

## 2018-2019 10-2 English Overview

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### **Welcome to 10-2 English!**

We will work on reading skills that will help you read closely, go beyond basic comprehension, and think critically about a text, analyzing its components to deepen understanding and enjoyment of the text itself. What does this mean to you? You will become a better reader, and you will become a more well-rounded, more literate person. We will work on writing skills, particularly informative writing, narratives, persuasive essays, arguments, and literary analysis. Writing well takes a lot of practice, so be willing to try, and you will see improvements! You will have class time and help -- in fact, you have two teachers here to support your learning!

Grammar study will focus on capitalization, punctuation, and agreement issues. Vocabulary will be gleaned from the literature as well as ACT lists, and you will be expected to make connections to these words that will enable you to incorporate them into your working language.

Additionally, you will be expected to participate. It's ok to be unsure, to make mistakes. It's how you grow; it's how you learn. We've all been there. What's not ok is not to try. Expect to be called upon; expect to volunteer; expect to take responsibility for your learning. You will grow a lot sophomore year -- it's a transition that will result in your being prepared for the increased responsibility of being an upperclassman next year.

### **How will we do all of this?**

#### 1. Organize

- You will be asked to have a three ring binder for class that will be organized into the following sections: reading, writing, vocabulary, and grammar. It can also house a pencil pouch and paper, so you're never without supplies. I'll have the hole punch.
- It is good practice to save all graded papers.
- Please bring materials to class; passes will be limited.

## 2. Participate

- This means do your work, be kind to your classmates, and be ready to talk!
- Leave your phone in the holder everyday to minimize distractions, and expect to remain in the room; again, passes will be limited.

## 3. Be Resourceful

- Where there's a will, there's a way. Talk with me if you need help finding it. I'm free 1st, 5A, and after school most days... just let me know to expect you.

Remember: All student handbook rules apply. All choices have consequences. Positive choices result in better learning, good emails/phone calls home, and treats. Negative choices result in frustration, poor grades, suspension points, and parent/counselor/administration intervention.

Not everything will be graded, but everything counts. Everything is practice so that you're ready to demonstrate your learning when the time comes.



**Homework.** We will try to do as much of our work as possible in school so that you can use your time at home as you wish. When you do have homework, even if it is "just reading," it is important for you to do it. It is not optional. Remember you will need to be close and careful readers to be able to participate in discussions, to demonstrate certain reading and thinking skills, and to write with authority.

**Writing.** You will have writing to do both in and out of class, and again, not all of it will be graded. So why do it? Again, it's about opportunity to practice. The only way to improve as a writer is to write. You will be given rubrics to guide you, feedback to help you, and time.

Overall, you may have fewer grades in the grade book for this class than you do for other classes. That makes each one more meaningful and more important, but you should also have ample opportunities for practice before each. Because each grade represents a learning experience, each MUST be completed to earn a grade for this course -- incompletes will be issued, not zeros.

When grades are entered, they will be weighted thusly:

Reading 30%

Writing 30%

Vocabulary 15%

Grammar 15%

Participation/effort 10%