

- ★ On the **following page (page #2)** you will write a friendly letter to incoming 8th graders. The overall idea is to give them some information and advice that you wish you may have had when you started 8th grade.
- ★ Your letter should be:
 - Three to five paragraphs in length (5-8 sentences = 1 paragraph)
 - In standard 12 point font, In Arial or Times New Roman
 - Either single (1.0) or double spaced (2.0) "Line Spacing"
 - Either block paragraphs or indent paragraphs.
 - Basic rules of writing should be followed → sequencing and flow, complete sentences, correct: spelling, capitalization, grammar, punctuation
 - If these are not followed and impacts the reading of your letter points will be taken off or extra credit will not be awarded
- ★ Each paragraph should cover a different topic. Some topic ideas include:
 - What are some materials or resources that they will need or would be nice to have for Social Studies?
 - What will they be learning about in 8th grade Social Studies? Are there any topics in particular you think they could start researching over the summer?
 - What was your favorite learning topic or activity we did in Social Studies this year?
 - What types of things do you do in this Social Studies class? What can they expect to do each class or throughout the year?
 - What were some of the most important lessons and or skills you learned this year in Social Studies?
 - How can they be successful in Social Studies?
 - How can they avoid failure in Social Studies class?
 - What makes your teacher happy? How can you earn your teachers' respect?
 - What will make your teacher displeased? What could get you in trouble with your teacher?
 - If there is something you would do differently knowing what you know now? What would it be and why?
 - What will you miss about 8th grade Social Studies?
- ★ We plan on sharing these to our social studies class websites so the new 8th graders can see this advice over the summer and prepare for 8th grade early. Be creative and positive!

Hey, class of 2028! How was your summer? Well, anyways, I'm here to tell you about Mr. Jones, and his social studies class. Buckle up, cause it's going to be a lot.

First, you have to make sure that you come into his class being a responsible student. There's going to be work flushed on your shoulders and a bunch of tests for this class, and other classes. You have to be ready for pop quizzes and a bunch more.

Honestly, people say this class is hard. But, if you pay attention and do your work like you're supposed to, it's so easy. Most of the time, we have extra time in class. His class is one of the only classes that actually has an extra credit opportunity. Taking advantage of the extra credit is the best advice I could give you. Mr. Jones is pretty lenient but if you make him mad, then your privileges will most likely be taken away.

Make sure to use the bathroom and locker before class! Sometimes, if you ask to use the restroom he'll say no. He gave us like 3 minutes at the beginning of class to go wherever we want, but after he closes those doors, you can't go. One time we had a water bottle ban so be mature and don't play around with everything you touch, unless you want it banned.

Don't copy people's work. He really doesn't like that. You can't take a shortcut in the real world unless you want a consequence for it. In Mr. Jones's class, we usually read a lesson from the book, as a class, then we take notes. The first few tests and note taking will be super easy - he'll give you the note answers and everything and the tests are super easy. But as the year goes on, notes and tests will become harder. He's just setting us up for high school. A lot of people complain about it but It's literally his job.

Sometimes after he drinks his coffee, he can be a little energetic... One time, he put a bucket on his head just for the fun of it. Sometimes in the middle of class he just randomly does yoga. He goes all out of spirit week. It's super funny. There's so much more but I'll probably let you guys handle that.

Well, that's all I could give you, good luck!