

**English 9 (Mrs. Lenton)**  
**2009-10**

**What can you expect?**

So, what is the big picture? What are you expected to learn in English 9? You know that this is a required class for high school graduation, and that you must pass all three trimester if you want to graduate on time with the rest of your class in 2013. Also, the curriculum is prescribed, and you will see in this handout an outline of what you will be studying. But what, exactly, are you expected to learn from all this reading and writing?

Hopefully, this class will help you continue with the journey you began in the 1<sup>st</sup> grade, in working on becoming a better writer and a more skillful reader. Yes, we continue to work with the six traits of good writing and we delve more deeply into the elements of fiction. But you might be wondering why we read so many classic works of fiction. Why can't you just read stories that are fun? T.S. Lewis once said, "We read to know that we are not alone." Such identification can be very powerful. In addition, we read classics to broaden our understanding of what it means to be human.

So, we will do lots of reading, reading some plays (including Shakespeare) and stories aloud, lots of writing, some speeches, and we will read and write poetry. This is a class where you should expect to be working all period long every day. To be successful, you should commit yourself to working hard. In a large class it is very important that you ask for assistance when you need it, be cooperative with your teacher, and courteous to your classmates.

**The Year-long Plan:**

***First Trimester (each trimester the order may vary)***

1) Public Speaking and Listening Skills

-The introduction speech

2) Novel: *Of Mice and Men* by John Steinbeck

-Literary concept review

-content quizzes and unit exam

-writing (persuasive, descriptive, comparison/contrast)

3) Six Trait Writing

- Review of the 6 traits

-Journal or personal response to literature

-Five paragraph essay form

5) Short Stories

-literary concept review & analysis

-content quizzes and unit exam

-writing (essays and character sketch)

4) Independent Novel Project.

-written book review, visual and an oral presentation.

(Time in class may be given to you for reading, but mostly, after selecting your novel, reading and preparation is homework.)

## ***Second Trimester***

- 1) Drama. *Twelve Angry Men* by Reginald Rose
  - content quizzes and unit exam
  - vocabulary
  - essay: character analysis
- 2) *Romeo and Juliet* by William Shakespeare
  - study questions, quizzes, and final exam
  - oral and written analysis
  - comparisons of videos
  - scene presentations or memorized lines
- 3) Novel: *Animal Farm* by George Orwell
  - background information
  - content quizzes and unit exam
  - vocabulary
  - creative writing project (continuation of novel, character's journal, etc.)
- 4) Independent Novel Project

## ***3rd Trimester***

- 1) Poetry Text: *Reflections on a Gift of Watermelon Pickle*
  - written and oral analysis
  - writing poetry
  - poetry notebooks
  - dramatic reading
- 2) Drama *Midsummer Night's Dream* by Shakespeare **or** *The Odyssey* by Homer
  - Study questions, quizzes, and final exam
  - oral and written analysis
  - literary analysis of text
  - scene presentations
- 3) Short Story Unit and Non Fiction
  - literary concept review
  - content quizzes and unit exam
  - literary analysis of text and applications
  - essay, on an element of one short story
  - creative writing, character sketch
- 4) Independent Novel Project

**Attendance and Tardies:** Assisting students with establishing lifelong habits of reliability and promptness is an instructional objective in all Chimacum classes. Please have your textbook, something to write with, and be in your seat ready to begin when the tardy bells rings. (Running in the door to beat the bell is not considered "being ready")

- Late work may be accepted for full or partial credit by arrangement with the teacher. (generally, work is deducted 10% for each day that it is late)
- Work may not be made up for unexcused absences.
- Tardies result in partial loss of daily participation points.
- Absences beyond five result in partial loss of credit.

**Behavior Expectations:**

- Dress Appropriately (CHS does have a dress code. Please check the handbook)
- Be polite at all times. "Please" and "Thank You" can work wonders in your life.
- Respect others and yourself.
- Listen to and follow directions.
- Work quietly so that others can work.
- Read or write when your work is completed.
- NO COMPUTER GAMES.
- Be in your seat and ready to work when the bell rings.
- ALWAYS bring your work materials (paper, journal, pen, pencil, book) to class.
- No food or drinks (except bottled water) are allowed in the classroom.
- Cell phones must be turned off, or in "manner mode", and kept out of sight.
- Ipods, MP3 players are not allowed in class.

**Grades:**

Grades are earned by you. Additional effort and a positive attitude may positively influence your grade. Grades are determined by positive behavior, being prepared, bringing materials, staying on task, attendance, participation, work completion, quizzes, tests, and extra credit. A daily "on task" participation grade will count 20% of your overall grade. The remaining 80% of your grade will come from assignments, quizzes, and tests. Each assignment will be given a point value. A quiz might count 15 points, and a major paper 100.

90 - 100%	=	A
80 - 89	=	B
66 - 79	=	C
50 - 65	=	D

**Texts and Resources:**

*The Language of Literature* (brown literature anthology), *Of Mice and Men* by John Steinbeck, *Animal Farm* by George Orwell, *Romeo and Juliet* and *A Midsummer Night's Dream* by William Shakespeare, *Reflections on a Gift of Watermelon Pickle* (poetry anthology), *Twelve Angry Men* by Reginald Rose.

***Welcome to Chimacum High School. Please do not feel overwhelmed when you see a year long plan. I am here to help you be successful, and will provide extra help before or after school if need be. If you are struggling, please let me know. It is my hope that we have a wonderful class and a memorable, productive year. Please take charge of your learning and set goals for yourself within this framework. You might be able to figure out alternatives for showing me what you have learned. Let's work together and have a great year!***

***Mrs. Lenton***