**English IA**

**Course Overview**

Instructor: ***R. Varghese*** *–* [*rvarghes@houstonisd.org*](mailto:rvarghes@houstonisd.org)

**Mission Statement:** DHSHP’s English dept. will build student confidence in the Eng. I literary analysis, grammar usage and mechanics, writing format, and integrated vocabulary concepts through a deeper understanding of World Literature.

**Outstanding Qualities:** The student will build analytical and writing skills by reading and analyzing world literature pieces of various authors. The student will engage in a study of characterization, plot, tone, theme, conflicts, etc. The student will gain skills with writing analytical essays, applying rules of complex grammar and increasing working vocabularies.

**Materials:** 1. Blue or black pens, red pen, highlighter (any color)

2. 3 ring binder (any color) and loose-leaf paper with divider sections – Assignments/Warm-ups,

Grammar, Literature, Writing

3. Summer reading paperback novels, Writing Coach Grade 9, Literature Grade 9 (online), Power

Plus for College and Career Readiness vocabulary workbook, 9th grammar workbook

**Grading Scale:**

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| --- | --- | --- | --- |
|  | 1st cycle | 2nd cycle | 3rd cycle |
| Daily (grammar, daily work, homework, etc.) | 10 | 10 | 10 |
| Assessment (quizzes, activities, rough drafts, etc.) | 30 | 30 | 30 |
| Major Assessment (tests, essays, projects, common assessments, etc.) | 60 | 60 | 60 |

**Overview:**

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| --- | --- | --- | --- |
| Concepts | First Six Weeks | Second Six Weeks | Third Six Weeks |
| Vocabulary | Chapters 1-4 and Affixes | Chapters 5-7 and Affixes | Chapters 8-10 and Affixes |
| Literature | Summer reading novel  Short Stories and  crossover pieces | *Odyssey* | Poetry and  crossover pieces |
| Grammar | Parts of speech (nouns, pronouns, adjectives and verbs)  Punctuation of quotations, dialogues, titles | Finish Parts of Speech  (adverbs, conjunctions, prepositions, and interjections)  Sentence Types  Parts of a Sentence (subj/pred) | Finish Parts of Sentence  (direct- indirect objects, predicate nominative-adjective, complements), transitive, intransitive, linking/helping verbs |
| Writing | Basic Steps  Formatting of Essay  8-sent. body | Full essay: Intro/ 1-3 Body of 8-sent. para. form/ Concl.  Research paper and process | Literary Analysis  (Poetry)  (formatted writing) |

**Rules:**

*Behavior:* All rules in the DeBakey student handbook must be read and observed.

*Dress code and tardies:* Regulations listed in the DeBakey student handbook will be enforced.

*Hall passes:* Students do not have to ask permission to leave the room to go to the restroom located immediately to the right of the room but **must not leave the room within ten (10) minutes after and before the tardy bell**. Only one boy and one girl may leave the room at any one time. Students must ask permission to go to the nurse’s office as this requires a special permit.

*Make-up, Late work and Retakes:*

**Late work** will be accepted only one class period late for a grade no higher than 70% in cycles 3-6, otherwise the assignment will remain a 0%. Cycle 1 assignments will be accepted only one class period late for no more than a minus 10 (ten) points, and in cycle 2 assignments will be accepted only one class period late for no more than a minus 20 (twenty) points. **Assignments are due at the beginning of every class during the first two minutes after the tardy bell, no exceptions. Any assignments turned in after that first two minutes time, even during the same period, are considered late and will be graded as such.** Staple a pink homework slip on top of the late assignment and turn in to the pink late folder, not the blue bin.

**Retakes** will be followed by the guidelines set by the school/department listed in the school provided planner.

If a student is absent on the day an assignment is due, the assignment will be due for full credit the class meeting of their return. If a student is absent on the day an assignment is assigned, the student is responsible to inquire for the make-up work the class period of his/her return and to remember to turn in the make-up work by the next class period in order to receive full credit.

*Homework Completion Grades:* Please note that homework/minor grades are usually assigned a completion grade. **Completion grade is given for a student attempting the homework and is not a direct indication of mastery of skills.** Mastery of skills will be shown through quiz, test, and essay grades which may not be as high as homework completion grades.

*Conduct Grades:* “E” is given to those students who follow all class and school regulations on a regular basis.

“S” will be given to those students who regularly do not follow all guidelines for talking, chewing gum in class, sleeping, being on-task, disrupting class activities, having phones visible instead of in backpacks, etc.

All other conduct deductions will go through administration and the parent will be notified.

*Electronic devices classroom usage rules:* Students are not to have their computers, and/or any other device out and actively engaged during any part of class time without specific directions/permissions from the teacher to do so. Students are **not allowed at any time in/during class time to record videos, audios, etc. of the teacher and/or any student in class without specific instructions/permissions from the teacher**. Students who choose not to follow these directions will have legal, school, and district actions taken against them for failing to respect the idea of perceived privacy during class time.

*Test/Essay Return:* No exams shall leave the class room. Students may view graded tests/essays during class once all make-up exams have been completed. Students and/or parents may view essays/test results and answers before/after school or during a mutually agreed upon time. Students will be expected to put graded essays into their writing portfolio after viewing grades and comments.

*Conferences:* Students should ask questions during class, tutorials, lunch and after-school on any matters of confusion/concern before requesting a parent conference. Conference times are A-days from 9:45a-10:45a. Please call the school at 713-741-2410 to schedule a conference. Conferences or questions can also be dealt with through email at [rvarghes@houstonisd.org](mailto:rvarghes@houstonisd.org). Emails are not viewed or answered after-school or weekends, only during school hours. If students have questions about homework, they can send it via email the day it is assigned, not the night before it is due as it will not be looked at until the next day.

***Extra credit/Bonus points:*** Based on decisions made by the entire English department, we **as a department do not** assign extra-credit work or give bonus points on any assignments. Please be sure you are keeping up with the assigned work, asking questions, going to tutorials, and turning in your work on-time to keep your grades up. We cannot add or change grades at the end of any cycle or semester. Allowances for additions to your grade have already been included with your overall grades through completion system.

**English Department Policies**

**Late Work Policy**

If an assignment is not turned in on the due date, that assignment may be turned in to the teacher by the beginning of the next class meeting; the grade received will be no higher than a 70%. If the assignment is not turned in on the next meeting day, the grade remains a zero.

**Retake Policy**

**Major test as defined by the English department**:

**Common Assessment** (is defined as the **skills** taught throughout the cycle ending with a cumulative test on the last week of the cycle: reading comprehension, identification and applications of literary terms, grammar, writing and vocabulary)

**Major exam** (is defined as an exam that covers the **content** taught throughout the cycle: it covers specific literary selections, vocabulary from the literature or vocabulary book and grammar studied throughout the cycle)

**Essays/Research Papers and Projects carry major exam weighed percentage. However, those items are excluded from the retake policy.**

**Retakes are not available on the following**:

Quizzes, essays, research papers, summer reading test, common assessments and final exams

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Please have student and parent sign this sheet, fill out the necessary information, and return to school before the end of the week as yours and your student’s acknowledgement of discussing with each other the class rules and criteria for Mrs. Varghese’s Eng. IA Fall class.

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**Student Last name, First name (print) Class Period**

**Student signature Date**

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**Parent name (print)**

**Parent signature Date**

**Parent email\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_**

**Parent phone number\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_**

**Language preferred for conference calls \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_**

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| **Date** | **Time in** | **Time out** | **Grades** | **Essays** | **Discussion Notes/msg. left** | **Parent response**  **Date/time** | **Progress given date** | **Signature/**  **initial** | **Average** |
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