

English 9



Ms. Bancroft Room B124

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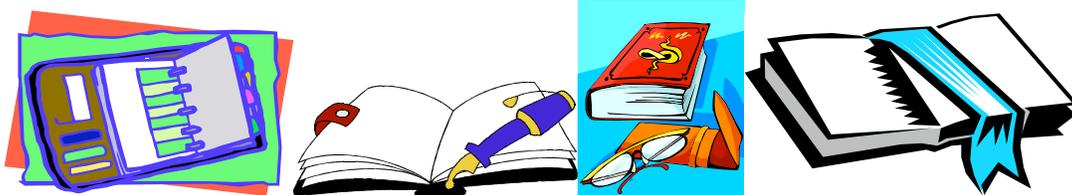
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Welcome to English 9! Making the transition from middle school Language Arts to high school English can be both exciting and challenging. If the thought of reading multiple genres, giving speeches, and writing essays scares you, do not be afraid - we will tackle it all together as you acquire the skills and strengthen your abilities to read, write, speak, listen, and think critically and creatively.

WHAT WE WILL DO:

- * Read and discuss great literature: stories, plays, novels, myths, poetry, and more.
- * Practice writing to inform, while making a point through expository and persuasive essays, interviews, reports, and speeches, etc.
- * Encounter new opportunities to improve vocabulary and spelling power.
- * Think about the ways we use English with our friends, at school, and at work or other places.
- * Prepare speeches and give class presentations - get up out of those hard seats!
- * Think deeply about our favorite books, stories, poems, songs, movies, or TV programs.
- * Discover important resources in the media center, via computer applications, within our community, etc.

ITEMS YOU NEED TO BRING TO CLASS:



- Your team or personal planner for writing down assignments and important dates
- Your textbooks and other assigned reading material
- One or more pens for writing (only blue or black, no other colors please!)
- A notebook to use as a journal. (Spiral-bound notebooks are the best, especially those that fit into a 3-ringed binder - other types will do, though.)
- Completed assignment(s)
- Your student passbook - you can not leave the classroom unaccompanied without it!

Encouraged, although not required:

- white-out,
- a ruler that can fit into your binder
- color pencils and/or markers,
- stencils - always in short supply!

I will provide a folder in which you are expected to keep your graded assignments in our classroom. (NEVER throw any graded work in the trash!).

LEARN THE RULES!

These are some common classroom rules that are to be observed in my classroom. They are subject to change at my discretion or as required by the school board and school administrators.

1. Be in your seat ready to learn with all materials before the bell rings.
2. No personal grooming, sleeping, or working on other homework is allowed.
3. Do not use vulgar or offensive language. Harassment of any kind is forbidden.
4. Respect everyone's private property, including mine.
5. Water in plastic bottles and snacks are allowed, unless this privilege is abused. Pick up after yourselves. We share this space with others.
6. Cell phones, media players, or other disruptive items in the classroom are not allowed. Such items will be confiscated and given to the office. If you pass or write notes during a lesson, they become my property.
7. The dress code is strictly enforced in all Team 1 classrooms. I have spare "cover-ups" for those who need to borrow something. Ask to see my wardrobe closet!

If you choose not to follow the rules listed above, or those understood when you signed the student handbook, you will be asked to remain after class and may possibly receive a detention upon the first offense. Further, or extremely severe offenses will result in a Disciplinary Office Referral with an Assistant Principal.

GRADES:

As we move to standards-based grading, assignments will be categorized consistently within the English department in the following groups:

Writing (WR)	22.5%
Presenting/Discussing (PD)	22.5%
Reading/Interpretation of Literature (RI)	22.5%
Research (RS)	22.5%
Behaviors That Support Learning (BH)	10%

The category of Behaviors That Support Learning includes, among other things, attendance, participation, behavior, and particularly being on time with assigned work. Late work receives a zero in this category, but will receive the appropriate grade in other applicable categories when turned in after the assigned due date.

FAILURE IS NOT AN OPTION!

If you think only about how much an assignment is worth, or if something will be on a test, then you miss the point of this course: exploring old and new ideas together. On the other hand, Freshman English is NOT a course you can afford to fail; passing for the year is required for graduation. Each year too many students end up taking a make-up English class or attending summer school. Doing your best, attempting everything we do, and maintaining a desire to learn will make you stand out not only as an exceptional student, but also as a noble young adult. From the very first day, your grade is 100%, an A+. From then on, your effort and work will reflect your progress in this course. Coming to class late, sleeping in class, and not completing assignments is a recipe for failure; and failure is really not an option, is it? Use your time and abilities wisely and you'll earn yourself more time for all the other things that OHCHS has to offer!