

- **Reading:** Achievement of advanced literacy and articulate one's response verbally & in writing.
- **Writing:** Develop writing process includes pre-write, multiple drafts, revise, edit and polish.
- **Critical Thinking:** Ability to compare, contrast, analyze & synthesize; challenge underlying assumptions; take imaginative leaps and intellectual risks.

Ms. Natividad

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(click "Teachers and Staff" to find me!)

Language Arts

"Live as if you were to die tomorrow. Learn as if you were to live forever."

~~Mahatma Ghandi~~

Course Details:

Late Work Policy:

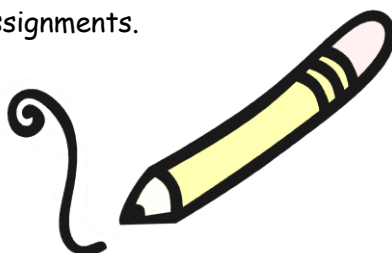
Simply written, late work is unacceptable. Late or missing homework will only be accepted the very next day for 50% credit IF the work is completed and has a "Late Work" slip filled out and attached. (Students will receive one "Late Work" sheet containing four "Late Work" slips at the beginning of the school year.) Any assignment worth more than 50 points will have 10% of the points deducted for each late day.

A Quick Note About Excuses:

EXCUSES will NOT be accepted. Computer-related excuses are also unacceptable. Refusing to do homework is considered defiance and will result in poor citizenship. Learning is essential. Choosing not to do the work is not an option.

Absences:

If you are ill, please do not attend school. You will receive the same number of days to complete an assignment as you were absent. If your first day of absence is the day an assignment is due, then the assignment will be expected the first day you return to school. Absences during a long-term assignment do not mean you will have an extended due date. In the event of an absence, it is your responsibility to check my website for any and all assignments.



Classroom Expectations:

Be responsible and be accountable. The bottom line is you know how to behave in a classroom. Your goal is to make individual progress in your learning. You need to do this without causing a problem for someone else. If you do cause a problem, solve it! If you can't, or won't, solve the problem, I will make a decision based on the situation and solve the problem myself.

Academic Integrity:

The seriousness of plagiarism and other academic violations of academic integrity cannot be overstated. If it did not come from your brain and you did not cite it, it's CHEATING. All offenses will result in a zero on the assignment with no chance of resubmission.

Course Requirements



Curriculum:

Textbooks (keep at home, covered)

- Holt Literature
- Hold Handbook (Grammar)

Thematic Novel Units

- The Year of the Hangman
- The Outsiders

Additional Reading (found in textbook or as printed copy distributed in class)

- Scary Stories Unit includes
 - "The Landlady"
 - "The Tell Tale Heart"
- "Flowers for Algernon"
- "Anne Frank: Diary of a Young Girl"

Poetry

- Various Forms and Authors
- Poetry Project

Independent Reading

- Accelerated Reader

Grammar and Mechanics

- Quotations and Citations
- Sentence Structure

Listening and Speaking

- Oral Presentations
- Persuasive Speech Unit

Supplies:

You are expected to be organized in the way that works best for you. You need to have supplies to complete daily assignments. Some very strong *suggestions* are:

- Notebook with dividers (one for every subject)
- Lined notebook paper
- Pen and pencils
- Index cards (or index card app)
- Binder Reminder
- Headphones/earbuds

Standards - Common Core Based Education

Writing is a skill that you will need the rest of your life. There will be no escaping it - sending e-mails, text, essays exams, memos, and more. In this course, you will write, write, and rewrite using the Jane Schaffer Method because that is what is currently used at WHS. You will work to bring your writing to a level that prepares you for the academic writing you will do in high school and in life.

The ability to read critically is also a skill that you will learn. This helps you to become a more thoughtful and deeper reader of your own work. You will combine all this knowledge with your own experience and connect to the wider world.

Writers learn to write by reading, and readers learn to write by writing. It's all circuitous. You can't write well without reading well. We will do both.

AR:

Each student will be expected to earn 30 AR points each quarter which will be 15% of their grade.

Before any novel is read, however, you need to make sure it is on the AR list, get parent approval and, last, teacher approval. No student will be allowed to test for a novel that they did not get approval for first. Based on your score, you will receive points towards your goal. Scores below 60% do not receive any points. **Reminder:** tests taken in previous years even during elementary school cannot be taken again.

Support:

After checking my website, if you are still confused or concerned, don't hesitate to contact me. There are several ways to reach me:

- Email - MsNatividad529@gmail.com (this is the BEST way to reach me!)
- Parent Conference - scheduled through your counselor

Parent Portal:

Parent Portal is the online system you can use to view information, such as grades, at the following URL:

<https://parents.wvusd.k12.ca.us/abi>

You will need a login and password to enter the site, which you should have received at registration. Should you need that information, please contact the office. I will keep my grades updated in Parent Portal on a regular basis, so please utilize this tool often.