

Tab 1

English 9 College Prep
Canton High School
2025-2026
Ms. Moberly & Mrs. Principe

Essential Questions

- What are the forces that shape our understanding of ourselves?
- What experiences challenge us to grow?
- What societal issues and forces challenge us to grow?

Reading

Throughout our readings, you will be encouraged to think about reading as a conversation. We will ask you to consider what each author is saying to us (to you in particular) and to think about what you want to say back. We will be focusing on the overarching theme of **growing up** by exploring the following sub themes:

The Forces that Shape Us

- Selected short stories, poems, nonfiction

Challenges to Innocence: Outgrowing Our Places

- *A Monster Calls* by Patrick Ness
- *Three Things I Know Are True* by Betty Culley

Challenges to Innocence: Societal Issues and Forces

- *The Tragedy of Romeo and Juliet* by William Shakespeare

Finding and Facing Ourselves

- Nonfiction articles
- *To Kill a Mockingbird* by Harper Lee

Writing

You will write a lot in this class! We will write for a variety of purposes: to process our thoughts, to reflect upon the reading, to gather ideas for formal writing. Because writing is primarily thinking, for this class we are interested in YOUR IDEAS. Writing is a conversation. We will build in time for you to collaborate with fellow students, teachers, and writing coaches to develop your thinking and, therefore, your writing.

We get it--writing is difficult, but that's what English class is here for! The best ways to improve as a writer are to write frequently and to both give and receive feedback on writing. You will have many opportunities to write in class and at home. Through a variety of modes: (narration, exposition, argument, persuasion, reflection, and poetry), you will be developing your ability to

- articulate a clear focus,
- choose an organizational structure to suit your purpose,
- support your focus with well-chosen and well-integrated evidence, and to
- care for your reader by carefully polishing your work.

CHS's Academic Integrity Policy indicates that students should consult their teacher "if and when using an AI bot." Because **our primary goal is for you to develop the skills that make identifying, developing, and articulating your own thoughts easier**, we will primarily focus on brainstorming and in-person collaboration to help us generate and develop our ideas. Please know that your teachers are here to help you develop those thinking/writing skills. You are expected to AVOID using AI unless we specifically incorporate it into a lesson.

Vocabulary

You will be given a list of 100 words that you are expected to master by the end of this school year. We will study those words in small chunks (5 words at a time) using vocabulary cards/notes that you make and vocabulary.com to review and explore those words more fully. Vocabulary cards/notes are due every Monday. You will be quizzed on those words every other Friday and tested each quarter. Vocabulary quizzes and tests are **cumulative** (save those vocab cards/notes!).

Grammar

In addition to teacher-led instruction, we will also be using an online grammar resource, IXL, to cover specific concepts. You and/or your teacher may find that you need additional practice on some of these or other concepts. Please be prepared to complete additional study as required. You will have grammar quizzes on alternate Fridays.

Grading Policy:

Each marking period accounts for 22% of your final grade. Your final exam accounts for 12% of your final grade. Each marking period will be averaged according to the following category and point system:

- Homework: 5% of the quarter average--these will be graded for completion on a 1-5 scale.
- Assessments: 95% of the quarter average--The number of points assigned reflects an assignment's weight.

Homework:

Per school board policy #6154, homework may be assigned on the days in which the class is in session. Homework is not to exceed 30 minutes per class. Homework consists of assigned reading, writing, vocabulary, and grammar assignments in both short and long-term formats. Assignments are ALWAYS written on the board and discussed in class. They are also posted on your teacher's website. **NOTE: Not all assignments are posted on Google Classroom.** Refer to your teacher's website for the most accurate list of assignments. All handwritten assignments must be legible to earn credit.

Late homework assignments, whether submitted in class, or via any of our on-line grading platforms will **not** be accepted. If you forget your work in your locker or at home, it will **not** be accepted.

At the end of each quarter, your teacher will drop one low homework assignment.

Absences:

If you are absent, take care of yourself and feel better. When you are getting ready to return to school, start by looking at the information posted on your teacher's website and in Google Classroom. These will be your best tools for keeping up with work. Feel free to reach out to me with questions.

English Department Late Work Policy: You will be given a unit or weekly agenda via Google Classroom. Assignments posted in Google Classroom will have due dates and times attached to the assignment. ***It is your responsibility to know what is due and when it is due.*** This policy applies to major and minor assignments.

- **This policy does not apply to homework and classwork**, which must be completed in class or for homework by their due dates as specified on the assignment/agenda (subject to individual accommodations). In the event of an absence, the student must arrange a timely make up of any applicable work.
- To be eligible for the late policy, students need to complete all in class and at home process pieces within the class time allotted, on the documents provided by the teacher. **Note that formal writing assignments must go through a drafting and revision process in order to be considered for a grade.**
- If a student must submit work late, they must communicate this need with their teacher to make a plan for completing the assignment by proactively reaching out to their teacher proactively before the deadline to request an extension.
- In the majority of cases, **students will have up to three days to complete the late work.** Extensions will be granted with a due date agreed upon between the teacher and the student.
- To reflect the level of the student's content mastery, late work will be graded as is at the time of the agreed upon deadline.

Academic Integrity: Part of developing your own voice is that all work for this course must be your own. Attempting to pass off another person's work as your own, submitting work generated by an AI bot, cheating, or using work from another class is not consistent with our goals. You are expected to know Canton High School's policy on academic integrity.

Extra Help:

Sometimes a quick 5-10 minute check-in is all that is needed to get you back on track. If you need help with homework, essay, etc., please reach out to your teacher.

Mrs. Principe's availability:	Ms. Moberly's availability:
Per. 5: Study hall--Room 213 2:30-3:00 PM most days except Mondays--double check that I'll be after.	Per 1: Study Hall, Room 234 2:30-3:00 PM most days except Mondays--double check that I'll be after

Supplies and Organization:

While SOME of your work will be completed via your Chromebook, you will also need a notebook and a system to keep your papers organized. Each day you should bring:

- Pens, pencils, and highlighters
- A **paper system** for keeping track of assignments--agenda, calendar, etc.
- At least 100 3x5 lined index cards and a way of keeping them organized
- Post-it notes and/or post-it flags
- Notebook for sketching ideas, brainstorming, etc.
- A folder or binder for storing handouts
- Fully charged Chromebook

Parent/Guardian Communication:

You are an important resource in your child's success at Canton High School. If you have questions during the year, please get in touch with me. Email is the best way to contact me (amoberly@cantonschools.org OR kprincipe@cantonschools.org), and I will get back to you within a day.

Looking forward to a great year together!

Anna Moberly & Karla Principe

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Parents/Guardians, please acknowledge that you have looked over these materials with your child by filling out this attached receipt. I will collect it from your child.

We, the student and the parents/guardians, have read and discussed the course overview. **Our signatures indicate that we understand the responsibilities of being a student in this class.**

Student Name: _____ Class Period: _____

Student Signature: _____ Date: _____

Parent/Guardian Name(s): _____

Parent/Guardian Signature(s): _____ Date: _____

Parent/Guardian phone number(s)--please designate as necessary: _____

Parent/Guardian Email--please designate as necessary: _____

Best way to reach Parent/Guardian: _____

In the space below, please share with me information about this student that will help me best meet his/her needs.



This year, Curriculum Night is Wednesday, September 17. Looking forward to seeing you there!

August Letter

Welcome to English 9!

Happy end of August, Parents and Guardians!

Mrs. Principe and Ms. Moberly are reaching out with a quick hello and guidance to help you and your child prepare for success in this year's English class.

We are so excited to meet the class of 2029! To help you be prepared for all the great things we will be doing this year, please be sure that you have the following for each day's class:

- Pens, pencils, and highlighters
- A **paper system** for keeping track of assignments--agenda, calendar, etc.
- At least 100 3x5 lined index cards and a way of keeping them organized (a case, a large binder clip, a few strong rubber bands, etc.). If you have larger handwriting, get the 4x6 ones.
- Post-it notes and/or post-it flags
- Notebook for taking notes, sketching ideas, brainstorming, etc.
- A folder or binder for storing handouts
- Fully charged Chromebook