

Welcome to 8th Grade English!

Course Outline

This class will follow the Common Core Standards and will prepare students to succeed in any high school program. Our year will be divided into four units: Narrative, Expository, Response to Literature, and Persuasion. We will read a minimum of two novels, and a wide variety of fiction, nonfiction, and poetry. Students will write at least three major essays, as well as numerous shorter compositions. Instruction in grammar, punctuation, and usage will focus on improving sentence quality and readability.

Grading

I expect all students to do their best just as I will do my best to help you learn. As long as you pay attention in class, complete all assignments, and study for quizzes, you should do quite well. Work will be graded using a point system, and grades will be calculated according to the following scale:

90-100% = A

80-89% = B

70-79% = C

60-69% = D

0-59% = Fail

Absences: If you are only absent one day, I expect you to turn in what was due the day you were absent when you return. For absences of two or more days, please speak with me.

Late Work: The grade you earn on an assignment will be reduced by one full grade for each day it is late, up to two days. After that, you earn only half credit.

Materials

- 3 packs of Post-It notes in 3 different colors
- 1 pack of 3" x 5" index cards
- 1 composition book for Mountain Language
- 1 binder with 3 sections (OK to use the same binder as another subject, but you still need 3 sections for English.)
- Binder paper
- Several blue or black pens
- 1 red or green pen for correcting
- A small stapler
- Colored pencils (OK to use the same set for another class)

Contact Information

Parents and students can check homework and assignments' due dates by using the Hale website:

www.halecharteracademy.com

This will be demonstrated in class for students, and at Back to School Night for parents. You can also email me:

SDJ5853@LAUSD.NET

Please note that while I upload some handouts to the Hale website, I cannot upload everything. The website is intended to provide a brief reminder of what we did in class; it is not a substitute for paying attention, listening carefully, and keeping a homework notebook.

Students, when you are absent, you should check the website for any new homework, and if possible, talk with a classmate to see what you missed. You may also email me to ask questions.

Parents, after you have read over the information above, please provide me with your contact information and preferences.

Student's Name: _____ Period: _____

Preferred Contact Person's Name: _____

Email Address: _____

Phone Number during school hours: _____