English 7 Pre-AP

Mrs. Schoch

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Conference: Period 4

Tutorials and make-up work:

Every day at lunch in room 104 or in Mrs. Kriese’s room on Tuesdays and Wednesdays at 7:50.

Welcome to English class!

Our textbook is *Holt McDougall Literature 7*, and one of the great features about the series is that the complete textbook is online. A class set will be available for school use, and each student has a login and password for access to the book from home. Students who wish to check out a hard copy of the textbook may do so. No grammar text will be issued.

**Literature**, whether it be selections from a textbook, class novels, or supplemental readings, will be an integral part of our course. As writers, we’ll want to examine how other writers work and then discuss what is particularly effective about that work. Literature tests may or may not be given, but there will be quizzes and required writing in response to literature.

**Compositions**, both short and long, will be worked on in class and at home. Prewriting, drafting, and revision are all important parts of the writing process, and students are expected to keep all their work on a particular piece together in a digital folder or in the composition section of the English binders. A **Writer’s Notebook** will be kept by each student as a place for free writing and daily practice assignments. **Blogging** will be another avenue for sharing student writing.

**Structured vocabulary** will include a study of Greek and Latin roots along with prefixes and

suffixes. Each unit will consist of four lessons followed by a cumulative unit test. When not doing

structured vocabulary, students will study vocabulary in the context of literature.

**Grammar, capitalization, and punctuation** are taught through warm-ups, mini-lessons, and literature study. All grammar handouts are to be kept in the grammar section of the binder, as there will occasionally be grammar quizzes. Concepts are cumulative, so the grammar handouts should be kept all year long.

**Reading** for pleasure is an important part of a student’s English instruction. Each nine weeks, a

student will set a personal reading goal to accomplish, documenting his or her progress on a reading

log. At the end of the nine weeks, the student, parents and teacher will assess progress and set a

new goal. Reading logs are due on a Tuesday at the end of each nine weeks (see the seventh grade

calendar for the specific dates). For some great ideas for books to read, see the links on my website

and class blog for the Young Adult Library Association, Teen Reads, and Scholastic TAB Book

Club.

**Organization** is important! Students are expected to keep all work in their English binders

digital folders until the end of each grading period.

**SUPPLIES NEEDED FOR CLASS**

* 3 ring binder (1 ½ “ or 2” preferred)
* 6 subject dividers (**labeled in the following order: Grammar, Vocabulary, Literature, Writing Handouts, Composition Work**)
* marbled composition book for Writer’s Notebook
* highlighter, pencils, blue or black ink pens
* loose-leaf notebook paper
* sticky notes
* glue stick and scissors
* ear buds for iPad
* outside reading book

**"Eanes ISD middle school teachers are committed to grading and assessing in the best interest of our students.  We believe grades and assessments communicate content knowledge, guide instruction, and reveal opportunities for enrichment and intervention."**

**Grading Policy**

Major 60%

Skills Development 40%

Practice 0%

**Homework**

Completing an essay draft, practicing vocabulary, reading your class or personal novel—these are some examples of homework in English class. Depending on the assignment, it can either be categorized as a skills development grade or a practice grade. Sometimes the work done at home contributes to a major grade (writing a final essay, studying for a test, completing a reading log).

**Late Work**

Students are expected to develop a sense of responsibility by meeting assignment deadlines.  If an assignment is not finished, a student must make arrangements with his or her teacher to get the assignment completed and turned in during tutorial times (options are at lunch with Mrs. Schoch or mornings with Mrs. Kriese). Students must take care of this late work within one day of the due date.

**Re-testing**

Any student will have the opportunity to re-take a test for full credit after completing the required remediation work and scheduling tutorial time with his or her teacher.  A student must notify the teacher of the plan to retest within one day after receiving a graded test; he/she must then complete the re-testing process within an agreed amount of time.  The student will earn the higher of the two grades. The same material may not be re-tested more than once.

***Please come and see Mrs. Kriese or me DURING MORNING OR LUNCH tutorials on the day you return after an absence. This allows us to spend time helping you to catch up on any missed assignments.***

**Class Expectations Consequences:**

Be Respectful Student warning

Be Responsible Student/teacher conference / possible privilege loss

Be Safe Parent notification and possible conference

Office referral

**\*\*MAJOR OFFENSES WILL RESULT IN AN IMMEDIATE OFFICE REFERRAL.**

**Important Dates:**

**Reading Log Due Dates Writer’s Notebook Due Dates:**

Tues 10/14 Tues 10/7

Tues 12/16 Tues 12/9

Tues 3/3 Tues 2/24

Tues 5/19 Tues 5/12

**Late Start Days:**  **No Homework Nights:**

Thurs 9/11 Wed 9/24 Wed 1/28

Fri 10/31 Thurs 10/16 Wed 2/25

Thurs11/20 Thurs 10/30 **Thurs 4/2**

Thurs 1/29 Wed 11/19 Thurs 5/15

Thurs 2/26

Thurs 4/16