

**WELCOME
TO 6th Grade**

Capt. Mark T. Voss Middle School

English

"EDUCATION IS THE MOST POWERFUL WEAPON WHICH YOU CAN USE TO CHANGE THE WORLD." - NELSON MANDELA

COURSE DESCRIPTION

This class is an integrated program that utilizes reading, writing, speaking, and listening. Reading instruction will expose students to a variety of thinking strategies. Written communication will include narrative, informative, and argumentative writing. Speaking and listening will provide opportunities for collaboration and discussion.

GRADING

Grades will be based on daily assessments that will include forms of writing, inquiry/research, collaboration, and discussion, as well as tests and projects that are designed to show students' mastery of the content. Students will have multiple opportunities to reach mastery on each standard. Grades will be assigned as follows:

Category	Weights	Min. Grades per 9 weeks	Reassessment	
Minor	50%	7	Opportunities to reassess should be given within a reasonable time frame	
Major	50%	2	within 1 week	maximum grade of 70

Students may correct Minor and Major grades up to a 70 within 1 week if the original score was below a 70. Students are responsible for completing their corrections in a timely manner and respectfully emailing the teacher with the name of the assignment that was resubmitted.

CLASSROOM PROCEDURES

Start of Class

Be on time with your materials and find your assigned seat.

Read the Agenda and add important info to your planner!

Start the Warm-up.

During Class

Follow class rules and instructions.

Be engaged, work hard, and manage your time wisely.

Follow classroom expectations

End of Class

Stay seated until the teacher dismisses you.

Clean up your area, not just your desk.

Take and complete work at home if needed.

EXPECTATIONS

BE PREPARED: Bring a planner, class supplies, Literacy Notebook (LNB), and class novel.

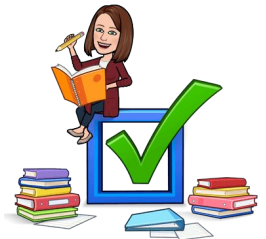
BE RESPECTFUL: Raise your hand and wait to be called on. Respect VMS faculty/staff as well as your classmates.

BE PROMPT: Be seated and ready to work when the tardy bell rings.

BE RESPONSIBLE: Expect to study, work hard, and be accountable for your learning.

CLASS MATERIALS

- 2-100 page composition book
- 1- folder with pockets and brads
- Pencils
- Eraser
- Ruler
- Colored pencils
- Highlighters
- Glue sticks
- Independent reading book
- Copy of class novel



ABSENCES

If you are absent, it is your responsibility to check Google Classroom and speak to or email the teacher about what you missed. You will not receive extra class time to complete an assignment. You may make arrangements to come and work after school or in WIN (what I need). Do not assume you can stay any day of the week. Arrangements must be made with the teacher at least 1 day prior. Students will be given one day per day that they are absent, following the A/B block schedule.



INDEPENDENT PRACTICE

All students should be reading a book of choice at home and during SSR, however, there is no time requirement or reading log for at-home reading. Students will be required to complete journal entries and give book talks in response to what they have read. Students are also encouraged to use study hall periods to complete work. Students may need to bring projects and essays home depending on how much they were able to complete in class. If students bring home any other independent assignments, it would be because they did not finish it during the provided class time.

CONTACT ME

The best way to reach me is via email at lesley.olvera@boerneisd.net. You may call me in my classroom at 830-357-3553, however I do not answer external calls during class periods. Please leave a voicemail, and I will get back to you as soon as possible.



CELL PHONE POLICY: DO'S AND DON'TS

Before entering the classroom, cell phones must be turned off and put away. Cell phones are not allowed in class. If I see it out, students will be given an initial warning. Continual cell phone use will result in the phone being taken up and parent contact. Please let Mrs. Olvera know if a text or call needs to be made to a parent.

FOOD & GUM

We are a NO GUM campus. Help keep our beautiful campus clean! Students may eat a *small* snack during the last 10 minutes of 1st and 5th period ONLY. Snack privileges will be removed if trash is continually left on the ground.

LATE ASSIGNMENTS

Assignments are expected to be turned in on the due date. You are not allowed to work on late or missed assignments in class once we start a new assignment.

Maximum Grade	70	50	0 credit
Timeline	1 class	2 classes	over 2 classes

A/B Block Schedule will be followed. Example: A student misses an A day, they have until the next A day to turn in late work.

RESTROOM BREAKS

Go to the restroom before class during the 5-minute passing period. No one is allowed to leave the first 10 minutes and the last 10 minutes of class. Only one student may go to the restroom at a time. The expectation is that work has been completed before using the restroom and that good work ethic has been maintained. Please do not ask to go to the restroom while the teacher is direct teaching. Please let me know if you need to use the restroom more frequently for a personal issue at the beginning of class.

Digital Platforms

Google Classroom
NoRedInk
FlipGrid



BACK TO SCHOOL!