

Ms. Henry
English 10

Contact Info: 631-367-6832 (English Department) – preferred phone number
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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 3, 4 (fall only), 6, 7, 9**. Students should see me to set up an appointment, preferably with at least one day's notice.

Goals for the Course: This course is designed to deal with world literature and problematic themes that are relevant today and should concern all of us. Much of the material is related to history in the Global Studies 10 course. In this class I stress the improvement of reading, thinking, writing, vocabulary, and participation skills. In our discussions throughout the year, we will compare and contrast the readings, considering how one body of work relates to others and what values these works have for us today.

Materials & Resources: All students will receive a personal copy of *Vocabulary Workshop Level E* (a vocabulary workbook), a personal copy of our grammar workbook, and a school grammar textbook (*Language Network, Grade 10*). As we progress through the year, students will receive copies of the appropriate novels and short stories as well. These will be collected when we have completed the accompanying unit.

10th Grade Literature: With the exception of the summer reading book, *The Secret Life of Bees*, students will receive school copies of the following works.

NOVELS

All Quiet on the Western Front – Erich Maria Remarque

Elephant Man – Christine Sparks

Fahrenheit 451 – Ray Bradbury

The Secret Life of Bees – Sue Monk Kidd

A Separate Peace – John Knowles

PLAYS

Antigone – Sophocles

Macbeth – William Shakespeare

NON-FICTION

Night – Elie Wiesel

POETRY & SHORT STORIES

Selections by Ms. Henry

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. Each student begins each quarter with a participation grade of 90 (A-). With positive participation, students can bring their grades up to 100. If students disrupt class, come to class late, or come unprepared, the participation grade will go down based on the following point deductions.

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

Disruptive Behavior = -5

Unexcused Tardy = -5 (Points will be deducted based on the information in eSchoolData at the end of each quarter.)

Removal from class = -10

Unexcused Absence (cut) = -20 (Points will be deducted on the information in eSchoolData at the end of each quarter.)

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. All absences/latenesses must be accounted for with a note to the main office. The secretary will mark absences/latenesses as excused based on the guidelines set out by New York State Ed. Law. Details of what constitutes an excused absence according to NY State Law can be found in the student handbook. *Students must submit parental notes to the main office immediately upon their return from an absence or when they arrive late to school.*

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).

OTHER IMPORTANT INFORMATION:

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 Writer's 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.