



7th Grade English-Language Arts (ELA)
Sycamore Springs Middle School
2020-2021 SCHOOL YEAR

Mrs. Kibbie Jensen
kibbie.jensen@dsisdtx.us

Ms. Jackie Dillon
jackie.dillon@dsisdtx.us

Dear Incoming 7th Graders:

Welcome to seventh grade English! We look forward to meeting all of you next year. This year, our curriculum will be focused around research, the Hero's Journey, the writing process, and critical analysis of texts.

This summer you will be reading a non-fiction book about *Communication in History*. This will be your first source for your National History Day project next year. To learn more about our expectations, please watch the [7th grade summer reading video](#) and check out the NHD website for more resources.

For your summer reading assignment you will:

1. Select a non-fiction book that is connected to the theme Communication in History and is about **a topic that happened before 1991**.
2. Read the entire book and make annotations.

When we get back to school, you will use what you have read from this book to complete your first assignment for the school year: a thematic connection activity that includes a written component. Ms. Dillon and Ms. Jensen will provide instruction for this assignment but will not be providing time in class for students to finish reading their book.

Students will be asked to answer the following questions about their book when we get back to school.

Author	Who wrote the book? What is their point of view?
Place and Time	When and where was the book written? When and where the book takes place?
Prior knowledge	What do you already know about this topic? What other sources have you read, heard, or seen?
Audience	For whom was this book created? Does this affect the credibility of this book? If so how?
Reason	Why was this book written?
The Main Idea	What did the author want the readers to really understand?
Significance	Why is this book important? How does this book connect with the theme <i>Communication in History</i> ?

