English 9 Syllabus

Mrs. Stanczyk

Room 105

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[www.stanczyk.weebly.com](http://www.stanczyk.weebly.com)

**Subjects we will cover:**

**Reading**

We will be focusing on what we are reading not how much.

Utilizing Close and Critical Reading skills (talking to the text or annotating).

Structure- which will also connect to our grammar and writing.

Literary devices- which will also connect to our writing .

Short Stories

*To Kill a Mockingbird*- sections

Informational Text

Poetry

Independent Reading

**Grammar**

Each student will be taking a grammar diagnostic test on <http://www.quill.org> to see where and what grammar they need to learn. Student progress will be based on this diagnostic so, students need to make their best effort on the diagnostic.

Class notes will be based on the area the class needs the most focus.

**Writing-**

We will be using a writing tracker notebook and focusing on:

Writing Strong Sentences

Writing Strong Paragraphs (Focus Questions Format)

Styles- narrative and informational

**Vocabulary-**

**All vocabulary will be on Vocabulary.com**

Academic Vocabulary

Vocabulary from the text

**Cyber Ethics- Quarterly**

District mandated quarterly lessons

**WCS Writing Performance Task**

**Grading:**

***Grades will have points assigned to them and are either an assessment or homework. According to district policy homework is worth 25% of a student’s grade and assessments are worth 75%. Obviously a 200 point homework assignment will effect a grade more than a 5 point homework assignment.***

***Homework***

Homework will be posted on the whiteboard, on the website, and given orally in class. Points vary based on assignment.

***Quill***

Once a student has taken their diagnostic they will be assigned activities based on that score. Depending on the week students will have ‘X” number of activities to complete. Each Quill assignments will be graded on a percentage based on the students score. Any student receiving a “not yet proficient” or “nearly proficient” score will need to retake those activities until they reach “at proficiency”. Students may work ahead on these activities. Time will be given in class when laptops are available.

**Grammar**

**Students who receive a D or lower on a grammar test may make it up the following week if:**

**They show notes, completed homework, and lose no Dojo points during the week.**

**Vocabulary**

Once a student has signed up for their specific class they will see assignments pending by clicking on the upper right hand corner of their page. 1st quarter students will be graded based on completion of a vocabulary set. 2nd quarter and after students will be graded based on mastery. These are homework grades. Assessments will be given as well on sets.

**Literature**

Reading for academia and fun can be very different. Assigned texts will have focused annotating that we will do because when you read for academic purposes you are always looking for information. Annotations will be graded. We do this to prepare you for reading in all of your classes. I will help you learn different strategies so you are not highlighting an entire book or stopping every sentence to write. When we read for fun we will just relax and try to find words, stories, or articles that interest us individually.

Annotations begin as homework and can be used on assessments.

***Tests are an assessment***

***Writing***

Writing will be done in your **Writer's Notebook.**

Quick writes help us build our ideas, our skills and stamina.

We will focus on ideas first and editing later as we become more confident.

***Poetry***

Students will participate in Poetry Out Loud.

After selecting a poem of their choosing from <www.poetryoutloud.org> we will be examining the use of literary devices and figurative language as well as recitation techniques.

Students will present their poems to the class and have a chance to compete in the schools Poetry Out Loud Competition.

There will be homework and assessment grades for this section.

***Projects***

***Projects are an assessment grade***

***Independent reading- 1 book per quarter***

When we are not already reading a book for class.

15 points for having your book. You lose 5 points if you have to go to your locker to retrieve it. You lose 10 points if you have to borrow one of mine. ***This is a*** ***homework grade.***

***Extra points***

May be available throughout the semester, **this is an opportunity not a right**.

Make sure to check the website and **sign up Remind 101**.

Reading out loud in class will earn you extra credit.

Points will be removed for misbehaving and not having your materials.

Points will be kept on Classdojo and added at the end of a quarter.

You can keep an eye on your points by checking on Classdojo.

***Missed work***

For every day a student has an excused absence they will be given that time to make it up. It is their responsibility to find out what they have missed. **They should do this by checking my assignment calendar online.** In the case of a long term absence parents should request homework from the child’s attendance house and work would be expected on arrival back to school. All assignments and missing work can be found on my **assignment calendar** via a link on my web page.

***Late Work***

You have 3 days/chances to make up missing work once I have notified you of missing work. I consider a “0” in the grade book notification. It is your responsibility to check the grade book daily. (Download the app☺)

***Missed exams-***

**Students must schedule** a makeup time for missed exams either before or after school.

***Grades will be available*** via the Parent Portal for Power School, our grading program.

For more information on Parent portal go to the WCS home page, www.wcskids.net, click on Parents/Students and Parent Portal.

Parents and Students are reminded, because of late and missed assignments; no grade is final until the term ends.

***Extra help***

I am at school by 6:20 most mornings and am available to stay after school on most days if a student asks me to stay. Using the Remind app is a great way to check in with me so we can set up a time.

THE STUDENTS WHO HAVE FAILED MY CLASS WILL TELL YOU THEY FAILED BECAUSE THEY DID NOT TURN WORK IN AND/OR DID NOT ASK FOR EXTRA HELP WHEN THEY FAILED A TEST OR ASSIGNMENT. YOU DO NOT HAVE TO FAIL, JUST ASK FOR HELP.

**My Classroom Expectations:**

* **Phones will be checked “in” at the beginning of the hour and “out” once exit ticket is answered. Electronics in sight during instruction will result in a verbal warning and subsequent detention and call home.**
* Be in your seat at the bell with notebook open DOING bell work.
* Bring all necessary materials.
* Participate fully in classroom activities.
* Complete work assigned.
* Remain seated at the end of class until you are dismissed by your teacher.
* Honor school property.
* Use appropriate language.
* Speak respectfully to all.

**Supplies:**

2 Notebooks/ composition books: 1 for notes, 1 Writer’s Notebook

2 packs of post it notes

1 folder for returned work and handouts

Pens/pencils

Highlighter

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*Remove and return bottom portion only by September 21, 2018*

*I certify that we have read and understand the requirements and expectation for Mrs. Stanczyk’s English 9 class.*

*Parent/guardian Student*

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