**English 10 Syllabus**

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To be successful in life, students must be adequately prepared and able to communicate effectively with others in the English language. The curriculum for English Language Arts is designed to continue students’ exposure to a variety of literary texts with adequate understanding, and to refine grammar skills and improve writing through the writing process. We also prepare the students to take the state mandated OGT. This course is a combination of the Reading and English classes in an effort to increase students’ understanding of the reading/writing processes. This year-long course will be one period per day**.**

**Textbooks:**

Because classroom use of textbooks will be provided, students will not be required to bring their books to class on a daily basis; however, students can check out a copy of the text that we are using at the time in class to use at home if needed. This year, students will be able to access some of the material online.

***Grammar:*** Holt, Rinehart, Winston *Elements of Language* First Course

***If a student loses his/her textbook throughout the year, he/she will have to pay the current replacement cost for the lost item before being assigned a new one.***

**Course Outline**

Reading Strategies

Reading Process

Spelling

Literary Terms

Writing Process

Vocabulary development

Effective sentence development

Journal writing

Research Skills

Parts of Speech

6 Writing Traits

Expository/informative writing

Descriptive writing

Narrative writing

Persuasive writing

Non-fiction literature

Poetry and Elements of Poetry

Various Novels

Mythology

Science Fiction

Mechanics

Effective Communication Skills (i.e. Listening, Speaking, Viewing)

\*\*\*Based on time, we may be able to cover additional material that is not listed here. This is tentative and subject to change as needed. If you have any questions, please call or email any time.

**Projects and Required or Recommended Readings**

There will be at least one major project/ reading each semester which may require some work outside of class, and may include a need to go to the public library, use magazines, newspapers, craft supplies, etc. If a project is late, or not turned in, parents will be contacted. In addition to projects, students will be reading everyday in class and should do so outside of class as well. Assignments, tests, projects, classroom activities, homework, and other activities are designed to allow a student's performance to indicate the level of mastery of the designated objective.

**Agendas**

Each student will be given an agenda at their class meeting. They will write down assignments, homework, due dates, or other information given by the teacher. Each student will be required to bring the agenda to class, and will be held accountable for keeping it up to date and filling out the necessary information each day in class.

**Reporting Grades**

**Grading Scale**

A 93 –100 Excellent progress

B 85 –92 Good progress

C 75 –84 Satisfactory/average progress

D 65 –74 Minimal progress

F Below 64 Unsatisfactory progress

I Incomplete

**Progress Reports**

Grades will be communicated to parents at progress report time (half way through each nine week grading period).

**Report Cards**

Report cards are sent home at the end of each grading period. If a parent or guardian has a question about the student's grade, please contact the student’s teacher by telephone or e-mail. A parent conference may be arranged, if necessary.

**Computation of Grades**

**Daily Grades**

Daily grades will make up a large percentage of the overall grade. A minimum of ten (10) daily grades will be taken each grading period. Daily work is any assignment other than major grades and homework –e.g., class work, notebooks, quizzes

**Homework**

Homework is an effective tool in developing responsibility, study habits, and skills. It is an extension of the learning process and involves the home in the student's curriculum. It should be purposeful, related to classroom experiences, and be age and grade appropriate. The purpose and directions for the assignment need to be clearly communicated and should be preceded by instruction that adequately prepares the student to do the task independently and successfully.

**Cheating/Plagiarism**

Cheating shall be defined as giving or receiving information on a test or submitting duplicate work for outside assignments. Using technology (e.g., computer, Internet, cell phone, PDA, or calculator) to cheat or copy the work of another is prohibited. The penalty for a student found guilty of cheating is a grade of zero for the test or assignment. Plagiarism consists of using another person’s ideas or writing as one’s own. Plagiarism is a form of cheating and the penalty shall be a ZERO on the assignment. Students caught cheating will be referred to their principal for disciplinary action.

**Technology**

In this class you will need access to the Internet regularly. The school is providing Net Books and Laptops to the Sophomores, Juniors and Seniors. If you need access to a computer at school, please ask me for a pass to utilize during your Study Hall. Also the Media Center is open every morning at 7:30 AM and also after school till 3:30 PM.

There will be no excuses that I left my Net Book or Laptop at home. Also they must be charged before you come into class because it is too much of a distraction with cords and students in unassigned areas trying to charge their computers.

**Absence**

When entering class with a blue slip, please inform me. When I sign it, I can also go over missed assignments with you.

In the event of an absence, it is the responsibility of the student to determine what assignments need to be completed. You need to come in during a study hall or before or after school to make up missing work/assignments.

Students will be afforded one day to complete make up work for each day of an excused absence. Assignments submitted after this time will be considered late and/or no credit will be issued.

**My Expectations**

1) You will arrive before the bell rings, sit down, and take out materials you need and prepare for class. Any violations of this rule will result in detention. Once you are seated you will remain in that seat until you are dismissed.

2) You are required to do all assignments and turn them in on time. That means the period of class you are in. That does not mean at the end of the day, later in the period or the next morning before 8:00 AM. You may email any assignment that you would like, but note that it is late if the assignment is not turned in before class. If you have emailed the assignment to the wrong address, then it is also late.

Note: When emailing an assignment please put down what assignment you are turning in.

3) Study Island has proven to be a successful tool in helping students pass the OGT. We will complete every Study Island assignment with a minimum of 30 questions. If you do not receive a Blue Ribbon after 30 questions you continue in pursuit of that Blue Ribbon or 70 questions, whichever comes first. Failure to complete this task will result in a zero out of 30 points.

4) If you are having any problems please come see me before or after school.

5) Please consume all snacks and drinks before entering the classroom.

6) Restroom privileges are only for emergencies. I will document all restroom emergencies so this right is not abused.

7) Comply with the cell phone policy by shutting them off and putting them away before entering the classroom. Violation of this policy is considered insubordination and will be referred to the office.

8) Plagiarism will be dealt with according to the policy of David Anderson Jr./Sr. High School.