

## 8<sup>th</sup> Grade Composition

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In 8<sup>th</sup> grade composition, we will begin to study the writing process since this is the foundation for the 10<sup>th</sup> and 12<sup>th</sup> grade composition classes. Students will learn what a topic sentence is, and they will eventually apply their techniques in writing a five-paragraph essay and a literary analysis. Some examples of the assignments are as follows:

- Autobiography
- Biography of a famous Georgian
- Poetry anthology
- Compare/contrast essay
- "How To..."
- Research Paper
- Literary Analysis

There are two kinds of grades in composition: daily (50%) and major (50%).

At the beginning of the course, we will study three chapters: (1) writing complete sentences, (2) writing effective sentences, and (3) understanding paragraph structure. There will be tests on each of these major chapters.

Each student is expected to show respect for the teacher, his or her classmates, and the property in the classroom.

It is very important that your child do his or her very best in this class. At the end of the year, the final grades in 8<sup>th</sup> grade English, 8<sup>th</sup> grade composition, and 8<sup>th</sup> grade reading are all used to determine a student's recommendation for 9<sup>th</sup> grade Honors English. A student's attitude, maturity level, and overall work ethic may also figure in to the recommendation.

**\*\*Parents, please initial here \_\_\_\_\_ that you have read, do understand, and will support this policy.**

All students are to be prepared for class each day. This includes bringing pencil and paper and other materials to class as instructed. All writing and typing are to be done in the classroom using Google Documents. Therefore, each student needs a laptop, tablet, or cell phone with Google applications. School laptops may also be available for most assignments. **Each student must know his or her password for Google classroom.**

Please encourage your child to come to school each day. Ten absences are allowed in a semester class, but attendance is a major facilitator to learning. All students are responsible for all assignments whether they are present or absent. According to the *Southland Handbook*, if a student is absent one day, he or she has one day to make up the work missed. If a student is absent for more than one day, then he or she will need to meet with me to discuss arrangements. Homework, tests, and projects will be posted on the school's website per week. **Remember that all assignments are subject to change.**

I want your child to succeed in learning the writing process because it is such an important skill for high school, college, and life. I will work closely with your child on his or her writing, and I hope that he or she is willing to

work hard on the learning process. Please feel free to email me at any time, and I will respond as soon as possible.

Thank you!

Virginia Page Jeter

**Student:** Please sign below.

I have read the classroom policies for 8<sup>th</sup> grade composition, and I understand them and will follow them while in Mrs. Jeter's class.

\_\_\_\_\_  
**Signature**

\_\_\_\_\_  
**Date**

**Parent(s):** Please sign below and return the full page to school as soon as possible. If you have any questions, please feel free to contact me.

My child has discussed the 8<sup>th</sup> grade composition classroom policies with me (us). I understand them and will support them.

\_\_\_\_\_  
**Signature**

\_\_\_\_\_  
**Date**