



7th Grade English Syllabus

Course Details

Course Code: 10100000 (Yearlong), 1010S100 (Semester 1), 1010S200 (Semester 2)

Subject: 7th Grade English

Required Prerequisites: Successful completion of 6th Grade English

Suggested Prerequisites: None

Recommended Grade Levels: 7th Grade

Duration: Varies

Course Availability: A listing of when this course is offered in the current school year can be found on the [VirtualSC Current Course Offerings page](#) (opens in a new window).

Class Times: There are no scheduled class meetings for this course; however, to measure learning, students complete self-checks, practice lessons, multiple choice questions, projects, discussion-based assessments, and live conferences with an instructor. Students are expected to maintain regular contact with teachers. Students are expected to work on their own to meet the deadlines posted in their course pacing guide. Students should expect to spend 7-9 hours a week working on this course independently, in addition to any live meetings.

Textbook: There is no textbook required for this course.

Required Course Materials:

The following reading materials are optional. Students may choose to read a novel from the list or from short stories linked within the course. Students choosing a novel are required to obtain their own copy.

- *Ungifted* by Gordon Korman
- *Out of My Mind* by Sharon Draper
- *Serafina and the Black Cloak* by Robert Beatty
- *Freak the Mighty* by Rodman Philbrick
- *The Magician's Nephew* by CS Lewis

- *The Watsons Go to Birmingham* Christopher Paul Curtis

Students taking the advanced track must select one additional novel below:

- *Treasure Island* by Robert Louis Stevenson
- *The Wonderful Wizard of Oz* by L. Frank Baum
- *The Secret Garden* by Frances Hodgson Burnett

Outside Websites: A list of links to websites and online textbooks used in this course can be found here: [VSC Course Links Document Folder \(opens in a new window\)](#). Students will need to be able to access all of these links to access all course materials.

Final Exam: Students in this course take section A and section B comprehensive assessments.

Course Description

Using a motif of Mystery, Monsters, and Mayhem, students in the MJ Language Arts 2 course will acquire the reading, writing, language, and speaking/listening skills necessary for success in college, career, and beyond. Students will become critical readers and thinkers as they delve into fiction and informational texts within the course. They will also learn to effectively write narrative, informational, and argumentative pieces and present their ideas clearly and cohesively.

The curriculum used in this course is guided by the [SC College- and Career-Ready Standards for ELA Grade 7](#) (opens in a new window).

Scope and Sequence

Advanced assessments are in italics. Students not taking the advanced course will skip these lessons and assessments.

Module 1: History of Mystery

- Mysteries That Change History
- What Is Theme?
- Literary Elements Interact
- How Theme Develops
- Comparing and Contrasting Mediums
- What Is the Mystery Meaning?
- Thesaurus and Dictionary Skills
- Implicit and Explicit Meaning
- Look For the Main Idea

- Writing an Effective Summary

Module 2: Everyday Monsters

- Assess Internet Sources
- Why Writers Choose Words
- Reading Informational Texts
- Researching and Organizing Information
- Avoiding Plagiarism
- Introduction Paragraph
- Connect Your Ideas
- Support Your Main Ideas
- Present Your Work

Module 3: Social Mayhem

- Who Tells It Best?
- Planning Your Narrative
- Begin Your Story
- What Did You Say?
- Body Language
- Pause for Commas
- Time to Transition
- Make It Stronger

Segment One Advanced

- *What's in a Novel?*
- *Explore the Background*
- *Setting the Tone*

Module 4: Scientific Mystery

- Take a Closer Look
- Another View
- Spelling Rules!
- The Power of Allusions
- History versus Fiction
- Word Parts: Piecing Clues Together
- Information Sharing

Module 5: The Monster Within

- The Monster Within

- Poetry: An Inside Look
- The Elements of Drama
- A Different Perspective
- Rising and Falling Action
- Symbolism: A Deeper Meaning
- The Perfect Ending
- Misplaced and Dangling Modifiers
- You Be the Judge

Module 6: Weather Mayhem

- Making an Effective Argument
- Claims and Support
- Counterclaim and Rebuttal
- Organize Your Argument
- Focus Your Writing
- A Strong Introduction
- Build a Convincing Argument
- Closing Your Argument

Segment Two Advanced

- *Designing a Story*
- *Your Writing Style*
- *Noteworthy Themes*

Students will be sent a full list of assignments and their due dates at the beginning of the course.

Current pacing guides for this course can be found on the [Current Course Offerings page](#) (opens in a new window) on the VirtualSC website.

Course Grades

Teachers will share course grading details for students at the beginning of the course term.

VirtualSC Details

Information on VirtualSC student guidelines, policies and technology requirements can be found in the [VirtualSC Student Support Portal \(opens in a new window\)](#).

