



Pre-AP English 10

Mrs. Farabee—Room 312

Hillcrest High School

342-2800

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Pre-AP English 10 expands upon students' demonstrated competencies in English usage and mechanics, oral and written communication, and understanding literature. Class activities focus on analytical and critical thinking, advanced composition, and library research. Students examine, compare, discuss, and write about poetry, novels, short stories, essays, and drama. Skills necessary for success for English AP courses are reviewed and preparation for language performance on post-secondary school admission tests is begun.

Objectives:

- To apply appropriate strategies in developing reading skills for a variety of purposes in addition to developing an appreciation of the American culture and related world cultures.
- To recognize elements of short stories, novels, essays, poems, and plays.
- To apply listening skills, personal study skills, and principles of standard English in vocabulary.
- To demonstrate knowledge of language terminology and application of the concepts through speaking and writing.

Essential Functions:

To be successful in Pre-AP English 10, students should be able to do the following:

- a. Read and comprehend the text and supplemental readings.
- b. Communicate in writing and orally using standard grammar, sentence structure, and paragraph development.
- c. Understand and respond accurately to higher order test questions.
- d. Actively participate in group discussions.
- e. Take accurate and useful class notes.
- f. Work effectively in groups or teams.
- g. Make worthwhile presentations to the class.

Textbooks:

- ◆ *Glencoe Literature: The Reader's Choice, American Literature, Beginnings to 1900*
- ◆ *Elements of Writing*, fourth course
- ◆ *The Language of Literature*, fifth course
- ◆ *McGraw-Hill StudySync*
- ◆ *The Scarlet Letter* by Nathaniel Hawthorne
- ◆ *All Over but the Shoutin'* by Rick Bragg
- ◆ *The Book Thief* by Markus Zusak
- ◆ *The Adventures of Huckleberry Finn* by Mark Twain

Students are responsible for bringing their textbooks to class. If a student does not bring his/her textbook to class on a day in which work is being taken for a grade, then the student will receive a grade of zero for that work.

Materials needed for class:

- One three-ring binder
- Three subject dividers labeled as follows: Grammar, WOTD, Literature/Writing
- Loose leaf paper
- Blue or black ink pens
- Highlighters
- Small post-it notes or flags to mark text
- Materials for special projects, TBA
- Donations of hand sanitizer or Kleenex are requested (but not required)

Students are to come to class each day with proper materials.

Attendance:

Regular attendance is mandatory in order for students to be successful in Pre-AP English 10. Unexcused absences or tardies will result in zeroes for work missed. The attendance policy of the Tuscaloosa County Board will be followed and enforced. Any student who misses more than five class periods per semester will be required to bring a doctor's note to be excused.

Make-Up Work:

Students are responsible for making up any work missed due to an **excused** absence. It is the student's responsibility to see Mrs. Farabee about the work that he or she missed within two days of the excused absence. Any work not made up will receive a grade of zero. Students will need to stay after school to make up tests, and arrangements should be made in advance with Mrs. Farabee.

Grading Policy/Evaluation:

- ❖ The final grade for each grading period will be based on tests, writing assignments, various projects, presentations, quizzes, homework, class work, journal entries, grammar rules, and independent novel study entries. Mandatory comprehensive exams will be administered at the end of the first, second, and third nine-week grading period. The weight assigned to each comprehensive exam will count up to 20% of the nine-week grade. The comprehensive final exam administered at the conclusion of the course will count twenty percent (20%) of the **final grade** for the course. The sum of the four nine weeks' averages will be

added to the course final exam grade. This total will be divided by five to get the course final grade. **Pre-AP students may not be exempt from the final exam.**

- ❖ Students are responsible for keeping up with all assignments and due dates. **Incomplete work will not be accepted. If a student does not have completed class work or homework at the time it is due, the student will receive a grade of zero.**
- ❖ All assignments are expected to be turned in at the beginning of class on the day they are due. **No late work will be accepted for class work or homework.** All other work turned in late (such as writing assignments and projects) will be penalized 15 points the first day and 30 points the second day. **After the second day, the student will receive a grade of zero. Work is considered late any time after the teacher has already collected the work from the class.**
- ❖ **Cheating will not be tolerated in this class.** Copying another person's homework or classwork is considered cheating. Plagiarism is a form of cheating. Talking, passing notes, or communicating in any way with another student during a test is considered cheating. Any student caught cheating will automatically receive a grade of zero on that work and will be referred to the office for appropriate disciplinary action.

Class procedures:

Assignments—Students will be required to read novels outside of class. In addition, students can expect to have other homework at least three times a week. **Parents, please call the school or email Mrs. Farabee if you have any questions about your child's work.** Students' homework assignments will be written on the board each day. Students are to copy down their assignments at the beginning of class. The student is responsible for the assignments that are written on the board.

Questions and help—Students need to raise one hand and wait for the teacher to give them permission to speak. Students needing additional help with classwork need to arrange in advance for help after school with Mrs. Farabee.

Passes—Since it is important for students to be in the classroom as much as possible, hall passes will only be given on a very limited basis. Students are expected to go to the bathroom before or after class, not during class.

Cell phones—**Cell phones must be turned off** upon entering the classroom. Once the class begins, students may not use their cell phones unless given direct permission from the teacher. Students who use cell phones during class without permission will have their cell phones confiscated and sent to the office.

Classroom Expectations for Students:

- 1. Follow directions the first time they are given.**
- 2. Raise your hand and wait to be called on before speaking.**
- 3. Show respect to others by working quietly, listening attentively, speaking politely, and keeping your hands to yourself.**
- 4. Bring all necessary materials to class.**
- 5. Be in your seat when the bell rings.**
- 6. Keep all food and drink out of the classroom.**

Consequences if a student chooses to disobey:

1st offense: verbal warning

2nd offense: verbal warning and parent phone call

3rd or severe offense: office referral

Course Outline:

**This outline will provide you with an idea of my plans for the year, but it is subject to change.*

1st Nine Weeks

- I. Literature
 - A. Summer reading tests
 - B. Independent novel studies
 - C. Reading comprehension strategies
 - D. *The Scarlet Letter*
 - E. Early explorer literature
 - F. Puritan literature
 - G. *The Crucible*
- II. Writing
 - A. Independent novel study entries
 - B. Outlines
 - C. Summaries
 - D. Paragraph
 - E. Expository essay
 - F. Journal entries
 - G. Narratives
 - H. Descriptive essay
- III. Grammar and Vocabulary
 - A. Daily oral language
 - B. Context clues
 - C. Vocabulary units
 - D. Capitalization
 - E. Underlining and quotation marks
 - F. Apostrophes
 - G. Commas
 - H. Semicolons
 - I. Colons

2nd Nine Weeks

- I. Literature
 - A. Independent novel studies (teacher's list of recommendations)
 - B. Rhetoric and rhetorical strategies
 - C. Revolutionary War literature
 - D. *Julius Caesar*
- II. Writing
 - A. Independent novel entries
 - B. Expository essays
 - C. Persuasive essay
 - D. Rhetorical analysis
 - E. Journal entries
 - F. Poetry—iambic pentameter

- III. Grammar and Vocabulary
 - A. Daily oral language
 - B. Vocabulary units
 - C. Pronouns
 - D. Nouns
 - E. Parallelism

3rd Nine Weeks

- I. Literature
 - A. Romanticism
 - B. Transcendentalism
 - C. Gothic literature
 - D. Independent novel study
- II. Writing
 - A. Research paper
 - B. Narrative writing
- II. Grammar and Vocabulary
 - A. Daily oral language
 - B. Vocabulary units
 - C. Sentence fragments, run-on sentences
 - D. Verbs
 - E. Subject verb agreement

4th Nine Weeks

- I. Literature
 - A. *The Adventures of Huckleberry Finn*
 - B. Satire/Political cartoons
 - C. Local color realism
- II. Writing
 - A. Expository essays
 - B. Journal entries
- III. Grammar and Vocabulary
 - A. Daily oral language
 - B. Vocabulary units
 - C. Dangling and misplaced modifiers
 - D. Troublesome words

****Please return this page to Mrs. Farabee****

Dear Parent:

You are invited to visit our English class at any time. If you have concerns about the class, please do not hesitate to contact me at 342-2800 or email me at sfarabee@tcss.net.

Please review this course syllabus with your child and ensure that he or she has the materials needed for class. The tenth grade can be very challenging and stressful for some students as the rigor of their academic classes increases. You can help your child by insisting that he or she do his/her homework. I like for all of the parents/guardians to be aware that your child will have homework almost every night. Homework is not work that students are given time in class to do; it is work that is to be done at home. Also, if your child seems to be struggling with writing assignments, encourage him or her to stay after school to receive extra help. Finally, mid-nine weeks' progress reports will be sent home each grading period that you will need to sign and return within two days. Please contact me immediately if you do not receive a progress report from your child.

Please sign below to indicate that you have read the course syllabus, including the course outline, grading policy, attendance policy, make-up work policy, class procedures, and materials needed for class. I would like for all parents to provide an email address, if possible, so that I may send out class information when necessary. I look forward to teaching your child this semester.

Parent's signature

Date

Email address

Daytime phone

Dear Student:

Please review this syllabus with your parent and sign below to indicate that you understand the information provided. I look forward to teaching you this semester.

Student's printed name

Date

Student's signature