

Ms. Henry
English 12 A.P.

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Extra Help: I am available to give extra help before school (7:15 a.m.), after school (except during field hockey season), as well as during my free periods each day. This year I am free during **periods 2** (3rd & 4th quarter only), **3, 4** (1st & 2nd quarter only), **6, 7 & 9**. Students should see me to set up an appointment, preferably with at least one day's notice.

Goals: Students will ...

- Communicate ideas powerfully and with clarity
- Read a variety of world authors
- Read critically and be alert to the resources of language that authors employ
- Participate in class discussions based on reading assignments and research projects
- Prepare for the A.P. Exam and college English courses

Materials & Resources:

Selections of poetry and short fiction from
The Bedford Introduction to Literature edited by Michael Meyer

We will choose from the following for our major works:

An American Tragedy by Theodore Dreiser
The Awakening by Kate Chopin
Crime and Punishment by Fyodor Dostoyevsky
Cry, the Beloved Country by Alan Paton
Fences by August Wilson
Hamlet by William Shakespeare
King Lear by William Shakespeare
Othello by William Shakespeare
One Flew Over the Cuckoo's Nest by Ken Kesey
The Scarlet Letter by Nathaniel Hawthorne
The Turn of the Screw by Henry James

GRADES...

1. Participation (10 % of quarter average): I expect everyone to participate each day. This shows me that students are focused on the class activities and understand the material.

The participation grade is separated into two parts.

Part I: Attendance: Students begin each quarter with a 100. At the end of the quarter, students will have 10 points deducted for any unexcused absence (according to the info. listed on eSchoolData at that time) and 5 points deducted for any unexcused tardy (according to the info. listed on eSchoolData at that time). It is therefore crucial

that appropriate notes be submitted to the main office immediately upon returning from an absence or when arriving tardy to school. The main office will mark as excused only those absences/tardies that qualify as excused according to N Y State Ed. Law. See the student handbook (or your copy of the participation policy sheet) for more details on this.

Part II: Class Participation/Preparedness: Each student begins each quarter with class participation/preparedness grade of 100. If students disrupt class or come unprepared, the participation/preparedness grade will go down based on the following point deductions.

Unprepared (no pen, notebook, homework) = -5

Disruptive Behavior = -5

Removal from class = -10

Please note that the participation grade is VERY important. It can drastically go down (and therefore greatly affect the quarter grade) if students fail to act appropriately, come on time to class, or come prepared.

2. Homework, Classwork, Quizzes, Quests, Tests, Projects, & Essays (90% of quarter average): I will calculate 90 % of the quarter's grade using a point system. The more important the assessment, the more it will be worth. Major projects, tests, and essays will count the most (usually 65-100 points per test, essay, or major project); quizzes/quests & extended homework assignments will count less (20-65 points per assessment) and daily homework & classwork will count the least (5-20 points per assignment).

Essay Scoring: Most essays will be scored using the A.P. Literature Essay Grading Scale

9 - 100

4 -- 75

8 - 95

3 -- 70 (Mandatory Rewrite)

7 - 90

2 - 65 (Mandatory Rewrite)

6 - 85

1 - 60 (Mandatory Rewrite)

5 - 80 (Borderline A.P. Credit)

A student scoring a 3 or less MUST rewrite his/her paper, while a student scoring a 7 or less MAY rewrite his/her paper. All rewrites must be turned in within 2 weeks of the day the students receive the essay back; however, for the last essay of each quarter, students may have less time to rewrite, as this essay must be turned in at least 5 days before the quarter ends.

OTHER IMPORTANT INFORMATION:

Year-Long Outside Reading Project

In addition to assigned class readings, students will become an expert on one book read outside the classroom. Students may choose from a list of books Ms. Henry will/has provide/d. The list includes classics, as well as books the AP test writers seem to love. If at all possible, students should purchase a copy of their outside reading book.

Students will complete a series of assignments related to this work throughout the year.

The assignments are as follows:

- Quarter One—read the book and write a short, *New York Times* style book review (***not simply a summary***; 1 ½ -2pages)
- Quarter Two—genre projects (3 projects, including at least one which is a writing assignment)
- Quarter Three—thesis statement and annotated bibliography of 10 critical works
- Quarter Four—outline of critical analysis paper AND critical analysis paper with research component(10 pages)

Folders: Each student will receive a manila folder in which to file essays, tests, and collected homework. I will keep these folders in a file cabinet in the classroom. This system will help students keep track of their grades and ensure that we can account for all of them.

Makeup Work: If students are absent, they should see me immediately upon their return to school to collect all makeup materials and information (classwork, homework, notification of tests & quizzes missed) and schedule any necessary makeup tests or quizzes. Unless there are extenuating circumstance, ***students have one day per day absent in which to make up homework and classwork and one week (total, not per day absent) to make up a missed test or quiz. It is each student's responsibility to get and complete makeup homework, classwork, tests, and quizzes in a timely manner.*** Students will receive zeroes for any work, tests, quizzes that are not made up.

Note-taking: Students should take notes on important points made, skills discussed, vocabulary explained, etc. during class discussions and lessons, ***even if nothing is written on the board.*** Tests given during the year, as well as the final exam, will cover a great variety of material. Taking notes will ensure that students have the proper information from which to study.

Homework: Homework is important and should be taken seriously and completed to the best of each student's ability. ***I expect students to work individually (unless I indicate otherwise) and to complete all assignments, including reading assignments, on time.*** All written homework must be finished, printed out (if applicable), and stapled by the beginning of the class during which it is due. I do not accept late homework unless a student has an excused absence and makes the work up promptly. If a student does not have homework when I check/collect it, the student will receive a zero.

Copying/Cheating: If I find that a student has copied someone else's work, whether for a homework or writing assignment or questions on a test or quiz, both that student and the student from whom s/he has copied will receive a zero for the assignment. This includes vocabulary assignments. ***Students should value their opportunity to maintain a good reputation by practicing ethical behavior.***

Plagiarism: Plagiarism is one form of cheating. According to the *MLA Handbook for Writers of Research Papers*, “plagiarism has been defined as ‘the false assumption of authorship: the wrongful act of taking the product of another person’s mind, and presenting it as one’s own.’ To use another person’s ideas or expressions in your writing without acknowledging the source is to plagiarize.”¹ When writing papers/essays for my class, students are to use their own analytical minds and the literature they have read. The only time students should need to cite information is when using quotations from the literature about which they are writing – unless I indicate otherwise. When analyzing literature, students should not use information from sources such as Spark Notes, Cliff Notes, fellow students’ essays, etc. *Papers that contain plagiarism will receive a zero.* After discussion, students may be given the opportunity to rewrite the paper properly in my presence, during a time that is convenient for me. This correctly written paper will receive a penalty of minus 30 % of the total point value for the assignment.

¹ Gibaldi, Joseph. *MLA Handbook for Writers of Research Papers*, 4th ed. (New York: The Modern Language Association of America, 1995) 26.