

English 9/10

English 9/10 is a **year-long class on A/B schedule**. The literature is varied and will encompass many cultures, genres, and time periods. In addition to writing, reading and analyzing literature and informational texts, students will be gaining college level skills and business/professional soft skills to help ensure future success.

Students are expected **to be seated before the bell and begin the bell ringer activity**. The bell ringer activity is daily and students will need a composition book. The composition book will remain in the classroom, but the student will have a copy of the bell ringer activities packet so that work may be made up in advance if necessary when the student will be absent or away from the classroom. The bell ringer activities are based on grammar, mechanics, and sentence combining which will help students find more success on the EOC and on the ACT (The ACT is best taken when the student has completed both Algebra 2 and Geometry.)

Students will often **work cooperatively in group settings toward common goals**. Several state standards and goals are reached through learning to work with others effectively. Business leaders throughout the state have requested that students be better prepared to work with others to achieve goals and the TN Department of Education put this into the state standards. Some of the Listening and Speaking standards will be measured through the interactions, behaviors, and projects developed within the groups.

Cell phones will be **turned off and put away in the backpack when the student enters the classroom**. Students are **NOT to talk on their cell phones at any time in the classroom**. Because of privacy issues in a mandatory attendance setting, **videoing and Facetime are NEVER allowed**. If a family crisis arises, please contact the school and your child will be brought to the phone. Students are not allowed to have ear buds, nor the over the head headsets. Occasionally, students will need to photograph missing assignments or work on the board, but should always ask first.

Students will need a binder to maintain unit activities and also to maintain reference material that will be used throughout the year. Most likely a one or two inch binder will suffice. This should be brought to each class meeting. A day classes meet on Monday and Wednesday; B day classes meet on Tuesday and Thursday; all classes meet on Friday.

Students are encouraged to **use all three learning styles on each assignment**. The more learning styles used and the more times practiced, the more likely a child will retain the information. For this reason, students will use auditory, visual, and kinesthetic learning. While online learning is the trend, studies demonstrate that this is not as effective for learning as hard copies with which student can interact (underlining, highlighting, etc.). For this reason, I request that if you can, please donate a ream of paper to the classroom.

Speaking of, these are **useful items that really help in a classroom** and I would appreciate any donation of these:

- Paper
- Paper towels, Kleenex, or soft toilet paper
- Clorox wipes
- Hand sanitizer
- Ink cartridge HP black 61
- Highlighters

I know as a parent before I give my hard earned money I want to know that it will be put to good use and that the person asking is as invested as myself. To date for this school year, I have put more than \$400 into supplies for my classroom. I purchased paint and supplies, did all the prep and painting with the help of my husband, bought highlighters, paper, pens, and hand sanitizer. I want your children to have a clean classroom and to have supplies that help ensure their health and learning. I want them to be the best they can be.

Classroom Rules: Students should:

- Respect one another verbally and physically
- Be prepared for class each day and willing to learn
- Keep hands to self and respect the property of others
- Act in a courteous, polite, and respectful manner
- Be on time to class

Students will be writing essays both in and outside of class. Please ensure that **your student has access to a printer**. Please also have a back-up printer (a neighbor, family member, public library) whose printer may be used for emergencies. This will also mean that **students should not wait until the last minute to complete assignments or print work**. Our school has access to Turnitin, a site that checks for plagiarism. Plagiarism is the use of another person's work or ideas without giving proper credit. Using more than three words directly without proper credit is plagiarism. **The first offense for plagiarism will be a zero for the assignment and notifying the parents**. A second incident will result in a disciplinary referral and a zero for the assignment.

Students who choose the Honors credit will be doing some extra or extended writing during the year and a project. Projects require teacher approval. Students have been given the Honors contract and will be notified after the end of Semester 1 if they are not eligible for Honors credit either by lack of effort or by grade. Most students will be capable of completing the assignments, but do need to pay attention to efforts and grades.

Quarter 1 August 7-October 14 (42 Days/ 21 A/B Days)

Weeks 1-2 Get to Know You/ Whole School Safety Project

Weeks 3-5 Diagnostic test, Expository Essay practice

Weeks 6-9

****Benchmark Task** Argumentative Essay

Fall Break October 7-11

Quarter 2 October 15-December 18 (45 Days/ 22 A/B)

Thanksgiving Break November 27-29

Quarter 3 January 6-March 13 (50 Days/ 25 A/B)

Quarter 4 March 17-May 21 (43 Days/ 21 A/B)

Spring Break April 3-9