

Name _____

Date _____

Mrs. Marrs

English 9

Welcome to English 9!

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 loose-leaf binder with loose-leaf paper to class every day. *You may share your loose-leaf binder with other subjects.
2. You must bring a folder to class every day. **Please have a separate 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.

Cell Phones: Cell Phones are a tremendous distraction in class. Therefore, in this class, we have a zero tolerance policy. **Please turn your ringer off, and your phone and your headphones must be away in your backpack at all times. You may not plug your phone or headphones into the wall to charge them.** If you have an emergency and you need to text or call your parents, please just raise your hand and ask.

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 description, narration, text-analysis essays, argumentative essays, and research reports using proper Modern Language Association (MLA) style. In addition to full-length pieces of writing, we will also be spending time on what we call "Quick Writes," where we learn to respond to literature using evidence from the text. We will learn to cite properly the evidence that we choose. We will write in one way or another every single day in this class.
3. This year we will learn to be excellent listeners and speakers. Through daily discussions of literature and composition, we will learn helpful techniques for listening and speaking. We will listen and speak individually and in groups, and we will have class debates where we formally argue issues that we encounter in our readings. In addition, we will be reading a play this year and not only will we read aloud, we will act as well!
4. This year we 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 are required 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 will find your English homework on the board each day. You can also find your homework, and what we are doing each week in class, posted on my class website at <http://www.wfsd.k12.ny.us/> Click on “Teacher Websites.” My name is listed under “High School H-P.” Click on “Ms. Marrs,” then “English Classes,” then “English 9.” I update the site weekly. This website is there to help you. Please look at it!
2. You will have English homework many 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: You are in high school now. You MUST know your icampus user name and password. You should be checking your icampus account for missing work and grades every single day from now until you graduate!! I cannot stress this strongly enough!!

1. Quarterly grades will be computed as follows:

Writing/Assessments:	60%
Word Work:	15%
Classwork/Participation:	15%
Homework:	10%

2. Final grades will be computed as follows:

Quarter one:	22 1/2%
Quarter two:	22 1/2%
Quarter three:	22 1/2%
Quarter four:	22 1/2%
Final Exam:	10%

Behavior: This is *our* classroom, a place where I would like all of us to be able to comfortably express our ideas and learn. **Please be respectful to others and use good manners!** 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. I am looking forward to a great year!

Sincerely,
Mrs. Marrs

Student’s Signature _____

Parent’s Signature _____

Date _____ rev. 9/19