

English 7

After reviewing the calendar, please go to the corresponding page(s) for the directions for how to complete the assignments and how to turn them in.

Wednesday 5/20	Thursday 5/21	Friday 5/22	Monday 5/25	Tuesday 5/26
<p>What's up with Weirauch Wednesday</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Check in • New schedule and work for the week emailed out • Live meeting where you can ask any questions about schoolwork or whatever else! • Respond to reflection prompt <p>3rd period meeting in 3rd period Teams page 12:30-12:50</p> <p>4th period meeting in 4th period Teams page 1:00-1:20</p> <p>5th period meeting in 5th period Teams page 1:30-1:50</p>	<p>Thinking Thursday</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Read the article/text for the week • Look over the writing prompt that you will be responding to so you can pull out relevant textual evidence <p>Article to read: "For school bullies, tougher punishment"</p>	<p>No School 😊</p>	<p>Memorial Day No School 😊</p>	<p>Tell all Tuesday</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • New question to answer via email • Question will be tied to the reading and writing for the week
How to turn in each assignment				
<p>Reflection turned in via email</p>	<p>No assignment to turn in – Use information for paragraph on Monday</p>	<p>No Assignment</p>	<p>No Assignment</p>	<p>Respond in an email to Mrs. Weirauch</p>

Wednesday – Reflection Prompt

Write a reflective response to the following questions in a word document or just in the body of an email:

1. This upcoming weekend is Memorial Day- while this year is not a normal year, is there anything that your family usually does on this three day weekend? Any traditions?
2. How has this “Stay Safe, Stay Home” order been impacting you and your family? What looks different and what looks the same in your lives?
3. What is one thing that you are proud of in English class this year? What has been a skill that you feel like you have improved upon, or a specific assignment that you feel you did well on? Explain why!
4. How have you been doing? Be specific! Tell me what you have been doing, how you are feeling, what you have been doing so you don’t go stir crazy, etc. (I am going to keep asking this question because it is important to me to see how you are holding up!)

Your reflection does not have to respond to the questions in order. Some of your responses might mix with each other. I am more interested in what you have to say than your specific format.

- Please email your response to donnw@spokaneschools.org
- Please use the subject – Week 4 Reflection

Thursday – Reading the Article

Read through “**For School Bullies, Tougher Punishment**” and annotate the article.

1. Look for words you don’t understand and questions that you have during your first read through. Look up any words or questions you may have.
2. Read through the article again and highlight the strongest points you see. Highlight one point you disagree with.
3. Make sure you keep your notes somewhere accessible for later. You will be responding with writing a paragraph on Monday and sharing some of your thinking on Tuesday.

Friday/Monday: No School = no new work!

Tuesday – Send your answers in an email to Mrs. Weirauch

Create a response in an email that answers the following questions:

1. **What was the main idea of the article “For School Bullies, Tougher Punishment”?**
2. **What are two details/pieces of evidence from the article that support the main idea that you identified?**

Student Opinion: For school bullies, tougher punishment

By Margaret Buckler, Newsela Student Contributor, adapted by Newsela staff on 10.16.18

Word Count 770

Level 930L



In a 2018 survey of 9,000 people ages 12 to 20, 10 percent said they were bullied each day and more than 50 percent said they were bullied at least once a month. Graphic by: Newsela staff

A bully uses strength or power to harm or intimidate those who are weaker, according to the Google Dictionary. Bullies, as we know them, are continuing to increase their strength. As several recent movies and TV shows have brought to light, bullies continue to rule schools. Adults need to start taking it more seriously.

Adults tend to say that bullying is "just a part of growing up," but it can actually lead to serious mental health problems. This is not part of growing up. It is undermining confidence and health, and bullying is not getting any better.

In the United Kingdom, there's an annual survey by Ditch the Label, an anti-bullying organization. In 2018, it surveyed 9,000 people ages 12 to 20 about bullying. The research found that 10 percent of the respondents were bullied daily. More than 50 percent were bullied at least once a month, the results said. In 2013, 43 percent of those surveyed said they were bullied frequently.

Bullying hasn't gotten better. In fact, it's gotten worse. This kind of data must make us stop and think about how we treat others. Yet here's the thing — it's hard when adults don't punish you or make you feel ashamed for bullying another person. Bullies aren't punished enough in schools, even with zero-tolerance policies. Apparently, bullies don't stop twice to think about it before they hurt others, because they most likely won't face the consequences. This is where the system is flawed.

Suspensions May Not Stop Bullies

I've seen physical, verbal and cyberbullying firsthand. When there's physical bullying at my school, the kid gets suspended for three days and then comes back and does what he or she did again. When verbal bullying occurs, the teachers usually pretend not to hear or do anything about it. Once, I was called a name and my friend told a teacher who was standing right next to us. That teacher said that wasn't very nice and then walked away.

I understand sometimes that it's not a school's place to step in when cyberbullying takes place. Sometimes they should step in. However, when given the chance, they don't.

The effects of bullying are considerable. It can lead to problems that young people shouldn't have to deal with. The confidence of students is continuing to decline, and mental health problems continue to happen.

The Journal of the American Medical Association (JAMA) Network did a study on bullying. It showed that children who were bullied repeatedly when they were 8 years old were more likely to develop a mental illness that needed treatment as an adult. They were compared to kids who were not bullied in childhood.

Bullying Can Cause Physical and Mental Problems

Not only can bullying create severe mental health conditions in children, but it can also have many negative physical consequences. Pathstone Mental Health is a Canadian group that works to treat children's mental health conditions. It says that bullying can bring anxiety and flu-like symptoms. If bullying isn't stopped, innocent school children will continue to be physically and mentally hurt.

It is clear that bullying has many negative impacts. What we need is a way to make it stop. Bullies need to be brought to justice. The first step is to make bullies realize that taking down peers is not the way to go. Teachers and parents need to help children understand why it's wrong. This can only make the issue better.

"Structure And Support" Can Reduce Bullying

In the study, "Authoritative School Discipline: High School Practices Associated With Lower Bullying and Victimization" from the University of Virginia, it was found that schools are safer when rules are enforced and adults are available to support students. "Structure and support" were shown to be related to a decline in bullying and victimization. It's important that staff at schools emphasize anti-bullying efforts and create safer school communities.

As a victim of bullying myself, I would feel safer at school if there were harsher punishments for bullies. Bullying can make school a negative experience, which threatens students' education.

Applying stricter punishments and rules can help create a safer school environment. The higher standards can make students feel more welcomed at their schools.

Bullying is cruel and should not be tolerated. It is not part of growing up and certainly should not take place in schools. Giving bullies firmer punishments and taking bullying victims more seriously is a way to start to create safer, bully-free schools.

Do you have an opinion to share on an issue affecting your school or community? Students may submit their original opinion piece to editorial@newsela.com