English 8

Course Outline

WELCOME TO ENGLISH 8!

As your teacher, I believe that everyone in this class can succeed and do well if each person puts forth his or her best effort. In turn, I will do my best to help and support you in reaching your goals. This year we will be focusing on reading, writing, speaking, and listening skills.

**Course Objectives:**

The specific goals of this course are to provide opportunities for students to:

* Read various forms of fiction and non-fiction for pleasure and understanding.
* Practice writing a variety of paragraph types.
* Become familiar with the writing of multi-paragraph composition.
* Practice writing a variety of creative forms (poetry, short story, etc.)
* Practice a variety of language essentials such as sentence structure, pronoun agreement, verb tenses, vocabulary building, etc.
* Learn to evaluate, edit, and improve their own writing.
* Practice listening and speaking skills through activities such as debates, oral presentations, small and large group discussions, etc.
* Practice organizational, study, and test taking skills.
* Read, discuss, and analyze various media forms such as print media, internet, advertising.
* Become familiar with certain types of poetry and poetic terms.
* Become familiar with short story/novel terms such as character, plot, setting, etc.
* Share their ideas and opinions and HAVE FUN WITH ENGLISH!

**EXPECTATIONS**

1. **ATTENDANCE:** 
   * Students are expected to be in class, every class, on time. If a student is **late**, they should enter the class quietly, without disturbing the class. If a student is chronically late, a note will be required and/or parents will be informed.
   * If a student is **absent,** a **note** on the first day back is required. The note must include: student’s name, student number, dates absent, reason for absence, and parent’s signature. If no note is given parents will be informed and marks may be deducted.
   * If a test or in-class assignment is missed the student must provide a **note** in order to make up the missed test
   * **NO** make up tests for major test/essays unless a signed note is provided
   * IT IS THE **STUDENT’S RESPONSIBILITY** TO GET ANY WORK THAT WAS MISSED WHILE HE/SHE WAS ABSENT
2. **ASSIGNMENTS:** 
   * All assignments should include your full name, date, block, and title
   * All assignments must be double spaced, if hand-written, it should be in **blue or black ink**, if typed, it should be in **12 point font- Times New Roman**
   * All assignments should be neat, presentable, and handed in on time
   * If there are issues with getting work completed on time, please see the teacher for assistance or guidance. \*\*Late work **will not** be accepted after the assignment has been marked & returned to the class unless previous arrangements have been made
3. **PARTICIPATION & SOCIAL RESPONSIBLITY:**

Students are expected to:

* + contribute often because class discussions are an integral part of the course.
  + show respect for themselves, their classmates, and the teacher.
  + come to class with **ALL** of the necessary supplies including paper, pens/pencil, text book, novel, workbook, etc. (see “must haves” sheet)
  + have completed all the homework assigned neatly and thoroughly.
  + keep binder and work organized.

1. **ASSESSMENT & EVALUATION:**

Student assessment is varied and on going. The 3 terms will not be weighted equally, so it will be important to work hard all year long, especially in 3rd term. The following is an approximate guide of the marking scheme used to calculate your term marks:

Reading & Writing 35%

Viewing & Representing 20%

Speaking & Listening 15%

Tests & Quizzes 30%

**Parent Signature \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_**

**Student Signature \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_**

Both my child and I have read this outline and we understand the expectations required.