

Classroom Policies and Procedures

2013-2014

Ms. J. Perez

John A. Ferguson Senior High

English I Honors

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Freshman English 1-2 (Honors) instruction focuses on the central themes of maturation, diversity, and the development of compassion, empathy, and respect for others. The curriculum teaches the skills of reading, writing, discussion, language use, and vocabulary development through the study of literature.

The primary goal of 9th Grade Honors English is to create a learning environment where students can take ownership of their own learning process and become aware of their strengths and weaknesses as readers, writers, and participants in oral discussion all the while processing pieces of classical literature as well as informational texts.

While the general outcomes of this course are aligned with the National Common Core Standards, the general outcomes of the Honors Class are constructed of the following:

Students will connect the text to the current world issues that are relevant to their own worlds. Students will develop and retain a love of literature, reading, and writing. Students will connect themselves to the emotional heart of the text. Students will read and analyze poetry, prose, and drama. Students will develop a solid background in classic literature as well as quality modern literature. Students will write and support arguments based on fiction and non-fiction Students will develop their use of grammar and sentence structure. Students will analyze how voice is constructed and refine their own. Students will express themselves creatively through artistic choices. Students will build the work ethic and stamina.

Students in 9th Grade Honors English will be exposed to a variety of literary pieces and genres such as drama, short stories, novels, poetry and expository texts. Through the study of these texts, they will engage in metacognitive activities: considering what they do to interpret a 4 Page text based on their unique prior knowledge, and how they construct an interpretation when meaning breaks down. In other words, students will be armed to fight difficult texts in high school, college, and life with an arsenal of literacy strategies. They will also analyze texts for stylistic devices authors use to engage their audience. This will serve two purposes: one, that they have the tools necessary to assist them when searching for messages inferred in the text; two, that they can consider their own style and the ways their stylistic choices can engage their audience.

Students will practice writing for various purposes (specifically through creative and expository modes) and implement tools in their own craft. Ultimately, student writing exercise will culminate in literary analysis paper (end of semester one), a personal narrative (opening of semester two),

Finally, students will reflect on their growth as a reader and writer and articulate the purpose behind the strategies they use to heighten their literacy awareness; this reflection will come in the form of discussion and writing, where students will be encouraged to overcome fears of peer collaboration and begin to voice their thoughts clearly and honestly.

Overall, these units are designed to provide students with tools to critically engage in the world through reading, writing, and dialogue. These skills will prepare students with the foundation they need to be successful throughout their high school career and begin them on the path toward becoming critical, historically and culturally informed citizen.

***Attendance Policy***

* + Come to class everyday!
  + In the event of an absence, it is YOUR responsibility to make up any assignment you MUST go to the EnglishwithPerez.weebly.com
  + Make-up tests or quizzes will ONLY be administered after proper documentation of an EXCUSED absence has been turned in, and can only be done during lunch or after school.

***Grading***

Your grade will be based on an average of the exams, quizzes, class work, homework assignments, journals, class participation, and any projects assigned during the course of the 9-week grading period. The following is the state mandated grading scale:

* 1. A 69-60 D
  2. B < 60 F

79-70 C

***Rules***

1. Be on time every day. After being late three times, you will receive a detention.
2. Comply with the school uniform dress code, or receive a detention!
3. Come to class prepared each day with all materials needed. MEANING ALL HANDOUTS DOWNLOADED AND PRINTED prior to the scheduled class.
4. Be on task at all times.
5. Respect yourself, others, and all classroom materials.
6. Sign up for the class webpage account: EnglishwithPerez.weebly.com and monitor it daily! This is your responsibility!
7. Complete three sections (total of 6) WEEKLY of ReadingPlus.

***Materials***

* + 3 Ring Binder

5 Dividers with tabs, label them:

▪ Handouts ▪ Literature ▪ Vocabulary ▪ Writing ▪ FCAT

* + extra loose leaf paper
  + 2-3 pens blue/black ink **ONLY!** (If you write in pencil or other color ink, the work will not be graded).
  + 2 Green/red ink pens
  + highlighters 5 different colors (yellow, blue, orange, pink, and green)
  + 2 pencils (to be used when we take scantron tests only and FCAT baseline exams)
  + 1 Composition book (No spiral notebooks please)
  + Sign up for the class TWITTER account by texting 40404 and in the text box type ….follow @englishperez…and soon you will receive all the important information or alerts or changes to our class curriculum or schedule or locations etc…

# *Major Works to be covered*

You may choose to purchase these on your own or you may wait to do this as a class when we order from Prestwick books, which will total a maximum $4 per book.

-*The Tragedy of Romeo & Juilet*

- *The Professor’s Da*ughter

- “The Iliad”

- “The Odyssey”

- Speak

***\*\*\*Students may be asked to purchase some of the novels but will be given sufficient notice to acquire them. \*\*\****

***Home Learning/Classwork Assignments:***

***Due to budget cuts and limited supplies, I have created a webpage in which you MUST access all class and home learning assignments*** for you to be able to obtain pertinent information to successfully complete required assignments for this class. The webpage can be accessed at EnglishwithPerez.weebly.com. You must download and print the required assignments. You will be notified in three forms when you must logon: verbal statement in class, written on the Agenda section of the board and texted to you via the class TWITTER account as well. It is your responsibility to be on top of your own assignments and complete them. There are NO EXCUSES for not being prepared for class or for not having work completed even if you are absent. The benefit of this system is that it omits the loss of assignments from class to class and home, and that **PARENTS** are also able to log in and track what assignments are due and if there is a test or homework coming up. If you are not prepared for class you WILL earn a zero for that assignment in which you failed to download or complete.

***Tips for Parents***

1. Monitor your child’s homework and progress on a nightly basis.
2. Sign up for the EnglishwithPerez.weebly.com
3. Ask questions about your child’s classes and/or assignments.
4. Be willing and available to help your child in order to maximize his/her learning potential for success in this and every class.
5. Monitor that your child is completing their 3 sessions, weekly, of ReadingPlus since it will affect their GPA if it is not completed.
6. Create a TWITTER account by texting a message to 40404 and then where you would type a message write ….follow@englishPerez and you too will get notifications of materials needed or assignments due, to be prepared for class.

\*\***Remember**: Working together we can provide a support system for your child to ensure their success throughout this upcoming year.

Do not hesitate to contact me with any questions or concerns.

***Parent/Student Statement***

My child has shared with me the class policies and procedures and I understand what is needed of me to help maximize his/her learning potential.

Parent Name\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ Parent Signature\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

Ms. J. Perez has reviewed the class policies and procedures and I know what is expected of me to be successful in this class.

Student Name\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ Student Signature\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_