

**9th Grade Honors English Language Arts
Canyon High School
Room 116
2020-2021
Mrs. Vinas**

Dear Parents and Guardians,

As we begin this school year, I look forward to presenting 9th Grade Honors English to your student. This course is an accelerated literature-based curriculum that integrates the skills of reading, writing, speaking and listening through a variety of literary forms. Students will learn through goal- setting, reflection, independent text selection, and activities that allow them to collaborate with their peers. Each unit of study includes selections of different genres-including multimedia-related to a relevant and meaningful Essential Question. The course will emphasize writing, the writing process, and will incorporate various conventions of written language. Speaking and listening will be emphasized through cooperative learning activities, critical thinking simulations, and implementation of specific units on technology.

It is my goal to implement the Common Core Standards for English Language Arts set by the state of California. To support this, I will be sending home homework that is specifically tied to these standards and reinforces what is being studied in the classroom. It is widely recognized that parents can play an important role in helping their children succeed in school. The goal of parental involvement is to help students develop curiosity and enthusiasm for solving problems. In the process, parents can extend learning that takes place in school. Families can help their children study English in a variety of ways.

- 1. Designate time and place for homework. Help your child to be organized.**
- 2. Review their work.**

Course Objectives / Students will be able to:

- Organize, develop and present a formal and informal speech presentation.**
- Apply the writing process to the four domains of writing: narrative, descriptive, informative, expository, through the study of genres of literature.**
- Locate and use reference materials independently.**
- Apply critical thinking strategies.**
- Define each of the following as related to classic novels: plot, characterization, setting, symbolism, theme, mood, conflict, point of view, etc..**

- Demonstrate an understanding and appreciation of poetry and its elements through oral and written activities.
- Apply the conventions of writing (usage, grammar, spelling, capitalization, etc.) to the student's own writing.
- Express him or herself effectively in small group, one-on-one, and total class discussions.

Writing:

During the year we will be working on specific writing assignments to further advance your writing proficiency and analytical skills. These will include essays that are descriptive, narrative, persuasive, and text analysis. Poetry and writing prompts will also be part of this agenda.

Homework: It will be assigned daily. Reading and all assignments are expected to be up to date. Homework directly correlates to class work and is *integral* to students' success in learning core curriculum at the highest level.

Classroom Materials: (student needs to be prepared for every class)

1. **My Perspectives English Language Arts Grade 9 Volume one & two.**
2. **A binder** to keep handouts and literature notes. (**highly recommended**)
3. **A four-color in one pen – blue, red, green, black**

Assignment Expectations:

- All assignments should reflect a student's best effort.
- **Assignments** will be posted on Google Classroom and turned in at the requested time to Google Classroom / Classwork.
- Students will be allowed on campus to checkout novels assigned for the class after school hours until 3:15 Monday-Friday.
- Assignments are expected to be done on time!

Grades Students are expected to maintain a B average in Honors English.

The grading policy is based on a standard scale and is weighted as shown:

- 65% Assessments (Writing, Quizzes, Tests)

- **35% Work (includes homework, classwork, projects)**

Should you have any questions or concerns, you can contact me via email at pvinas@orange.usd.org.

Thank you for reading this information. Together, we can help build an education program that provides your student with the best experience possible.

Cordially,

Patty Vinas

**English Department
Canyon High School
220 S. Imperial Hwy
Anaheim, CA 92807**

Please sign below and return.

I have read and reviewed this information with my child.

Student Name _____

Signature _____

Parent or Guardian

Signature _____

