

ENGLISH II

TEXT

Various novels, selected readings, poetry, short stories, and films, English (Kim Marshall series Parts A and B), Word Wealth

PREREQUISITES

10th grade

OBJECTIVES

The purpose of this course is to build students' critical writing and thinking skills. Emphasis is on active reading and discussion. Students learn grammar and vocabulary in context, and practice writing skills. Daily journal writing and discussion is an integral part of the curriculum... They are encouraged to find an appreciation for reading and writing, and discover how both can relate to their lives.

CONTENT

Students read short stories, poetry and novels. Students respond to the literature through class discussions, independent writing, and essays. Assignments foster distinguishing between "above and below the surface" analysis, making connections between texts, and forming original interpretations.

SKILLS

- Critical thinking
- Literature analysis
- Analytical essay
- Personal and creative writing
- Vocabulary
- Editing/Revising

METHODS

Reading is done together in class and at home. Students learn how to enter a text through guided reading exercises and journal writing. The course teaches students to consider what makes an effective discussion, how to interpret a text and how to make connections. A test is given at the end of each unit of study. Book reports serve as a tool to assess reading comprehension and expression of ideas.

HOMEWORK

Homework often serves as a complement for what is done in class. Homework consists of

reading, vocabulary lessons, and completion of any work not finished in class. Longer assignments include reading books, book reports, and essays.

GRADING/CREDITS

A student must complete all of the assignments. Papers may be rewritten. The grade results from the following:

25% Homework (Journals, vocabulary and grammar exercises)

25% Essays (Worked on in class and at home)

25% Participation (Discussion engagement, attitude, improvement, in class work)

25% Quizzes and tests (Reading and vocabulary)

INDIVIDUALIZATION

Reading is often done in class in order to make the material more accessible, and allow students to ask questions as we read. Assignments are modified when necessary in order to accommodate learning differences. For example students may read materials on the read and scan system or listen to them in an audio format. A variation of assignments (writing, artistic, oral presentations) allows a wide range of students to be successful. Working with students one on, in small groups, and as a class, also provides a diversity of learning opportunities.

ABSENCES/TARDIES

If a student is absent, he/she should meet with the teacher to discuss make-up work. Excessive tardiness or absences will result in a lower grade and/or loss of credit.