

Name _____

Date _____

Mrs. Marrs

English

Welcome to English!

This will be a successful and enjoyable year for you if you keep in mind a few guidelines and requirements:

Attendance:

1. Please come to class. Regular attendance is necessary for doing well in this class. Please do your best to be here every day. If you would like to spend more time on your work, or if you find you are having difficulty in English, I will be available every day after school for extra help.
2. Please be on time. If you are frequently late to class, you will be required to attend mandatory extra help with me after school.

Materials:

1. You must bring a notebook to class every day. The notebook should be divided into the following four sections:
 - A. Reading
 - B. Writing
 - C. Listening and Speaking
 - D. Language (Vocabulary and Grammar)

* You do not need a loose leaf or fancy dividers. You may divide any type of notebook you like simply by folding a page in half.
2. You must bring a folder to class every day. Please have a folder just for English.
3. You will have a portfolio folder that you will keep in the classroom. I will give you this folder. You will keep all of your finished writing projects in this portfolio so we can keep track of your progress.
4. You must bring all reading books with you to class each day. This includes your Accountable Independent Reading (AIR) book (your outside reading book).
5. You must bring a pen or a pencil to class every day.

Curriculum:

1. This year we will be reading both fiction and nonfiction, and a variety of short stories, novels, poems, plays, and essays.
2. This year we will cover many different types of writing such as descriptive, narrative, report, expository, and persuasive (argumentative) writing. In addition to full-length pieces of writing, we will also be spending time on what we call "Quick Writes." We will write in one way or another every single day in this class.
3. This year you will learn to be an excellent listener and speaker. Through daily discussions of literature and composition, you will learn helpful techniques for listening and speaking. In addition, we will be reading a play this year and not only will we read aloud, we will act as well! During the third quarter you will do a research project, and this research will culminate in an oral presentation to be given to the class.
4. This year you will learn about the English language. Language includes vocabulary and grammar. The vocabulary that we cover will come from the literature that we read in class. Besides simply knowing new words and definitions, you will be expected to use your new

vocabulary in your writing and in your speaking. This year we will review basic grammar concepts like writing complete sentences and using proper punctuation and spelling. You will also learn sophisticated techniques like how to use semicolons and colons, and how to use parallel structure.

Homework:

1. You can find your English Homework posted on my class website at <http://www.wfsd.k12.ny.us/> Click on “Staff,” then “Teacher Websites.” My name is listed under “High School H-P.”
2. You will have English homework most nights, but not usually on Fridays. Homework will usually be due the next day. I will accept late homework for half credit.
3. You must find out what you missed if you are absent. You must make up the work that you missed.
4. You must come to see me to get your homework before you go to your music lesson. You will be responsible for any missed work.
5. You will be invited to come to mandatory extra help to make up your homework if you miss too many homework assignments.

Grades:

1. Quarterly grades will be computed as follows:
Writing/Assessments: 60%
Vocabulary/Word Work: 15%
Classwork/Participation: 15%
Homework: 10%
2. Final Grades will be computed as follows:
Quarter one: 20%
Quarter two: 20%
Quarter three: 20%
Quarter four: 20%
Final: 20%

Behavior: This is *our* classroom, a place where I would like all of us to be able to comfortably express our ideas and learn. If you raise your hand before speaking, allow others to speak without interruption, wait for me to dismiss you, and use simple common courtesy (“Excuse me...”), this year should be beneficial and enjoyable for all of us.

Teacher’s Signature _____

Student’s Signature _____

Parent’s Signature _____

Date _____