

Course Syllabus and Classroom Expectations – 2018-19 Semester 1

Course Title: 11th Grade English

Teacher: Mrs. Peabody

Class Website: www.mrspeabody.com

I will make every effort to keep the website updated, but sometimes circumstances will warrant adjustments. Posted lesson plans are just that: plans. Sometimes plans change based on students' needs or unanticipated interruptions (you know...power outages, snow days, assemblies or testing I forgot about).

Class Remind: text the code: @dfkhfe To the number 81010

I utilize Remind sparingly. For example, "Report to the Media Center today" or "Bring a jacket; the heat isn't working." I will not use it to remind you of individual assignments that were explained verbally or posted on my website and in the classroom.

What's up with all the books from registration? The following books are for you to *take home or store in your locker* for personal reading and study: *Elements of Literature 5th edition (hard cover)*, Strunk & White *The Elements of Style* (grey paperback). *Short Takes: Model Essays* (green paperback)

What should I bring to class every day?

- The paperback we are currently reading. During 1st semester we will read *The Crucible* and *The Glass Castle* (both will be issued to you).
- English Binder (see below) with Grammar Workbook Pages (I will provide).
- Something to write with
- A positive attitude

***Materials Needed:**

One 3 –Ring Binder (1" or 1 1/2" in any color)

This binder will function as your English Binder and will be your responsibility to bring to class each day. Do not keep work for other classes in this binder – keep it organized! I will provide hole punched workbook pages for you to insert into this binder. While not required, tab inserts may be helpful to separate workbook pages, completed assignments, and lined paper.

One package (100-150 sheets) of college ruled lined paper in your binder.

2 paper pocket folders - All essays require evidence of the writing process (outlines, rough drafts, etc) and essays will be collected in these pocket folders.

Pen and Pencil - Normally I'm not picky about what you use to convey your thinking on paper. There are times, however, when a pencil is needed (scantron).

Optional: 1 flash drive It is recommended that you attach a flash drive on your keychain or lanyard.

***If you are unable to afford any of these materials, please let me know**

What's your policy regarding phones?

Mr. Perkins made it abundantly clear to all staff members: teachers may allow students to use their phones for instructional activities (Kahoot, Khan Academy, Vocab.com), but phones should not be visible at any other time. At the front of our classroom, you will see numbered plastic "Lock Boxes" for phones. On days when you're allowed to use your phones, those boxes will be closed and placed on the bottom shelf. On days when you have no need to use your phones, the boxes will be open and on the top shelf and all students will "lock up" their phones in their assigned numbered box. Alternatively, you may charge your phone using the power strip under the whiteboard. The third and best option is to put your phone in your backback (not your pocket or face down on the desk) and refrain from looking at it during class. My policy regarding a visible phone during an assessment is a zero on the assessment and a referral. My policy regarding a visible phone during non-assessment class periods is as follows: First offense is a warning. Second offense is a detention. Third offense is a referral for insubordination.

How will the class periods be structured?

I'll develop a seating chart during the first week based on your partner requests. I can't guarantee I'll be able to honor all requests, but I'll do my best. If you have a preference regarding location within the room, please indicate that on the form, too. You'll be seated next to a fellow student and there will be some partner assignments. The seating configuration changes each card marking.

Upon arrival to class, lock up your phones and check the center of the whiteboard for the page # of the grammar workbook bell assignment. By the time the bell rings, you should be working on the assignment with your partner. Read the directions, help each other understand, and talk about which answer is correct. During this time I will be taking attendance and then walking around to answer individual questions. After the bell work (which will vary in time length), we will focus on the current literature selection we are reading together.

At the end of the hour on most days, you will have a short writing assignment due at the end of the hour. Sometimes I'll ask you to write about the literature we're reading, or to write a few sentences utilizing our weekly vocab words, or to copy grammar workbook answers. Expect to be working from bell to bell—we have a lot to cover in English 11. I'll let you know when it is okay to get your phones. Do not, under any circumstance, line up at the door. Do not casually decide you have to throw something in the trash can by the door one minute before the bell. Students who can't follow this simple request will serve detentions and/or earn a referral.

What's your grading procedure?

Card marking grades are based on Classwork (20%) and Assessment (80%). No, I don't take late work. Extra credit (usually SAT prep work) is offered every quarter to all students, so take advantage of it!

What is plagiarism?

Plagiarism is putting someone else's words on your paper (unless it's a research paper and you cite your source). I read EVERYTHING you write. While two students may draw a similar conclusion, the words and sentences composed to convey thinking are rarely similar. Another form of plagiarism is Googling the question and copying the answer on the screen. The penalty for plagiarism is a zero on the assignment and a referral. Also, don't share your answers via picture hoping that friends in the group will change your wording. Often they don't and you will earn a zero along with your friends.

My friends and I can't talk or share information on assignments?

Please talk and share your thoughts. Have interesting discussions. Debate answers. Tell your friends what you're thinking and why, but when it's time to put a pen to paper, work individually. Again, your answers may be similar, but your sentence structure will be unique. Sharing quiz information with classmates who have a later hour has negative consequences, too. I decide if an assessment should be curved at the end of the day. If you share information causing later hours to earn higher averages, the odds of a curve go down.

What should I do when I'm absent or tardy?

In order to succeed in class, you must be present and on time. If you're tardy, bring a pass. If you're absent, make sure your absence is excused within 48 hours. Unverified absences are considered a "skip" so any classwork or assessments on an unverified absence date will be a zero.

I was absent yesterday when you collected xyz or I missed that vocab quiz. What should I do?

First, check the website often and check Powerschool so you know what you've missed. Secondly, it is your responsibility to request and make up all missed assignments due to an excused absence. When you've missed an assignment due to absence, I will immediately put in a zero as your grade. Do not panic. A few years back I found myself hounding students about making up assignments/quizzes. I started putting in zeros and now students are highly motivated and hounding me. Missed assessments (tests, quizzes) need to be made up with me before or after school within two days. If you take the bus and can't come early or stay late, let's talk. Sometimes students come in during their lunch or during another class (as long as the other teacher gives permission) to make up assessments. All make-up class work is due no later than the beginning of the next class period (unless otherwise instructed). Extra handouts are located in the back of the classroom in a bin marked, "extra handouts." Hand absent classwork directly to me (do not just put it on my desk) and write "Absent" at the top along with the date of your absence and the current date.

When can I talk with you individually?

I am available during my prep hour (6th hr) on most days. I'm also available for tutoring, extra help, or to review assignments after school until 4:00 pm most days. Schedule before or after school meetings in advance by calling (Extension 12135) or email jpeabody@wcskids.net. If you send me a text message via Remind, give me a few hours to reply. I don't always look at my phone during the school day.