Academic English 9 – Mrs. Dran

Overview

This course combines the study and analysis of literature through reading, class discussion, objective tests and quizzes, individual and group projects, and essays. We will be studying various genres of literature including the short story, poetry, drama, and the novel. Keystone skills in reading comprehension and vocabulary, along with grammar, writing, and revision will be emphasized. Students will participate in class discussions, individual and group projects, presentations, and learn to better use technology.

You will need a notebook that you can divide into sections:

1. Literary terms
2. Vocabulary
3. Story analysis
4. Writing

You will also need a pack of 4x6 index cards for Web Search or People Search assignments. These will be brief homework assignments that will be turned in on an index card. The search topic will be assigned before each story and will be due before we begin reading each selection. Since I may ask you to share the information you find, be certain that you complete these assignments in a school appropriate manner. When in doubt, ask me!

Before we begin each unit in our textbook, you will be given an outline. The outline will contain the literary terms, vocabulary, title of literary works, essay topic, and Web/People Search topics. This will help to keep you organized and allow you to plan ahead. Please keep the outlines in your notebook or folder for this class.

Only the novel unit is set-up differently. Since this is a separate book, you will receive a packet for each section of the novel and an organizer for the required essay. We will also be working closely with the librarian for this unit since your essay requires research and MLA formatting.

All writing assignments must be typed and double-spaced with one inch margins using Times New Roman 12 point font. They are to be printed in black or dark blue ink. I will not accept handwritten papers. If you do not have access to a computer, please see me and I will make arrangements for you to use the English Writing Lab.

The heading will be single-space and placed in the header in the right hand corner of page one only.

The heading will consist of: Name

Date

Topic

Period

All assignments must be done in an accurate and complete manner. Assignments are due at the beginning of class on the assigned due date. Failure to complete any assignments will result in a score of zero for that assignment.

I do NOT accept late work or excuses such as: *My printer ran out of ink; My computer lost my paper; I couldn’t get it to print*. It is **your responsibility** to complete the work assigned and to have it ready to be turned in on the due date. (If you cannot print your essay for some reason, you can email it to me at: [drank@hopewellarea.org](mailto:drank@hopewellarea.org). It must be received before the time of your class period on the due date.)

I strongly suggest you use Remind. Information on how to subscribe to Remind for my Academic 9 class is provided in this packet.

Your paper topics will be given to you in class, and we will work on each one in steps. If you use the class time given to work on your essay, you should not have much difficulty in completing the assignment on time. Therefore, there is no excuse for late work. Start working on your assignments during the time given in class and make your final revisions before the due date (not the night before it is due), and we should have no reason for conflict.

If you cannot print your essay for some reason, you can email it to me at: [drank@hopewellarea.org](mailto:drank@hopewellarea.org). It must be received before the time of your class period on the due date. I do not accept late work.

If you are in school the day an assignment is due but will not be in class (field trip, early dismissal, tardy, health suite dismissal), you are still required to turn in your assignment. Either find me to turn it in, or go to the office and **kindly** ask a secretary to place it in my mailbox. Do NOT place your assignments on my desk if I am not in the room or slide it under my door if my room is locked.

If there is some sort of health or family emergency that could prohibit you from completing an assignment on time, please see me so that we can privately discuss and resolve the issue.

Make-up tests and quizzes cannot be taken during class time since students would then miss an additional day's instruction.  Students can come before school, during a study hall, during lunch (They may eat while making up work.), or after school with prior arrangement.

I encourage parents/guardians to communicate with me. I can be reached via email at [drank@hopewellarea.org](mailto:drank@hopewellarea.org) or telephone at 724-375-6691, extension 2203. You can also find class information on my teacher webpage, which can be found online by accessing the high school webpage and clicking on the Faculty/Staff Directory.

Notebook Requirements and Scoring

Students will be given 10 points per section. Partial credit will be given for incomplete work. The scoring will depend on the number of words/assignments given and the number completed. Organization of the notebooks will be completed in-class and students will be reminded frequently to keep an organized notebook and to complete the work assigned.

1. Literary Terms – listed and defined in a section

2. Vocabulary- listed and defined in a section

3. Story Analysis – Critical Thinking questions completed in a section for each story read

4. Writing – all grammar exercises and work for essays completed in a section: pre-writing, brainstorming, organizing, rough draft, editing/revision