

ENGLISH CLASS

10th Grade Edition, 2020-2021

Welcome!

...to sophomore English! Get ready for a challenging but awesome year. I'm so excited to get to know you and help you grow as a reader, writer, speaker, and listener. We'll cover fiction and nonfiction--short stories, a novel, a drama, and poetry. And we'll develop our ideas into strong essays and projects.

Bring to Class

- Composition Notebook
- Post-It Notes
- SSR Book (always bring a book to read)
- Pens/Pencils
- Highlighters
- Loose leaf paper
- Folder or Binder
- Textbook/Materials

Classroom Guidelines

1. Follow all HCHS policies and building rules.
2. Be on time and in your seat everyday.
3. Bring all materials to class.
4. No food or drink. Gum and water are okay.
5. Follow directions the first time they are given.
6. Respect yourself, your classmates, your teacher, school property, and others' property.
7. KEEP A POSITIVE ATTITUDE!

*****I have positive expectations that all students will abide by these guidelines!**

Using Tech

Many of our assignments will require the use of the internet and Google apps (Classroom, Drive, Docs, Slides).

Remember to follow school policies for technology. Chromebooks are for school use only and should be returned before the end of class.

Cell phones are to be placed in the organizer at the front of the room. Occasionally we may use them for an assignment.

Headphones/earbuds might be necessary but are not to be worn unless prior approval is obtained.

Classroom Procedures

Arriving/Leaving:

- Please take care of business BEFORE the bell rings.
- Upon entering the classroom, sit down and begin bell work.
- You must have a HALL PASS to leave the classroom.
- You are given 3 hall passes per semester. If you use more than 3, you must make that time up in detention.
- Complete the LOG SHEET for exiting and entering.
- At the end of class, remain seated until I dismiss you.

Tardies/Absences

Being here and on time is important! I look forward to seeing you everyday!

1. First tardy: warning
2. Second tardy: use a pass
3. Third tardy: detention
4. If you are absent, please check Google Classroom or the wall organizer.
5. If you know you are going to be gone, please get your work ahead of time.

Late Work

- PLAN AHEAD! Poor excuses will not be accepted.
- Any assignment turned in after I collect it is considered late.
- Late work will lose 10% per day it is late.
- Please complete a LATE WORK TICKET located on the wall.

Grades

Assignments will be graded and returned in a timely manner. Please check your grades online. Parents may also check grades using Parent Online located on the school's website.

Grades will be given for the following:

- Quizzes, Tests, & Projects 50%
- Daily Work & Homework 45%
- Participation 5%

Getting Help

There's more than one way!

- Before school: meet me for coffee in my room.
- At school: during seminar
- After school: meet me in my room
- Email me.

Please ask for an appointment before and after school to make sure I am available.

Daily Work and Homework

You will have daily bell work that covers vocabulary, grammar, literary terms, writing, and more. This will be done in your composition notebook. In addition, you will participate in daily reading, listening, speaking, and writing activities. Most assignments will be done in class as I try hard to limit homework. Most homework assignments will be assignments we were unable to finish in class. You will be expected to read your SSR book and I will assign long-term projects that you are expected to work on outside of class.

Academic Honesty

Any student caught cheating or plagiarizing will receive a zero on that assignment/test/quiz and will be referred to the office if necessary.

Assignment Formatting

All major assignments will use MLA formatting:

- ❑ Running header in the upper right corner with last name and page #
- ❑ Heading on first page with name, my name, class, date
- ❑ Centered title
- ❑ 1" margins
- ❑ Double-spaced
- ❑ Size 11 or 12 normal font
- ❑ No extra spaces between sentences, paragraphs
- ❑ No excessive bolding, italicizing, photos, etc.

S.S.R.(Silent Sustained Reading)

1. During our in-class silent reading time, you may read fiction books that you haven't read before. School assignments do not count.
2. There will be journal prompts after each SSR time. Even if you complete your book talk, you must read and journal during SSR.
3. I expect the books to be appropriate for your age and reading ability.
4. Get your book from any source. Talk to me about using electronic devices to read. iPods, iPads, and cell phones will not be allowed.
5. Quarter book talks will count as a test grade. To receive the full 50 points, you must successfully report on 250 pages per quarter. It is the total number of pages, not the number of books that will determine your grade. If you read more than the required number of pages, the extra will carry over to the next grading period.
6. Books with pictures (e.g. *Diary of a Wimpy Kid*) will count less. Come see me to discuss a reasonable page count.
7. Reading takes place in class, but students will need to read outside of class.
8. The book report is an informal "book talk" with me. Your job is to convince me that you read the book. Be prepared to answer specific, detailed questions about your book.

S.S.R. Continued

10. Feel free to complete book talks early!
11. Book talks are due the end of the quarter and I will schedule times.
12. You are allowed ONE book talk a day.
13. You must have your book with you when you report.
14. I will keep track of your pages.
15. You may report on ONE movie/tv related book a year to a maximum of 150 pages total.

Contact Mrs. Olson

I love hearing from students! And I truly want you to have a positive experience in my classroom. If you or your parents have questions or need information, please consider the following:

- School Website with my classroom information
- Google Classroom (please note, parents will need their student's login information)
- Email: kolson@usd227.org
- School Phone: 620-357-8376

