

ENGLISH I SYLLABUS

Mrs. Sonya Stearns

sstearns@fbalions.org

COURSE SUMMARY - English I is a literature and grammar course designed to expose students to multiple facets of great literature and expand their knowledge and use of grammar in formal and informal communication. During the first semester, we will diagram the plots and conflicts of several short stories and examine the formal structures of many types of poetry. We will also explore the world of Shakespeare while reading *Romeo and Juliet*. In grammar, we will identify and correctly use the parts of speech in various situations and compose original pieces ranging from the single paragraph to an Elizabethan sonnet. The second semester will involve identifying the themes of literary pieces, the types of literary characters, authors' methods of character development, and discussing moral tone and authors' points of view. We will continue our proper grammar usage with lengthier and "real world" tasks including specific types of letters and a comprehensive research paper. Our supplementary novel for the second semester will allow us to explore the world of classic mythology through Homer's *Odyssey*.

GOALS

The student will:

- *identify the 3 types of literary conflict.
- *recognize authors' usage of flat, round, static, and dynamic characters.
- *evaluate authors' methods of character development.
- *analyze the structure of specific forms of literature.
- *examine and explain methods for revealing a theme.
- *describe the traditional plot structure.
- *differentiate between the 3 major points of view.
- *discover the moral tone of a literary work and discuss the worldview from which it comes.
- *revise pieces of writing containing a variety of errors.
- *assemble the multiple forms of nouns, pronouns, verbs, adjectives, and adverbs in various types of sentences and compositions.
- *identify prepositions, conjunctions, and interjections in sentences and use them appropriately in various compositions.
- *develop skills in correct subject - verb agreement and investigate troublesome words in the English language.
- *apply capitalization and punctuation rules to his / her various writings.
- *explore and use the Modern Language Association's (MLA) guide for research papers.
- *assemble materials into written and oral presentations.
- *experiment with his / her ability to create poetry.
- *compose works ranging from a media presentation to a formal research paper.

METHODS OF TEACHING

- short lecture usually accompanied by Power Point presentations
- discussion
- team games/cooperative learning / partner work
- student oral presentations of individual compositions and projects
- group project presentations
- computer/internet illustrations
- DVD
- dramatizations by students
- themed parties planned by the students
- internet games
- field trips

ASSIGNMENTS

- ❖ daily written grammar assignments
- ❖ reading schedules for *Romeo and Juliet* and *Odyssey*.
- ❖ daily reading assignments from literature book
- ❖ short essays
- ❖ research essays
- ❖ original poetry
- ❖ pop quizzes
- ❖ written tests
- ❖ oral presentations
- ❖ special projects (*Odyssey* project, *Romeo & Juliet* project, Italian sonnet, team Power Point presentations).

ASSESSMENTS / EVALUATIONS

Quarterly grade:

20% - homework, daily assignments (spot checked).

30% - quizzes (pop quizzes included).

50% - tests, special projects, special compositions.

The semester exam will count 10% of the semester grade.

MATERIALS NEEDED

1. *Fundamentals of Literature* - Bob Jones Press.
2. *Writing and Grammar 9* - Bob Jones Press.
3. Red pen and black or blue pen for EVERY class.
4. Four subject notebook with pocket dividers and loose leaf paper for each section.
5. Clear presentation folders - not report covers - for projects.
6. Flash drive
7. Supplemental reading #1 - *Romeo and Juliet* by William Shakespeare.
8. Supplemental reading #2 - *Odyssey* by Homer.