



Loara High School
1765 West Cerritos Avenue
Anaheim, CA 92804-6198
English I Curriculum

Dear Parents/Guardians and Students,

English I is a required comprehensive literature-based course integrating reading, writing, speaking, listening, grammar, vocabulary, study and research skills, and critical thinking.

Objectives:

- To broaden knowledge by in-depth study of quality literature.
- To improve oral and written language skills.
- To develop critical reading skills through literature.

Major Works:

The Odyssey by Homer

Romeo and Juliet by William Shakespeare

Night by Elie Wiesel

Plus poems, short stories, and essays

Textbooks:

*Prentice Hall Literature: Timeless Voices, Timeless Themes-Gold Edition

*Grammar Handbook

Course Outline: Language skills, composition, spelling and mechanics will be emphasized strongly. In addition, the curriculum will include critical thinking, oral expression, listening/note taking, and thinking/problem solving skills (Focus on standards). Students are expected to write a minimum of one page in journals daily.

Grading Policy:

- A. Grades are based on a point system.
 - 1. Daily assignments and homework are 10-15 points each.
 - 2. Writing prompts and quizzes are 15-25 points each.
 - 3. Essays, tests, quarterly benchmark tests, and projects are 50-100 points each.
- B. Final grades are based on a percentage of total points possible.
 - 100%-90% = A
 - 89%-80% = B

79%-70% = C

69%-60% = D

59% or below = F

- C. Students are expected to follow Loara's academic honesty policy. Plagiarism, using the ideas or words of another as one's own, will result in a failing grade on the assignment--no makeup opportunity available. Cheating will result in an F on assignments/tests (explained in more depth on the back).

III. Homework

- A. **Homework** will be assigned up to 3-5 times a week. When there is not a specific homework assignment, students should read a novel or newspaper for at least twenty minutes.
- B. Students are expected to read one million words throughout the semester. To reach this goal, they must read twenty minutes each evening, in addition to regular homework. Students will receive points/credit on outside reading material through discussion conferences between teacher and student.
- C. **Assigned homework** is to be **entirely completed** before class of the day it is due. **Late work** will be marked down to **half credit**, and it **will not** be accepted after one day late.
- D. **Absent** students have the same amount of time as the days missed to complete assignments. Major essays and projects **must** be submitted on the due date for full credit, regardless of absence.
- E. **Assigned Classwork** is due at the end of the period, unless an extension has been that allows it to be completed for homework. If classwork is due at the end of the period, no late work will be accepted.
- F. **All outside writing assignments must be typed**. Computers are available to all students in the Student Technology Resource Center (STRC) or for writing and Internet research. Computers are available in my room by appointment only.
- G. Students are required to keep a **digital journal**, which will allow students to practice their writing skills and respond to class discussions and assigned literature. More information will be given about this requirement later.
- H. Students will also keep a **digital writing portfolio** to demonstrate their writing ability and share their favorite pieces.
- I. **Participation points** are awarded daily. Students earn 1 point per day for being in class, being on time, having required materials, following class guidelines, and participating in class work/discussions (violation of these will result in a loss of 1 participation point).

***Academic dishonesty** is defined as the act of obtaining or attempting to obtain credit for work by the use of any dishonest, deceptive, illegal, or unauthorized means. Examples include but are not limited to: using notes or aids or the help of other students on tests or exams in ways other than those expressly permitted by the instructor, plagiarism (as defined below), tampering with grading procedures, using

work from past years for current assignments, and collaborating with others on any assignment where such collaboration does not have the express permission of the teacher.

Plagiarism is defined as the act of taking the substance of another's work or ideas and offering it as one's own without giving credit to the source.

English Department policy requires that assignments or exams of which any part is plagiarized or in which students participate in any other form of academic dishonesty will earn an F with no opportunity for makeup.

IV. **Conference**

My conference time is 5th period. Parents, if you have any questions, call and leave a message at 999-3677, and I will return your call as soon as possible. For any student requiring additional help, I am available before, during, and after school (Rm 207).

Sincerely,

Ms. Van Dervort



I LOVE ENGLISH



Student Classroom Expectations and Discipline Policy

I believe mutual **RESPECT** builds a classroom environment conducive to learning while enhancing academic **SUCCESS**.

In order to SUCCEED, students must follow these simple rules:

1. Be seated, have materials on desk, and be prepared to work by the time the bell rings.
2. Bring completed homework, assigned text or novel, lined paper, pencil,/black pen every day.
3. Pay attention and do not cause disturbances that interfere with anyone else's learning. Students must participate in class discussion, and they must involve themselves in active learning. Only one person should be talking at a time. For example, when the teacher is talking, students should be listening. If a student is speaking, then the rest of the students should wait their turn to speak to eliminate noise and confusion. Students are expected to use language appropriate for English class (no profanity, please). We will review the district's policy for student expectations during conferencing.
4. No eating, drinking, or chewing gum during class (Covid district policy). If you honestly feel dehydrated, then you may raise your hand and step outside to take a drink of water.

No one has the right to prevent me from teaching or keep other students from learning; therefore, these consequences will be in effect:

- a. Verbal warning
- b. Class detention with Ms. Van Dervort after school (30 min-60 min) and a phone call home.
- c. If a student continues to display inappropriate/disruptive behavior after being prompted/redirected, and has gone through the steps listed above, the student will be referred to administration for additional discipline
- d. A reflective assignment will be issued and require students to reflect on behavior, why it was inappropriate, how it impacted the teacher/the rest of the class, and what they will do differently in the future.

**Type your name on the blanks on the following page and submit to Schoology for credit.

I have read the English I curriculum letter and understand the course requirements and class rules.

Student Signature

Parent Signature

Parent's email address

Date