Contact Info:
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Course Description
The 7th grade Language Arts curriculum at Mar Vista Academy is based on Common Core Standards. SpringBoard, the CollegeBoard’s official Pre-AP program, is our foundation. Reading, writing, speaking, listening, and collaborative strategies are used purposefully to build knowledge and skills and to help students become independent critical readers, writers, and thinkers.

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<tr>
<th>Unit</th>
<th>Texts</th>
<th>Major Assignments</th>
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<tbody>
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<td>What Influences My Choices?</td>
<td>Advertisements, magazines, print ads, videos, newspapers</td>
<td>• Writing an argumentative essay</td>
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<td>• Creating an advertisement</td>
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<td>Our Choices and Life’s Lessons</td>
<td>The Outsiders by S.E. Hinton, poetry, informational text, non-fiction</td>
<td>• Writing a literary analysis essay</td>
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<td>text excerpts</td>
<td>• Participating in a mock trial</td>
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<td>How We Choose to Act</td>
<td>Poetry, monologues, informational texts, film “Twelfth Night”</td>
<td>• Performing a Shakespearean dialogue</td>
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<td>• Writing a compare/contrast essay</td>
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<td>The Choices We Make</td>
<td>Poetry, personal narratives</td>
<td>• Writing &amp; revising a personal narrative</td>
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<td>• Creating a three word memoir</td>
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Portfolio Requirement:
Students will keep a wide range of work in a classroom portfolio. The portfolio will include:
- Embedded Assessments that comprise all steps in the writing process; student reflection on process and product; teacher assessment; and student reflection on assessment.
- Global revision and reflection that reveals one’s growth as a writer
- Assignments that demonstrate a variety of learning strategies, various stages of the writing process, and reading, writing, speaking and listening skills.

Daily Materials Required
- Independent Reading Book
- 9x11 Notebook
- Fully charged iPad in case
- 3-Ring binder for all classes, with a divider/section devoted to English 7;
- 2 pencils, 2 pens;
- 1-3 highlighters of varying colors;
- iPad stylus (Optional, but highly recommended)
- Single Subject Notebook or lined paper

Textbooks
Student should leave their Springboard textbook at school. They should keep their Holt Literature book at home.

Independent Reading Book
Students are required to have an independent reading book that they read at least 20 minutes every day. The book should be grade-level or higher, may be any genre, and should be brought to class EVERY day. Students may also choose to read an academic magazine or newspaper.
Grading Policy
Assignment grades are based on students’ mastery of the content and skills.

Grades assigned to coursework:

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<th>Grade</th>
<th>Descriptor</th>
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| A     | Exceeds Standards  
Student work exceeds expectations as outlined in the rubric or task requirements. |
| B     | Meets Standards  
Student work meets expectation as outlined in the rubric or task requirements. |
| C     | Approaches Standards  
Student work is developing into a product that meets expectation, but is missing elements and/or requires some revision. |
| F     | Emerging  
Student work is in the beginning stages of developing into a product that meets expectation, but is missing key elements and/or requires extensive revision. |

Course grades:

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<th>Categories</th>
<th>Weights</th>
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| Standards Mastery  
* Includes tests, essays, major projects, district performance tasks, district final exams, etc. | 60% of overall course grade |
| Standards Practice/Academic Enrichment  
* Includes classwork, homework, student’s class preparation/participation, and academic practice. | 40% of overall course grade |

Note to Parents About Monitoring Grades:
You can monitor your child’s progress through Jupitergrades.com and/or through their child’s iPad using the Jupiter Grades app icon. Periodic emails will be sent home regarding progress; we strongly encourage you to provide a current email address to the school if we don’t already have one on file.

Academic Support for All Students:
We believe that all students can and will meet minimum academic competencies at Mar Vista Academy. To strive for this, every two weeks, students will be assessed on the skills and knowledge (concepts) taught in English 7 and an after school re-teaching/re-learning/re-assessing session will be provided to students who need additional support in meeting minimum competencies and to improve their academic grade in English 7.

I have read and understand all of the requirements for my child’s English 7 class.

__________________________________________          ___________________________________________
Parent Name (print)                                      Parent Signature