

Mrs. Kohl
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Room 271
English 1 Academic - A.I. duPont High School

Course Description: The ninth grade English program is the beginning of a four-year sequence. At the ninth grade level students review the basics of grammar, punctuation, spelling, and sentence structure. The paragraph is used as the basic model of instruction for the elements of effective composition: unity, coherence, and organization. Students are introduced to the high school library resources through reference assignments. The student will produce a mini-research paper as a result. The emphasis in literature is the study of various genres, especially the short story, the novel and the drama, and literary terminology. Public speaking is introduced through the demonstration speech. Vocabulary is taken from the literature studied in class.

Teacher Objectives:

1. to demonstrate increasingly mature use of sentence patterns
2. to write a well-developed five paragraph essay according to several patterns
3. to demonstrate effective use of library sources
4. to understand the components of and to complete successfully a mini-research paper
5. to analyze the short story, the novel and the drama
6. to present material orally in a variety of formal and informal situations
7. to utilize new vocabulary
8. to use the dictionary

Student Expectations:

1. to attend class and be on time. If a student misses class, she must present an admit slip within two days to receive credit for work missed.
2. to complete homework approximately three times a week. This may include reading, writing, vocabulary or grammar assignments. Students must turn in homework at the beginning of class written neatly in ink on a full sheet of paper in order to receive full credit. Any late homework assignments will receive no more than half credit. Pop quizzes based on the previous night's reading may also be given.
3. to be prepared for class by bringing the assignment due, a pen or pencil, a binder, and the book being studied in class.

4. to write essays and major assignments in blue or black ink, skipping every other line or turn them in typed and double spaced. If a paper is submitted late, the grade will be lowered one letter grade per day. **Assignments are to be handed if you are in school the day they are due, regardless of whether or not you are in class, otherwise the assignment will be considered late.**

5. to write in a journal at the beginning of each class period for two minutes.

6. to participate in independent reading time once a week and respond to the reading in a journal entry. Students may choose their own reading material.

7. to behave in a manner that is conducive to a learning environment. Students should enter the classroom quietly, proceed directly to their assigned seat, and prepare for class. Students are expected to behave in a respectful manner toward each other and the teacher and must raise their hand and wait to be called on if they wish to speak.

Materials:

The following materials will be used: Prentice Hall Literature; handouts for vocabulary study, writing and grammar; *April Morning*; *Romeo and Juliet*; teacher prepared materials.

Grading:

* Each assignment is worth a certain amount of points:

Homework/classwork -10 to 20 points

Pop quizzes -10 points

Quizzes - 30 to 50 points

Tests - 60 to 100 points

Essays/projects - 50 to 100 points

* At the end of the marking period, the student's grade will be determined by dividing the number of points earned by the number of possible points.

Example: $\frac{\text{points earned}}{\text{possible points}} = \frac{426}{500} = .852 = 85.2\%$

- The grading scale is as follows: 100-93% = A; 92-85%=B; 84-77%=C; 76-70%=D; 69% and below=F. Any student who receives three F's fails the class for the year.
- Students can keep track of their grades on www.mygradebook.com.

PARENT/CHILD PARTNERSHIP AGREEMENT

We have both read, discussed and understand the course description for Mrs. Kohl's English 1 Academic class. We understand that the student's educational success depends on a three-way partnership of support and guidance, involving Mrs. Kohl and us. We reserve the right to question, discuss and involve ourselves in this course whenever one member of this partnership thinks it is necessary.

STUDENT: _____ DATE: _____

**PARENT(S): _____ DATE: _____
or GUARDIAN(S)**

_____ **DATE: _____**