Welcome to our class! ELA III, is a year long course focusing on developing your skills as a reader, writer, speaker and listener. We will explore (seven-eight) main units of study to show growth and achieve mastery in the eight-grade level competencies. Consider this a capstone to your middle school English experience and foundations for high-school and your future success! I am excited to begin this year together! -Ms. Mernin

Units: Each unit of study will focus on a common theme and revolve around essential questions to deepen our thinking and learning. Each lesson within the unit will ask you to practice competencies tied to the learning targets in order to prepare for mastery. We will incorporate the four ELA academic skills; Reading, Writing, Speaking & Listening and Language (the grammar of things) throughout our time together. This includes two District Assessments infused into our literacy study, with a focus on argumentative writing.

Academics: Assessments and Grading
As per the TSD Middle School policy you will be scored according to the 1-4 Performance Indicators scale for Academics (90%) and Work Habits (10%).

<table>
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<th>1 Emerging</th>
<th>2 Progressing</th>
<th>3* Meeting</th>
<th>4 Exceeding</th>
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Classroom Policies:
- As per the BRMS cell-phone policy, personal devices will not be permitted in the classroom (time to unplug and be present).
- No food in the classroom. Unless we plan a celebration or event with planned food, I do not permit snacks in the room, this is to avoid allergic reactions and keep the space clean.
- Homework does happen, though infrequently and at the teacher’s discretion. There will be times when you are asked to complete a writing, or reading on your own time.
- Absenteeism happens. When you miss class, you are still responsible for the work we do.
- Please communicate! “You don’t know what you don’t know!” The best way to set yourself up for success this year is to let me know. If you need help ASK for it!

Materials: Everyday you need a Free Read, single one-subject notebook, and a pen/pencil. I pads are expected to be charged and brought to class; We will not use them everyday.

Contact: Ms. Mernin (Room #167 BRMS) jessamine.mernin@thompsonschools.org
Email is the best way to get a quick response! I am also available before and after-school by appointment and during Parent/Teacher hours.
This is your FIRST assignment for a Work Habit Score (and to start off on the right foot :)

I have read the syllabus and am ready to go!
Student Signature: X ________________________________

My student has shared the syllabus with me and he/she is ready to go!
Guardian Signature: X ________________________________

Guardian Contact (Please list email and/or day-time phone number to contact)
Email: ________________________________________________
Phone: (_______)_____________________________________

If there is anything else you would like me to know at the start of the year, please comment below.