

English I Syllabus

Teacher: April Santiago

Contact: asantiago@jimned.esc14.net

Tutoring Available: Tuesdays, Wednesdays, Thursdays | 7:45 a.m. - 8:05 a.m.

Conference Time: Monday - Friday | 8:10 a.m. - 8:50 a.m.

Course Description

This course focuses on developing students' skills in **reading, writing, listening, and speaking**. We will emphasize critical thinking, analysis, and communication across various genres and contexts. Students will engage with a range of literary texts, practice different writing modes (narrative, persuasive, informative), and refine their understanding of grammar, vocabulary, and research skills.

This is an introductory course focusing on foundational skills in writing, grammar, and reading comprehension. We will engage with a variety of texts and genres, including short stories, essays, and poetry.

Some of the novels we may read throughout the year include:

- *To Kill a Mockingbird*
 - *Romeo and Juliet*
 - *A Series of Unfortunate Events*
 - *The Most Dangerous Game*
 - *Animal Farm*
 - *Night*
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Core Focus Areas

- **Reading:** We will analyze literature, understand literary devices, and develop critical thinking skills.
- **Writing:** Students will master various writing modes, practice the writing process (planning, drafting, revising, editing), and develop research and citation skills (using MLA format, etc.).
- **Speaking and Listening:** We will focus on developing effective communication skills for various purposes and contexts.
- **Grammar and Vocabulary:** We will strengthen foundational language skills, expand vocabulary, and understand grammatical principles.

Grading Policy

- **Assignments** are expected to be completed in a timely manner. Students will be given ample class time to work on assignments. While I don't typically assign homework, students may have assignments to complete at home if they don't finish them in class.
- In the event of an **absence**, students will have an additional three school days to complete any missed assignments. It is the student's responsibility to obtain missed work. Assignments will be a mix of in-class activities and Google Classroom submissions.
- Students are allowed to correct or re-complete any **failing assignment** to improve their understanding and grade.
- Your final grade will be calculated as follows:
 - **Class Work:** 70%
 - **Quizzes and Assessments:** 30%

Classroom Expectations

Students are expected to follow the **student code of conduct**. While my classroom offers a degree of flexibility, all students will ultimately be held to the campus disciplinary policy.

We will all work together to create a **positive learning environment**. This includes being respectful, kind, adhering to our class schedule, and meeting the expectations we set together as a class.

Academic Integrity: Any student caught cheating which includes but is not limited to the use of AI, will receive a grade of zero on the assignment, without opportunity to resubmit. Additional administrative disciplinary action may occur, per school policy.

Required Supplies: Please bring a one-subject spiral notebook, writing utensils, and a charged chromebook everyday. Once we begin visiting the library, you will also need to have your book with you each day.

Please Sign and Return This Bottom Portion:

Parent: _____ Date: _____

Parent email: _____

Student: _____ Date: _____