

## English I Pre-AP/GT Syllabus

### Overview

Instructors

**Ashley Miller**

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Room 1006

237-5124

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**Victoria Orepan**

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Room 1008

237-7082

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A Pre-AP English Language and Literature course will engage you in the careful reading and critical analysis of imaginative literature. Through the close reading of selected texts, you will deepen your understanding of the ways writers use language to provide both meaning and pleasure for their readers. As we read, we will consider a work's structure, style, and themes as well as smaller-scale elements, such as the use of figurative language, imagery, symbolism, and tone. Your goal this year is gain literary exposure, and skills necessary for future success in Advance Placement English courses.

### Objectives

English I Pre-AP/GT is a rigorous course. Success in English I Pre-AP/GT requires reading and analysis of advanced texts, identification and application of new terminology, and intensive writing in both the Expository (STAAR) and Literary Analysis (AP) forms. Successful students will:

- Arrive to class each day, fully prepared and well-read.
- Study both academic and literary vocabulary words. (A wide-range vocabulary used with accuracy and resourcefulness greatly benefits your writing.)
- Submit all work. Zeros have a profound(ly negative) impact on an average. (That includes homework!)
- Attend tutorials as needed. (see the schedule below)

You will read and write both in- and outside of class. Your writing will go through a process of planning, peer and self-evaluation, rethinking, and revising. Nothing replaces self-reflection. Your instructors can guide you and offer suggestions, but only you can improve your writing.

### Academic Integrity

The students, teachers, and administrators of Cinco Ranch High School appreciate the value of learning, and therefore abide by the following:

*To promote a climate of intellectual growth and fairness we, will act with integrity throughout the learning process. Academic integrity is neither giving nor receiving unauthorized aide as defined by the instructor's expectations for honest and acceptable work.*

- Please do your own work, unless instructed to collaborate by your teacher. Cheating includes copying another student's work, plagiarism, and misuse of internet sources.
- Students caught cheating (including allowing another student to copy their work) will receive a zero for the assignment as well as appropriate disciplinary action by the grade-level principal.
- Please do not talk about tests or quizzes until after they have been **returned**.

### Grading Policies

- Major Grades – 60%
  - Tests will be given at the end of each unit covered.
  - Process Essays will count as major grades (not in-class timed writing).
  - Major projects will also be weighted as tests grades.
  - Any major grade turned in late will be penalized.

- One day late: -15%. Two days late -30%. Three days late -45%.  
Four or more days late: 0%.
  - Any student who fails a test the first time may retest.
    - In order to retests, students must attend a mandatory retest tutorial.
    - Per CRHS Policy, the retest and original test are averaged together.
    - Students who retest can earn up to 70%, regardless of the grade on the retest.  
(Projects and Essays are not eligible for retesting.)
- Minor Grades – 30%
  - Quizzes (assigned and “pop”)
  - In-Class Essays and Timed Writing
  - Small projects
  - Class Discussions (always scheduled in advance)
  - Any minor grade turned in late will be penalized 30%. Minor grades will not be accepted more than one day late.
- Daily/Homework Grades – 10%
  - Homework should be submitted at the beginning of class (before the tardy bell).
  - Classwork should be turned in before the end of class.
  - Any daily grade turned in late will be penalized 30%. Daily grades will not be accepted more than one day late.

### Absences and Make-up Work

- If you miss a scheduled test or quiz, be prepared to take it on the day of your return. If necessary, a make-up time may be scheduled. Assignments that are not made up within 5 school days of an absence will be recorded as a zero.
- If you know you will be absent, try to turn assignments in early, or send them with a responsible person. Some assignments may also be submitted electronically. Otherwise, work is due at the beginning of the first class following your return to school. (This includes projects, essays, and homework assignments.)
- Notes and Handouts will be available on your classroom website. Hand-written notes can be made up in tutorials, or transcribed from a classmate.

### Tutorials

English tutorials are open to any student.

Ms. Miller	Mrs. Orepitan
Monday: 6:30 – 7:20 AM	Thursday: 2:50 – 3:50 PM
Wednesday: 6:30 – 7:20AM	Friday: 2:50 – 3:50 PM
By Appointment	By Appointment

- To schedule a tutorial during an unlisted time, please contact your instructor and make an appointment.

### Classroom Expectations

- Arrive to class on time and have all necessary materials with you before the bell rings.
- As we explore literature together, please be sensitive to the views of others. Please do voice your opinions, remembering that others may totally disagree (it’s all in the tone!). Respect and courtesy are the keys to successful class discussions.
- Please turn your homework in to \_\_\_\_\_.
- Graded work can be collected from \_\_\_\_\_.

- Do not bring food, drink, or gum into the classroom. (Water is allowed.) Infractions will be recorded. Persistent infractions will result in detention.
- Honesty is a must in our relationship!
- No cell phone use in class, please. (If your devices are needed, I'll let you know!)

### **Textbooks, Novels, Plays, & Poetry**

Allen, Janet et al. *Holt McDougal Literature: Texas Grade 9*. Evanston, IL: Holt McDougal, a Division of Houghton Mifflin Harcourt, 2010. Holt Online Learning. Holt McDougal, 2010. Web. 28 July 2015. <<http://my.hrw.com>>.

### **Long Works**

- Card, Orson Scott. *Ender's Game*
- Hari, Daoud. *The Translator*
- Homer. *The Odyssey* (in the online textbook)
- Shakespeare, William. *The Tragedy of Romeo and Juliet* (Shakespeare Made Easy version)
- White, T.H. *The Once and Future King*
- Independent Novel of Choice (TBA)

Poetry: We will thematically connect poetry to each six weeks' unit of study. We will study the poetic conventions of forms, style, tone, etc. during the 3<sup>rd</sup> Six Weeks.

### **Tools and Supplies**

- Books (bring whichever work we're studying to class each day)
- Binder with Dividers and Notebook Paper
- Blue or Black pens for classwork
- Wet-Erase Markers for ZipGrade scantrons
- Pencils for drafts
- One set of 6 highlighters (multi-colored, for individual use)
- Each class is assigned to bring **one** of the following items that will be stored in the classroom, and used by all six classes.
  - Periods 1 and 2: Washable Markers
  - Periods 3 and 4: Colored Pencils
  - Periods 5 and 7: Box of Tissues
- *Vocabulary from Classical Roots, Level C*

This series provides access to Greek and Latin-based words that are characteristic of all content areas and that appear frequently on standardized tests such as the PSAT, SAT, and ACT. Learning Greek and Latin roots along with prefixes and suffixes enhances a student's ability to decode, spell, and expand his/her vocabulary. The lessons and accompanying exercises have students examine word relationships, determine correct usage of words in context, choose the best word to complete a sentence, complete analogies, and use words in writing and discussion.

  - Available for \$12.00 in room 1221 (Mr. Larsen).



Dear Parent(s)/Guardian(s):

We'd like to welcome you and your students to English I Pre-AP/GT. We're looking forward to working with your children this year. We believe that parents and teachers should work together to ensure the best education experience for each student. You are welcome to contact us via conference, phone, or email. Email is the fastest and most efficient way for us to communicate with you. We're excited to be working with you and your students.

Sincerely,

Ms. Miller

Mrs. Orepitan

Please sign and return this portion of the letter to your English teacher by September 4, 2015.



My child and I received and discussed the guidelines and procedures for English I Pre-AP/GT.

Printed Student Name \_\_\_\_\_

Printed Parent/Guardian Name \_\_\_\_\_

Parent/Guardian Signature \_\_\_\_\_