

ENGLISH 9



Course Description

Welcome to English 9. Our goal for the year is to learn to read and think as writers, to look at texts through a writer's eye. We will be reading and writing poetry, narratives, informational, and argumentative texts. You will have the opportunity to read engaging, thought-provoking texts and a novel you won't want to put down.

By examining these exemplary texts, you will build your skills as a writer and be able to communicate your ideas effectively. We will also spend time building your vocabulary and technology skills. Discussion, both speaking and listening, as well as working in collaboration with others will play a large role in class and help to prepare you for the college and career world. I look forward to spending the year learning with you!

CLASS EXPECTATIONS



Be kind & be respectful.



Be on time & be prepared.



Ask permission to leave your seat.



Raise your hand and wait to be called on before speaking.



Follow directions the first time they are given.

All LACS school rules apply.

Homework

Homework is necessary for you to complete in order to participate in class the next day and to develop important skills. If you choose not to complete the assigned work, you are missing out on opportunities to learn and grow. In the past, students who didn't complete homework struggled to pass English 9, while students who regularly completed homework succeeded. Homework assignments may include, but are not limited to:

- independent reading;
- independent and collaborative presentations and projects,
- drafting, revising, and writing polished pieces of writing;
- vocabulary & language use activities; and
- responding to writing prompts.

Classroom Policies, Procedures, & Grading

Entering Class: Enter respectfully, quickly find your seat, place English materials on desk, and read the day's lesson posted on the board. Quietly wait for the teacher to commence class.

Bathroom Usage: You must have permission from the teacher, sign out on the required form and sign back in upon return.

Food & Electronic Devices: Food and drink (except water bottles) are not permitted outside of the cafeteria for sanitary reasons. Personal electronics should not be used and/or heard in the classroom unless it is part of the teacher-directed lesson.

Exiting Class: In the last minute of class, you will wrap up what you are working on, pack up your materials, and check that you have recorded today's homework assignment. The teacher, not the bell, dismisses you upon completion of these tasks.

Absences: If you are absent, it is your responsibility to make up missed assignments.

Revisions & Redoes: Revisions on formal writing assignments ARE encouraged and expected. *However*, redoes on tests, quizzes, timed writing assessments, homework, projects, and outside reading assessments **ARE NOT permitted**. There is a one-time 20-point penalty on late work. Again, no redoes except for formal writing assignments. Repeat after me: no redoes!

***Bring your charged Chromebook to class every day. ***

How are grades determined? Are categories weighted differently?

- Homework/classwork, quizzes, tests, projects, writing, etc. are subject to change depending on the type of assignments, their durations, and level of difficulty/complexity within any given grading period. Usually, but not always, grades are weighted as follows: HW 25%, quizzes 15%, tests 20%, formal writing 35%, respectively, and again, subject to change.
- The Informational Research Paper is worth approximately 50% of the respective quarter grade.
- Formal writing assignments are always weighed more heavily than other assignments/assessments.

YOU WILL NEED:

- A 3-ring binder with 500+ sheets of loose leaf paper, 5 dividers & a hole-punched folder. (Binder may be used in other subject areas as long as it's organized appropriately for ease of use.)
- Pens & pencils
- A set of colored highlighters
- 400+ lined notecards
- Sticky notes
- Earbuds for Chromebook use
- Sign up for Remind notifications
- Bring Chromebook to class daily & access Google Classroom regularly.
- A positive attitude, a sense of humor, & an open mind

DUE BY: Monday, September 14, 2020

Positive & Negative Consequences

Meeting classroom expectations and behaving appropriately in class helps to create a learning environment where you and your classmates feel welcome, safe, and respected.

If you choose to meet the classroom expectations, you will receive a **positive consequence**, such as praise from teacher, classmates, a positive Remind message, special privileges/activities, and/or stickers. Who doesn't like a sticker?

If you choose not to meet the classroom expectations, you will receive a **negative consequence**, such as a verbal warning, a change of seat, a student/teacher conference, a phone call home, a detention, a parent/guardian meeting, and for severe infractions of school rules, suspension. Discipline follows the LACS Handbook.

Don't forget to the two signatures below! Due Sept. 14.