

Course Outline

This course aims at providing students with the foundation and skills in language and composition that are needed both for writing in general and for taking state exams such as the Common Core English Language Arts Regents. Students will practice taking notes from class lectures, reading and responding to both informational documents/texts and literary works, arguing for or against a proposition, and writing literary analysis essays. In class we will be studying different genres of sample essays and coming up with key writing strategies as well as writing essays of various genres. At the end of the course, students will become better readers and writers. They will be prepared for more demanding and sophisticated form of reading and writing. Both literary and informational texts will be used. The identification and analytical skills they will learn are the keys to success for current and future tasks.

I. READINGS:

- Poems by 19th and 20th century poets
- Nonfiction: Advanced Language and Literature: For Honors and Pre-AP English Courses, magazine articles on various current topics, past Regents informational texts
- Short stories by: Edgar A. Poe, Anton Chekov, Isaac Singer, Lev Tolstoy, Isaac Asimov, Ernest Hemingway
- Lyrics of songs by popular singers

II. GRAMMAR SKILLS:

- All forms of verb tense (10-12 types)
- Types of clause: adjective, noun, adverb, conditional
- Editing: subject/verb disagreement, run-on, pronoun reference, parallel structure
- Voice: active vs. passive

III. DISTRIBUTION OF GRADES:

- | | |
|------------------------------------------------------------|-----|
| • Formative (Class work, Homework, Quizzes, Participation) | 30% |
| • Summative (Essays, Projects, Exams) | 50% |
| • Academic Behavior (Integrity, Professionalism) | 20% |

(Please refer to Policy and Rules #8 for details of the grading policy and course grade.)

IV. POLICY AND RULES:

1. Come to class on time. You will be marked late if you are late. Bring your assigned reading every day. Excessive absences or lateness will result in lower performance. You may not use the bathroom in the first or last ten minutes of each class period.
2. Participate in class by raising your hand and offer your opinions during class discussion. You will receive credit for raising your hand and more credits if your opinion is thoughtful and appropriate on the topic. On the other hand, your class participation grade will be affected negatively if you do not or hardly raise your hand.
3. Keep your notes handy (at least one week) and you must do your work on 8'5" by 11' size paper from a binder notebook (3-ring binder) or a notebook. Keep your vocabulary words and grammar notes in separate parts of your notebook or by using different colors to tell them apart. Your

notes will be checked and given a grade from time to time. Do all your written work for the teacher in blue or black ink only.

4. The teacher will NOT take late work unless you have a doctor's or parent's note (with daytime phone number on the note). Following an emergency, appointment, or sick day, it is your responsibility to ask about and make up missing work within two days.
5. No electronic devices, hats, or gums can be used in class. No food or drinks in the classroom, except for bottled water.
6. The teacher will call on those students who raise their hands. Do not call out answers. Be patient and respect other speakers. Also, do not give your classmates disrespectful responses.
7. Copying or plagiarizing (using ideas or exact sentences/paragraphs of authors without proper documentation of the sources) in homework, essays and tests is prohibited! Those who do so will receive a zero on their assignments and their parents will be notified. The zero grade will remain on the record as a warning. If you choose to plagiarize on a major essay/project, you also choose to fail the marking period.
8. Your final grade will be given on your overall work, that is, your projects, tests, compositions, and work in and out of class. You must 1) pass at least 1/2 of tests and quizzes, 2) complete 2/3 of homework assignments, and 3) submit all essays and projects in order to pass this class. Failing to meet any of the three requirements may result in an F.
9. Finally, it is your responsibility to keep all class materials in a folder or a binder pocket. The teacher does not always have extra handouts to give out. All written work must be kept in a folder at home or at school until the end of the term.

V. CLASS SUPPLIES CHECKLIST:

- ☐ Blue/Black Pens (or, Pencils, Eraser/White-Out)
- ☐ Highlighters, Post-Its
- ☐ 2 Folders (or, 1 Folder & 1 Binder)
- ☐ Loose-Leaf Paper
- ☐ Dictionary
- ☐ A Small Planner or Notebook for Daily Homework

CLASSROOM CONTRACT

STUDENT BILL OF RIGHTS

1. I have the right to receive respect from others
2. I have the right to show respect to others
3. I have the right to protect classroom furniture
4. I have the right to try my best to succeed
5. I have the right to attend class on time
6. I have the right to complete and turn in all of my assignments
7. I have the right to participate fully in class
8. I have the right to volunteer when others are in need of help
9. I have the right to inquire about and make up all missing work
10. I have the right to ask questions whenever in doubt

Student Name (Print): _____

Student Name (Print in Chinese if applicable): _____

Student Signature: _____

Parent/Guardian Name (Print): _____

Parent/Guardian Signature: _____

Teacher Name (Print): **Ms. Lam** _____

Teacher Signature: _____

Please fill out the fields below and return this entire page to me tomorrow.

Student Information

1. Date of Birth: _____

2. Circle one: Female / Male

3. Your first language: Mandarin / Cantonese / Spanish / English / Other→ _____

4. Home Address: _____

5. Contact Information (If Applicable):

★ Cellular Phone: _____

★ Home Phone: _____

★ Parent's Phone: _____

★ Student's Email: _____

★ Parent's Email: _____

*****Ms. Lam's Classroom Supplies Wish List*****

Would You Please Bring In At Least One of the Following Items?

Thank You So Much!

- ❖ Loose-Leaf Paper (For Class Work)
- ❖ Colored Markers (For Projects/Posters)
- ❖ Boxed Tissues (Our Noses)
- ❖ Paper Towels (Cleaning Up Furniture)
- ❖ Hand Sanitizers (Our Hands)

