

## **REQUIRED MATERIALS**

- One medium-sized notebook, journal, or composition book (for Welcome Work)
- 3-ringed binder (1 inch) divided into the following sections:
  - 1) Literature
  - 2) Vocabulary/Etymology
  - 3) Grammar
  - 4) Composition
  - 5) Miscellaneous
- A specific file folder named "English 10H" on a USB flash drive (at least 1GB)
- College-ruled, loose-leaf, 3-hole punched paper
- Blue or black ink pens, pencils, highlighters, etc.

## **COURSE CONTENT**

*In addition to the following units of study, students will engage in weekly spelling and vocabulary study. Grammar concepts will be reinforced throughout the year based on student writing results. Welcome Work (W.W.) will be completed in class every day and checked periodically for points. W.W. can consist of short writing prompts and vocabulary or grammar exercises.*

**FIRST SEMESTER:** *Key Ideas-* Explain (expository focus) and Create (descriptive focus)

- *The Hound of the Baskervilles* (including viewing the movie [PG])
- Literary Analysis Essay
- Literature Units 1 and 2 (including viewing film adaptation of "Harrison Bergeron" [PG])
- Personal Narrative
- Holocaust Unit (reading *Night* and critically viewing *The Boy in the Striped Pyjamas* [PG-13])
- Career Research Project and Presentation

**SECOND SEMESTER:** *Key Ideas-* Produce (technical focus) and Inspire (persuasive focus)

- Persuasive Research Paper (topical)
- Literature Units 3 and 4
- Demonstration Speech
- Literature Unit 5, 8, and 9
- Shakespearean Tragedy Unit (reading *Julius Caesar* and critically viewing *Julius Caesar* [G])

## **EXPECTATIONS**

1. Be active and engaged learners. You have elected to take on the rigor and challenges of a Pre-AP/*honors* course and I expect hard work and dedication.
2. Be respectful of yourself, classmates, guests, and teacher.
3. Be responsible for your learning and your behavior.
4. Be receptive to new ideas.
5. Be on time and prepared with the appropriate materials.
4. Sleeping in class will not be tolerated.
5. Electronic devices should not be powered on or visible unless explicit authorization has been given
6. Use only school appropriate and responsible language.

**Note:** Failure to follow the above rules could result in a Friday school and/or a phone call to a student's home. Generally, the following procedure will be used (at the teacher's discretion):

*First Offense:* verbal warning

*Second Offense:* Level I Friday School + parent phone call or email

*Severe Disruption:* immediate referral to the disciplinary office/vice principal

## **GRADING POLICIES**

### 1. *Plagiarism* (see handout on plagiarism).

- Plagiarism is a serious infraction; the work you do *must* be your own.
- Students will be required to submit major writing assignments to “Turnitin.com”
- Plagiarism will result in a zero on the assignment and a phone call to parents.

### 2. *Grading System*

- All grading will be configured according to a “total points system.” The grading scale is as follows:

A +	97- 100 %	B	83-86 %	C –	70-72%
A	93-96 %	B –	80-82 %	D +	67-69%
A –	90-92 %	C +	77-79 %	D	63-66%
B+	87-89 %	C	73-76 %	D –	60-62%
- Anything below a 60% is a failing grade

### 3. *Make-up Work*

- Assignments due on the day of your absence are due immediately once you return to class. There are no extensions because you already knew about the assignment and it should have already been completed.
- Some major assignments, such as research papers, are due on the due date whether or not you are at school because they have been assigned well in advance. Make arrangements to turn these in before the due date.
- If you are absent the day before a test or quiz, you are still required to take the test or quiz with everyone else the day you return.
- If you are absent the day of a test or quiz, you are required to make up the test or quiz immediately when you return to class. In some circumstances, you will need to stay after school to complete make up tests.
- If an assignment is assigned the day you are absent, it is your responsibility to get the assignment immediately once you return to class, and unless otherwise stated, the assignment is still due on its assigned due date. Many assignments can be accessed from the website or My Big Campus while you are absent.
- If you are absent when an assignment is assigned and still absent when it is due, you have the same amount of days to complete the assignment as everyone else beginning once you return to school. If you are absent for an extended time, a special make up schedule should be discussed with Ms. Thomas.

### 4. *Late Work*

- No late work is accepted for homework assignments worth less than 50 points. It is the responsibility of the student to gather and complete all assigned work. If work is not completed on time, a zero for the work will be given for the assignments missed.
- For projects and papers worth 50 points or more, a 10% penalty will be incurred for each day the assignment is late. After the 5<sup>th</sup> day, the assignment can no longer be submitted.

## **PARTICIPATION POLICY**

At the beginning of each quarter, students are given 50 participation points. It is up to the students to hold onto these points. Students lose points for the following reasons (not inclusive):

- 1) Being late to class
- 2) Sleeping in class
- 3) Not having required materials
- 4) Working on assignments for other classes
- 5) Not completing required tasks when asked to do so
- 6) Talking when teacher is addressing the class
- 7) Overly socializing with peers during class time

## **TECHNOLOGY**

Many important things for this class will be available on the Internet. These site are continually evolving and our use of them changes, so please be aware and up-to-date. Some important sites include:

- Ms. Thomas’s website <http://lettersfromEnglish.weebly.com>
- Ms. Thomas’s groups on My Big Campus [mybigcampus.com](http://mybigcampus.com)
- The “Turn it in” website <http://turnitin.com>
- And many, many more!