

## **8th Grade Regents English: Syllabus and Learning Contract**

**Dr. Kazandjian**  
**Stimson Middle School**  
**2025-2026**

### **Contact Information:**

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Welcome to Dr. Kazandjian's English class! I look forward to an exciting year with you as we learn together and embrace educational excellence. I have high expectations for all of my students and am confident that you will succeed if you put in the effort and perseverance into crafting a year of strengthening your skills in reading and writing. Remember, what you put in is what you get out!

### **Goals and Objectives:**

1. To develop proficiency in the conventions of the English language.
2. To prepare students for the reading and writing skills needed for life and those needed in high school and beyond.
3. To enable students to assume responsibility for their own learning.
4. To develop and enhance note-taking skills and organization.
5. To become more resourceful and less dependent on the teacher.
6. To learn to analyze and evaluate literature and explain and communicate it in writing.

### **Classroom Materials:**

1. Journal-composition notebook
2. Pens and pencils.
3. Post-It notes
4. Highlighter
5. (1) One subject binder with four dividers and looseleaf paper
6. School agenda/planner
7. Chromebook fully charged (used on Fridays)

**NOTE: You can share our binder with another class if the other teacher(s) approve it.**

### **Class Rules and Procedures:**

1. Respect yourself, teachers, others, and all property.

2. Try your best in all facets of the class to ensure greater success and a sense of accomplishment.
3. Come to class **prepared** each day. (Journals, writing utensils, paper, homework, etc.)
4. Take responsibility for your actions, behavior, and performance.
5. \*Do not cut corners; do the work assigned to yourself and by yourself.

### **Homework/Classwork Grading Policy:**

Homework is a crucial part of the learning process and will be assigned more often in certain weeks and less in others. This is contingent upon what particular unit we may be working on. This ebb and flow of homework will allow you to work on and strengthen balancing your schedule and prepare you for your future as a student and individual. Homework must be submitted **the next school day** to receive credit. ***Late assignments will not count and will receive a zero.*** *If you are absent from class, you must contact a friend or the teacher to find out what notes and assignments you missed.*

### **Missing assignments will be handled in the following sequence:**

- Verbal warning
- Teacher/parent discussion
- Parent/administrator conference

### **Literary Units:**

Short story mini-unit

*The Outsiders*

*I Must Betray You*

*The Pigman*

### **Quarterly Grading Policy:**

Tests and Quizzes=40%

Homework=10%

Participation=10%

Writing=40%

### **Assessments and Quizzes:**

Assessments, tests, and quizzes will be announced at least a week in advance and noted on my classroom's sideboard. If you miss class the day before a quiz, test, or project, you will be expected to take the quiz/test or turn in the project upon your return. If you cannot take a scheduled quiz or test, *you* must make other arrangements with the teacher in advance. Have your parent/guardian contact the school for assignments or email me if you are absent. This will help you to keep up in class and stay current with assignments.

**Absence and Make-Up Work Procedures:**

Upon your return to school, following an excused absence, the student must contact the teacher to request make-up work. Students have the same amount of time or days in which they were absent to make up the work. Assessments must also be made up within that time frame. Assignments (including projects), due on a day the student is absent, are due upon your return to school.

I, \_\_\_\_\_ the parent/guardian of \_\_\_\_\_ acknowledge that I have received and reviewed the above syllabus and understand that this syllabus contains important information about the course, including its objectives, grading policies, classroom expectations, and contact information. I commit to supporting my child's educational journey throughout the school year by actively participating in their academic progress, ensuring they are prepared for class and communicating with the teacher as needed. I also understand the importance of adhering to school policies and procedures outlined in the syllabus.

By signing below, I acknowledge that I have read and understood the contents of the syllabus and I agree to encourage and assist my child in fulfilling their responsibilities as a student.

Parent/Guardian Signature \_\_\_\_\_ Date:

Student's Name \_\_\_\_\_ Date:

Thank you for your commitment to your child's education and partnership in their academic success. Your support is greatly appreciated!