

English 7

August 31 – September 16, 2016

Teacher: Mr. Glazer

Course Overview

In English 7 we work towards mastering the fine arts of close reading, deep listening, thoughtful analysis, clear writing, and eloquent speech. Our essential question for the year is “What is freedom?” As we consider this question, we read “I Have a Dream,” *The Call of the Wild*, literature from the women’s suffrage movement, the poetry of Emily Dickinson and Robert Frost, *Great Expectations*, *The Tempest*, and other works.

Schedule

English 7 meets four days each week for language and literature study: Monday from 12:25-1:15; Tuesday from 2:07-2:55; Thursday from 12:25-1:15; Friday from 9:02-9:52. For composition, we break into two smaller groups. Section 7A meets on Mondays from 10:10-11:00 and Wednesdays from 10:05-10:53; section 7B meets on Tuesdays from 11:02-11:52 and Thursdays from 2:07-2:55. English 7 classes are often broken up into two parts: a preliminary lesson and a main lesson. Preliminary lessons are structured as follows:

Monday: Vocabulary
Tuesday: Grammar
Thursday: Poetics & Rhetoric
Friday: Spelling

Our main lessons focus on literature study.

Supplies

Each day you must bring the following items to class:

1. A binder with lined, loose-leaf paper.
2. Your iPad
3. The required text(s)
4. A pencil or pen
5. Assignments due that day
6. Your full attention

You will not be allowed to leave class to get materials from your locker or backpack. You will receive a point off each time you forget your materials.

Required Texts

Vocabulary from Classical Roots, Level B

Realms of Gold 2

Warriner's English Composition and Grammar (First Course)

A variety of novels, plays, poems, speeches, stories, and essays

Please make book covers to protect your texts!

Homework

All homework is to be completed by the assigned due date listed on the weekly assignment sheet. Late work not covered by an excused absence (illness or planned absence form) will lose one letter grade per day. Talk to me *in advance* when an issue arises and I will try to be flexible.

Literature

1. On September 1, 2, and 6, we will listen to, read, analyze, and respond to "I Have a Dream," by Martin Luther King, Jr. "I Have a Dream" was delivered on August 28, 1963 at the Lincoln Memorial to participants in the March on Washington. We will consider both the content and the rhetorical framework of this powerful speech.
2. After completing "I Have a Dream," we begin our study of Jack London's novel *The Call of the Wild*. We will pay close attention to the various approaches to reading, understanding, and discussing a novel: exposition, narration, plot, characterization, dialogue, conflicts, themes, imagery, and symbolism. If you read this book earlier in the summer, please revisit it so that you will be ready to work with it during the weeks of September 12 - 16 and 19 - 23.

Composition

Your first major composition will reflect on T.H. White's *The Once and Future King*. In the novel Merlyn tells the Wart "education is experience" (White 41). As part of this "first-rate eddication," Merlyn transforms the Wart into various animals. You will select one transformation, and in a four-paragraph essay introduce, describe, and reflect on what the Wart learns through his experience. Then consider how this experience might impact the way Arthur will rule as *The Once and Future King*.

Grammar

Grammar lessons are typically held on Tuesdays. They will last approximately one half of the class period. Your textbook will be *Warriner's English: Composition and Grammar (First Course)*. Be sure to bring your grammar textbooks to class every Tuesday! Mrs. Price will lead the grammar lessons.

Vocabulary

Vocabulary will always be due on Mondays. Our textbook is *Vocabulary from Classical Roots: Book B*. Please be sure to bring this book to school every Monday. Magistra Lechner will lead the vocabulary lessons. I encourage you to turn in your vocabulary book early and make corrections as necessary.

Chapter 1 will be due on Monday, September 19.

Independent Reading & Writing

In addition to regularly assigned class reading, you will select books to read independently of the class. Reading response logs will be kept on independent reading and your effort will impact your grade. **Reading logs will be collected on Tuesdays beginning September 13.**

Spelling

Spelling quizzes take place on most Fridays. Each week, twelve words will be quizzed, with the words inspired by the texts we are studying. Each incorrect word must be spelled correctly *seven* times for collection in class by the following Friday. As corrections are made points will be added to your score. **The first quiz will be held on Friday, September 16.** For help please visit mr_glazer @ Quizlet.

"I Have a Dream"

character

prodigious

allusion

guarantee

righteousness

anaphora

languish

segregation

antithesis

oppression

tribulation

Overall Grades

Preparing for and participating in class are essential aspects of learning and will comprise one-eighth of your grade. Your overall grade in English 7 will be determined as follows: grammar, 12.5%; spelling, 12.5%; vocabulary, 12.5%; composition, 25%; literature, 25%; participation, 12.5%.