

## **ENGLISH I**

### **CLASS GUIDELINES/EXPECTATIONS**

1. Come to class prepared. Always bring your books, notepaper, pen/pencil, folder, binder, homework, and BRAIN.
2. Be on time.
3. Be seated in your assigned seat when bell rings. Begin work immediately after being provided material.
4. Save all materials within the semester. You will use them for review activities, quizzes and tests, and semester exams.
5. Respect others' learning environment.
6. Phones are not to be present. These should be left at home or in the school's collection spot. If phones are brought into the room, they are to be shut down and placed in the hanging pockets. They should not be on your person. If a phone is seen, it will be taken and sent to the office. No student should touch another student's phone.
7. Use class time constructively.
8. Never go onto the fire escape nor open the door unless the fire alarm sounds.
9. Please do not touch the shades or open or close the windows without permission.
10. Unless given different instructions, all homework is due the next school day after it is given.
11. Expect to receive respect. Give respect. Get respect.

### **GRADING**

- Grades are given point values.
  - Homework is a single weight.
  - Quizzes are 2x weight.
  - Tests are 3x weight.
- 25% will be deducted for a late assignment for the first day late. 50% will be deducted for second day late assignments. Late assignments will not be accepted after two days late. Excused absences are handled according to the student handbook policy, with teacher discretion in regards to length and reason for absence.
- Students who are absent for a school reason must request work before leaving and expect to submit it when returning.
- All COVID-19 related absences will be handled according to approved school policy, which is currently fluid due to ever-changing ISBE guidelines.

## **Vocabulary/Spelling**

Main objective: to enhance vocabulary understanding through context usage

- We will be using the Vocabulary.com program, which is an online program.

## **Literature**

Main objective: to gain exposure to, understanding of, and appreciation for classical literature

- Except for class novels, you will receive literature mostly through digital means.

## **Grammar**

Main objective: to gain knowledge and skill improvement for intermediate and advanced grammar conventions that are necessary for rhetorical communication, both written and verbal

- Expect a practical approach to the grammar we study.
- Grammar will be presented predominantly through grammar worksheets. All grammar worksheets need to be saved and kept neatly ordered in a folder or 3-ring binder.
- Also expect to show proper grammar in all submitted work.

## **Writing**

Main objective: to enhance written communication, especially in the areas of organization, clarity, and support

- We will write for both formal and informal purposes.
- Formal writing will focus on instructional formatting.
- Writing practice will be incorporated in literature studies.
- A possible research project will be implemented at the end of the year if time permits.

## **Discipline**

- Students guilty of extreme disrespect and/or interfering with other students' learning environment will be given an office referral.
- If the infraction or disrespectful attitude or behavior was not too extreme, then a detention will be assigned. Detentions will be served at lunch time or after school. The student's parent will be informed of the assigned detention day and time.

## English I Course Objectives

Students will:

- Learn to write solid essays citing textual evidence to support analysis of what text says.
- Learn to identify and support a theme using textual evidence.
- Learn to recognize character development over the course of a text.
- Understand figurative language and identify its usage in context.
- Learn to discern meanings of words using context clues.
- Improve vocabulary knowledge and understanding.
- Analyze literary elements, such as flashbacks, and how the element affects the structure of the text.
- Analyze a point of view and its effect on text presentation.
- Improve understanding of complex texts.
- Improve sentence structure with focus on sentence variation.
- Improve understanding of proper punctuation.
- Improve understanding of proper word choice.
- Improve reading fluency.
- Improve reading comprehension