

# English I Syllabus

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## Welcome to Sentinel High School!

I'm happy to have you as a student this year in English I, where we'll work together on enhancing your skills in reading, writing, speaking, and listening. My hope is that by working together, our classroom will be an engaging environment where you feel comfortable to share your thoughts, confident to take risks and ask questions, and challenged to tackle new information.

## Google Classroom & Infinite Campus

Google Classroom is the place to see our weekly schedule, due dates, assignments, find links for resources to assist with coursework, and the first place you should go if you are absent. You will also turn in many (but not all!) assignments here; however, Infinite Campus is where you should go to see your most current grade. This class is on a point system and nothing is weighted, so you can calculate your grade at any time.

## Course Overview and Goals

- Read, analyze, and respond to classic and contemporary works of fiction, nonfiction, and poetry.
- Improve your writing skills through the writing process and refine your use of grammar
- Develop and broaden your vocabulary
- Practice active listening skills and critical thinking in seminar discussions

## Course Materials

- A charged Chromebook or laptop
- 1-2 inch binder with 7 dividers *just for this class* (tabs are optional & dividers will be supplied)
- ½ package of loose-leaf paper
- 1 pack of highlighters or colored pens/pencils (3 different colors for annotating)
- At least one sharpened pencil with a working eraser
- At least one blue or black pen & one other pen, any color

## Attendance Policy

### Excused Absence:

It is your responsibility to check Google Classroom and connect with me through email or in person to discuss and make up any assignments that are missed during your excused absence. If you have a prolonged absence from class, you'll need to connect with me to set up a schedule for getting caught up on assignments.

### Activity Related Absences:

If you know ahead of time that you will miss class (school/club events, etc.), you are responsible for asking for assignments before leaving so that they can be submitted on time.

### Unexcused Absences:

You will receive a zero on any assignment that was due and any classwork you miss. No exceptions. Also, I do not re-teach material to students who skip.

# Reading Syllabus

## September/October: *Theme Paragraph Writing*

Reading, viewing, discussion, and writing will revolve around topics present in and related to the following **short stories**: “The Interlopers” by Saki, “New Directions” by Maya Angelou, “A Smart Cookie” by Sandra Cisneros, “The Ingredients” by Jason Reynolds, “The Necklace” by Guy de Maupasant, “The Landlady” by Roald Dahl, and possibly one or two others, if time permits.

## November and December: *Literary Analysis Writing*

Reading, viewing, discussion, and writing will revolve around topics present in and related to John Steinbeck’s *Of Mice and Men*.

## January and February: *Research, Informative Process/Process Writing, Speech*

Reading, viewing, discussion, and writing will revolve around topics present in and related to Elie Wiesel’s *Night*.

## March and April: *Speaking, Acting, & Research Writing*

Reading, viewing, discussion, and writing will revolve around topics present in and related to William Shakespeare’s *Romeo and Juliet*.

## May and June: *Argumentative and Narrative Writing*

Reading, viewing, discussion, and writing will revolve around topics present in and related to Sherman Alexie’s *The Absolutely True Diary of a Part-Time Indian*.

**Note:** If time allows, we will read an abridged version of Homer’s *Odyssey*. We will also be reading **poetry** throughout the year.

### Tips for a successful year in this class:

- ❑ Communication is key! Please do not hesitate to talk to me if you feel that you are struggling or falling behind. I am available and willing to meet with you and help you in any way that I can.
- ❑ Keep up with your reading assignments.
- ❑ Arrive to class on time, prepared with materials, and ready to learn.
- ❑ Check your MCPS Gmail account at least once per day.
- ❑ Check Google Classroom at least once per day.