Guardian:

I am thrilled to welcome you to 7A Writing; starting the year at a brand new school is a difficult thing and I commend you all on your choice to try new things. I, too, am an adventurer and always wish to see the unseen.

Though we are at the very beginning of our time together, I encourage you to work with an eye toward the end: create a vision of the advanced writer, speaker, and thinker you want to become, and know that our time together will help you move toward those goals. Your entire life will be easier, brighter, and more interesting as your literacy skills are honed and refined.

This may be new, but this year your assessments will be based on your quality as scholars, not merely upon completion of tasks. **Please be aware that grades alone are not a measure of success**; you may work extremely hard in 7A Writing to achieve B’s and some students will work equally hard for C’s. However, please also be aware that earning high grades in 7A Writing is entirely possible. Regardless, the best way you can maximize your time in our class is to come to class with a positive attitude and ready to work.

Homework assignments and due dates will be on all assignments and reminders will be sent out through Remind. If you are absent, check my Weebly so that, upon your return to class, you are prepared for any due assignments. You should also reach out to a classmate for updates and information before asking me about missed work. If you still need materials or clarification, you may see me in my classroom during my prep or after school.

Parents and guardians, if you have questions, comments, or concerns, email is the best venue for communication. Please provide your email address on the attached form so that I may contact you with updates. You are also encouraged to contact me at any time at kuntze@rcschool.net If you would prefer to call please reach the school at 615.904.6780 and ask for them to transfer you to my room, I will return your call as soon as possible. I also use the application Remind to help communicate and send out reminders, while keeping all personal contact information private. I will be sending home a second letter home with information on the application and how it works after the students sign up so you, too, can learn about the application and be apart of the reminders if you wish!

I look forward to a collaborative effort with all of you this year in 7A Writing. Please retain the top portion of this sheet and return the bottom one to me by Friday, August 25th.

Best,

Elyse M. Kuntz

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I have read the expectations, requirements, and policies regarding Honors English 10.

Student Name

*(Please Print)*

Student Signature

Parent / Guardian Name(s)

*(Please print)*

Parent / Guardian Email Address(es)

Parent / Guardian Signature(s)