

**Course Outline
English I
Mrs. Steimer
Plano High School**

Mrs. Steimer

Email: rasteimer@plano88.org (Don't forget the "a"!)

English I Syllabus

2009-2010

Welcome to English I! I am excited to be your teacher for this class. As an English I student you should look forward to reading a variety of exciting short stories, poems, and novels, writing essays and a research paper, and studying grammar and vocabulary. It is my job to challenge you as a student and to support you in your studies. I take my role as a teacher very seriously, so if you ever need extra help, please feel free to ask for it—that is why I am here!

Class Expectations:

You are expected to treat me and others with respect. Disrespect to me or others will not be tolerated and will result in disciplinary action.

You are expected to come to class prepared everyday. That means you should bring your

- Agenda (It's your hall pass.)
- Textbook (Most of the assignments are in there.)
- Writing utensil (Use pen or pencil for daily work, but I prefer to read pen.)
- Notebook (You will need it to take copious notes.)
- Folder of returned papers (Use these for study or as a "receipt" of work done. SAVE ALL PAPERS)
- Homework assignment (See the late policy.)
- Loose leaf paper (Complete homework assignments on loose leaf paper. I subtract one point from your grade if you hand in work with "fringies".)
- Glasses (if you wear them)

Other Items:

- Being "prepared" also means you should not sleep or eat in class. You may chew gum, as long as it stays in your mouth, and drink water.
- Being "prepared" also means showing up to class on time. Refer to the tardy policy in the PHS handbook.
- Bathroom and Locker passes: You may have three passes per semester. Please block out three pass sections in your agenda. Use PEN to record any passes. If you have used all of your passes and you must leave, you may, but you will make up that time after school. Any passes left over may be used as extra credit for your final exam!
- Cell Phones and other electronic devices must remain off and out of sight. Refer to the PHS Handbook for the cell phone and electronic device policy.

Paper Formatting:

Typing: Essays should be typed unless you talk to me in advance (within 24 hours). I do not expect you to have a computer and printer at home. The PHS library is available before and after school, and you can also utilize the Plano Public Library.

Printing: If you cannot print your paper, email it to a friend and have him or her print it. As a last resort, you may also email it to me, and I will be glad to print it for you. You must send the paper as an attachment. Don't copy and paste it into your email or you will lose all of the formatting. If you don't know how to send an

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attachment, ask me. My email address is at the top of the syllabus. Of course, it is easiest for you and me if you find a way to print your essay yourself.

Use MLA (Modern Language Association) formatting to hand in your papers. Below is an example of MLA format:

Last Name 1
Your Name
My Name
Class
Date
Title
Indent the first paragraph. You also need a header in the upper right corner with your last name and the page number. Do not forget to double space. Use Times New Roman or a similar font, size 12. Notice that the title of your paper is in plain text—not italics or quotations.

Late Policy:

I expect you to turn in your work on time. It is due when I collect it, usually at the beginning of the class period. If you do not hand in your work when I ask for it you will only receive half credit (50%). This policy includes assignments that are completed during class *after* I have collected them because I don't want you to work so hard on late work that you miss what is being covered during class.

Extra Credit Policy:

Students may not earn extra credit unless all of their assignments are handed in. Extra credit will not be offered on an individual basis. Occasionally throughout the year I will offer extra credit to the entire class, but only students who have no missing work may complete the extra credit.

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Month	Reading Comprehension Emphasis	Skills Emphasis	Collection Theme	Writing Emphasis	Reading Assignments
August-September	Predicting	Plot structure, foreshadowing	1. Into the Unknown: Plot and Setting 2. On Your Own: Character	Autobiographical Narrative	“Initiation” (As a model for prediction). “The Most Dangerous Game” “Marigolds” “Thank You, M’am” “Helen on 86 th Street”
October	Summarizing	Cause and effect, visualizing a story	3. Truth and Consequences: Narrator and Voice	Analyzing Nonfiction	“The Interlopers” “The Cask of Amontillado” “The Necklace” <i>Begin House on Mango Street</i>
November	Summarizing (cont.) Connecting	Drawing conclusions, synthesis of information on a single topic, understanding plot and subplot, author/historical analysis	Novel Studies	Analyzing a Work of Fiction	<i>House on Mango Street (Cont.)</i> <i>Begin Of Mice and Men</i>
December	Connecting (cont.)	Identifying elements of a plot and subplot, identifying elements of a novel, goal setting and career development	Novel Studies	Analyzing Character Development	<i>Of Mice and Men</i>
January	Questioning	Analyzing primary and secondary sources, summarizing, making inferences, inferences from details,	Novel Studies 8. Crossing Borders: Literary Criticism: Evaluating Style 9. Turning Points:	Analyzing a Work of Fiction and Research Paper	“A Sound of Thunder” from <i>Jurassic Park</i> <i>Cold Sassy Tree</i>

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		identifying the main idea	Literary Criticism Biographical and Historical Approach (Review from Freshman Academy)		
February	Inferring	Analyzing and evaluating an author's argument, intent and tone, MLA formatting, how to cite sources	Novel Studies 6. Ties That Bind: Symbolism and Allegory 12. Creating Computer Games: Consumer and Workplace Documents (Review from Freshman Academy)	Analyzing a Work of Fiction and Research Paper	<i>Cold Sassy Tree</i> cont. "The Scarlet Ibis"
March	Imaging	Cause and effect, monitoring comprehension	10. Heroes and Monsters: Epic and Myth	Persuading with Cause and Effect	<i>The Odyssey</i> "Feneris Wolf"
April		Drama as a form, paraphrasing speeches, synthesis of several sources	11. Can This Be Love? Drama	Comparing a Play and a Film	<i>Romeo and Juliet</i>
May		Poetic devices, figurative language	7. Imagine: Poetry	Analyzing a Poem	<i>Romeo and Juliet</i> cont. Selected Poems

Assessment:

Students will be assessed through essays, tests, short-term and long-term projects, study guides, homework, daily reading, and class participation.

Entry and Exit Skills:

Students should take this class if they have grade level reading skills. Students who make an effort to complete reading and homework assignments should expect to gain aptitude in the skills listed in the chart above. Students who pass the class will enroll in English II.

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Please read the syllabus, sign below, and return it to Mrs. Steimer by week two of classes. (10 pts).

I have read and understand the syllabus for English I.

student signature

date

parent/legal guardian signature

date

Printed Name _____

Phone: Home: ()

Email address (optional):

Work: ()