

College Preparatory & Honors English 7:

"A Quest for Identity"



The theme "A Quest for Identity" is appropriately placed at the 7th grade level as students leave elementary school to begin to identify their passions, interests and talents. The focus for English 7 is around skill building, healthy classroom and study habits for your student's future success throughout middle school and beyond.

This is a time when students should begin to show independence and learn how to advocate for oneself in and out of the classroom. As such, the literature explores these ideas as well. Students will read a variety of literary selections including works from the grade level reading list, pieces from *Literature and Language Arts First Course* (Holt Rinehart Winston), *A Midsummer Night's Dream* by William Shakespeare, and various poetry, nonfiction, and expository texts. Reading both fiction and nonfiction, students will work to analyze and discover meaning as they develop writing, listening, speaking, and thinking skills to ensure understanding, application, and appreciation. Writing types are

common core-based and focus on explanatory writing, argumentative writing, and narrative writing.

Below you will find a more detailed reading list and specific skills that we will focus on for this year.

Reading List for English 7	Skills focus for English 7
<p>Students will read from the following text selections:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">✓ <i>The Giver</i> by Lois Lowry✓ <i>The Outsiders</i> by S.E. Hinton✓ <i>The Adventures of Tom Sawyer</i> by Mark Twain✓ <i>The Pearl</i> by John Steinbeck✓ <i>The Hunger Games</i> by Suzanne Collins✓ <i>Holes</i> by Louis Sacher✓ <i>The Hobbit</i> by J.R.R. Tolkien✓ <i>A Midsummer Night's Dream</i> by William Shakespeare✓ "Duffy's Jacket" by Bruce Coville✓ "All Summer In a Day" by Ray Bradbury✓ "Mother and Daughter" – Gary Soto✓ "Smallest Dragon Boy" by Anne McCaffrey✓ "The Lady or the Tiger" by Frank Stockton✓ "Three Skeleton Key" by George G. Toudouze✓ "The Gift of the Magi" by O. Henry✓ Various, current nonfiction texts	<p>All students will learn how to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">✓ Write a traditional 5-paragraph essay independently.✓ Understand the function of a thesis statement in expository writing.✓ Write insightful and well developed paragraphs using evidence to support the claim.✓ Incorporate sophisticated vocabulary and style into writing.✓ Read for both pleasure as well as careful analysis.✓ Define of the most common literary techniques and terms and identify examples of them.✓ Find and correct proofreading errors in their own rough drafts.✓ Discover the theme, symbolism, and other literary devices in a piece of writing.✓ Practice effective study skills, note-taking, annotating. <p><i>*If you have questions about English levels, please see our department website for more information at http://ptmsEnglish.org</i></p>