

English 9 Syllabus

Ronda King

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Course Description

Reading and writing are the two major areas of study for English 9. Students will study multiple types of literature varying from the very short to novels. Both fiction and nonfiction and subgenres of each will be explored. Students will write regularly. Writing will consist of very small writings to a small research project. Additionally, vocabulary building will be a focus of the class.

Class Mission

It is the mission of Mrs. King's English 9 class to provide an exemplary introduction to high school English in a structured, yet exciting classroom environment. The mission is to create strong basis for subsequent high school English classes in which students will be responsible, independent, and productive.

Class Materials

Every student will need the following items:

- 1 ½ inch to 2 inch 3 ring binder
- Dividers for the notebook
 - Bell Ringers (These grammar based assignments will be completed daily)
 - Journals (Students will write in this a few times a week)
 - Vocabulary (Weekly words will be recorded here)
 - Homework (Not all work will be collected for a grade, but the practice is necessary.)
 - Returned work (This is for any work that was completed on paper and turned in.)

Novels

Students will be required to read a novel over the summer. As the school year progresses students will read extensively in the text book as well as other novels. Below is a list of the summer reading and potential novels for the year. Please let the teacher/school know if you cannot find a copy of the book.

To Kill a Mockingbird by Harper Lee (**Required Summer Reading**)

Potential Novels:

Rumble Fish by S.E. Hinton

The Glass Castle by Jeannette Walls

That Was Then, This Is Now by S.E. Hinton

The Chocolate War by Robert Cormier

Fahrenheit 451 by Ray Bradbury

Projects

You will have two major on-going projects this year. The first project will be due the week before midterm exams in December. This project will:

- consist of both a research paper and a project
- be completed within a group. However, every person in the group will be assigned a part of the project and will be responsible for his/her own paper.

*example: A group may research a catastrophe such as the sinking of the Titanic. The project would identify the problem, the impact of the problem, why it happened, and how it could be avoided.

The second paper will be in reaction to a class reading or book you've recently read. This project will be due the week before finals in May. You will write a paper and present your findings to the class. This project will:

- be completed individually (no groups for this project).
- Should focus on an aspect of the book that can be explained by research of scientific concepts, historical concepts, or artistic concepts.

*example: A person may research a book like *The Outsiders*. The project would consist of explaining the culture of the time of the book, the relationship of the characters to one another, the characters' social standing and socio-economic status. The research will have to show how these factors can effect a person's successes and life in general.

*There will be various small projects throughout the year completed both individually and in groups.

Class Policies

The governing policy of English 9 is RESPECT. We will respect everyone in the classroom. Although these are not the only ways to show respect, the following are the most common in a classroom.

If we respect someone, we do not waste their time; therefore we:

1. Arrive to class on time and are prepared to work when the bell rings.
2. Allow others to have quiet and privacy when they are trying to work.
3. Listen to what Mrs. King says the first time.

If we respect someone, we do not interrupt them; therefore, we:

1. Remain quiet when others are speaking or have the floor.
2. Remain seated when others are speaking or have the floor.

If we respect someone, we are supportive; therefore, we:

1. Help someone if they are struggling.
2. Provide encouragement.

*Mrs. King will act on any behavior that is counterproductive to the success of the class.

Blended Classroom

English 9 is a blended class. This means that technology will be highly integrated. Schoology will be used extensively. Students will be required to login to Schoology daily to check their grades as well as keep up with day to day announcements. If a student did not accept an iPad from the school, he/she will need a device to use at home; there will often be readings or discussions that will need to be completed as homework.

Attendance

Students will have the number of days to make up an assignment as he/she was absent. If the absence is extended, special arrangements will be made. All assignments and rubrics (when necessary) will be posted on Schoology. If a student is absent he/she can find all assignment information on Schoology. It is the student's responsibility to ask for clarification or a handout they may have missed while out.

Late Work

An assignment is considered late if it is not turned in at the time given within the assignment details. If it is a submission to Schoology or Turnitin.com, the due date and time will be given with the assignment data in the application. If the assignment is due in class, it is due when the bell rings at the beginning of class. Assignments that are not finished or need to be printed will be considered late. All incomplete assignments will be returned to be completed by the student.

Remind for Parents

There has been a remind group created for the parents of my students. This will be used to make announcements to parents or to send a private message. Since there is no cell service in my classroom, nor do I have a classroom phone, Remind provides the easiest manner of communication. For this reason, please sign up with your name and the name of your child in parenthesis. Daily assignments will not be posted on remind, but will be available via the parent access to Schoology.

Directions for joining King English 9 Parent Group

1. Register by Text Message
 - a. Enter 81010 (this is a special short phone number)
 - b. In the message blank enter: @kingsengl
2. Register by email
 - a. Send a blank email message to: kingsengl@mail.remind.com
3. Register with the parent's name and (child's name)
 - a. Ex. Jane Jones (Mikey Jones)

Schoology and Turnitin.com

These two applications will be used extensively. All formal papers will be submitted to turnitin.com. Most additional assignments will need to be submitted to Schoology. Students will be instructed to include an email address when signing up for turnitin.com; this allows the application to send proof of submission to the user's email. This is for the protection of the student.

Syllabus Agreement

Students are required to have this form filled out and signed by the 5th day of school.

Student Agreement

I, _____ (Print Student's Name), have received, read and understand the syllabus, class policies, and the expectations set for me in Mrs. King's English 9 class.

Student Signature

Date

Parent Agreement

I, _____ (Print Parent's Name), have received, read and understand the syllabus, class policies, and the expectations set for my child in Mrs. King's English 9 class.

Parent Signature

Date

***Kanawha County Schools
Request for Alternative Reading Assignment***

Dear Parent,

The following reading assignments will be given to your child as part of the requirements for his/her **English 9** class. We will begin the year with *To Kill A Mockingbird*, which is to be read over the summer. Students should bring a copy on the first day of school. If you are unable to purchase one, please contact our counselors for a copy.

To Kill a Mockingbird by Harper Lee (**Summer Reading**)

Rumble Fish by S.E. Hinton

That Was Then, This Is Now by S.E. Hinton

Fahrenheit 451 by Ray Bradbury

The Glass Castle by Jeannette Walls

The Chocolate War by Robert Cormier

All books on this list have been deemed appropriate for students at this level of education and maturity. However, the books on this may contain elements of profane language, violence, sexual content, and adult situations in varying degrees. Parents should consult the individual books directly to decide the suitability of each for their own student.

If you wish to request an alternative reading assignment for your child, please complete the bottom portion of this form and **return it to the school principal prior to the beginning of school (August 18, 2017).**

Sincerely,

Ronda L King

Dual Credit English 101 and 102

George Washington High School

(Return this portion to the school principal by Friday, August 18, 2017)

I request that my child be given an alternate reading assignment to replace the following assignment: _____

My request is based on the following: _____

I understand that this request must be returned to the school principal prior to the beginning of school. I also understand that my child is responsible for completing all parts of the alternative assignment.

Parent Signature: _____ Date: _____