

Upcoming Tests– The Horror?

Not so much. 😊

8th Grade Placement Exam:

Date:

Who?: Current 8th graders

Details: A writing piece and a reading of fiction and non-fiction, with multiple-choice questions.

Non-fiction pieces: To Be Determined (and cannot be disclosed)

Fictional piece: “The Tell-Tale Heart” by Edgar Allan Poe (attached on my website to read through, as well as Shmoop on it, to understand the story–highly recommended to look over if you’re looking into going into honors!)

Writing: Addressing a persuasive prompt, reading through informative articles, and gathering evidence (quotes) to support your claim.

You will need to follow a persuasive structure approach (I am providing a persuasive essay outline to look at and familiarize yourselves with, even though this will be taught in more detail during our upcoming unit, and a basic structure format as well with some practice pieces).

Recommended practice: I’ve included a few prompts for practice and can give you feedback if you submit them to turnitin.com by the end of this week.

Smarter Balanced Testing:

Dates:

Who?: Both 7th and 8th graders

Details: Both math and English.

For English, preparation is found in the curriculum we've covered this year, and "proficient" is not set at a full 100% (as the governing board knows not all curriculum has been taught by the time tests are given—this should ease your stress a bit).

Includes fictional and non-fictional passages with multiple-choice questions, highlighting of literary devices, claims (thesis statements), supporting details, etc.

Also includes writing components (being able to structure an argument with flow is key here! – Not necessarily writing tons and tons...)

On my website, I'm including the "levels" you will be scored with, for both math and English, and including a public link to practice tests to explore—often this helps ease your stress, too, just seeing what it will be like.