

**Course:** Literature and Language **Instructor:** Jan Snyder-Hess

**Academic Year:** 2008-09

**Course Description:** This literature-based curriculum will include a close reading of short stories, novels, poems, and dramas. The correlation between real-life and literature is an integral component of all levels of English instruction. Students will review grammar skills and engage in regular vocabulary study, which are necessary tools for future success in writing and standardized testing. In addition to the assigned reading, students will self-select either a work of fiction or non-fiction each trimester. Following your completion of the book, you will have a scheduled private discussion with me about its content. It is important for students to come to class prepared and to participate actively in class discussions, sharing ideas, asking questions, and listening attentively.

**Textbooks:**

1. *Prentice Hall Literature*, Gold Level
2. *Vocabulary for Achievement*, Level 3
3. *Prentice Hall Writing and Grammar Exercises*

**Required Materials:**

1. Large 3-ring binder with dividers
2. Lined paper
3. Pencils and blue or black pens – Do not use colored pens!
4. Composition journal or 1-Subject notebook

**Grading Procedure:** Your trimester grade will be based on the following combination of assessments:

Tests: 30% Final Exam: 25%

Essays: 30%

Quizzes: 15%

**Grading Scale:**

1. to A+ 90-100 D- to D+ 60-69

2. to B+ 80-89 F 0-59
3. to C+ 70-79

### **Homework/ Classroom Policies:**

1. Homework is generally not collected or graded, but it *IS* checked regularly and it is expected that you will be diligent in its completion. In fact, homework completion counts toward your effort grade.
2. It is important to complete reading assignments on time, since a “reading check” may be given unannounced at any time.
3. A graded assignment must be submitted on the due date, or risk the penalty of losing 10% per late day. This is a school-wide policy that is strictly enforced.
4. Always be neat, using your best handwriting skills.
5. Be prepared! Come to class with your appropriate books and all materials, including homework.
6. You are responsible for any work or information that is given during class in your absence. Be pro-active! You may email me for information about missed work.
7. Be on time!
8. Be respectful of others and their property.
9. Gum chewing and eating food is not permitted. Bottled water is acceptable.
10. Do not use your desks as a trash receptacle. Use the waste basket!

### **Course Outline**

The following schedule lists primary assignments of literature and grammar. There will be regular quizzes and tests in all content areas that are not included in this outline.

### **Trimester 1**

## **Week Topics**

- 1 introductions; literary terms; plagiarism
- 2 short stories; grammar (nouns)
- 3 short stories; grammar (nouns and pronouns)
- 4 short stories; grammar (pronouns and antecedents)
- 5 short stories; grammar (types of pronouns /verbs)
- 6 short stories; grammar (verbs/modifiers); personal narrative
- 7 *The Book Thief*; grammar (modifiers)
- 8 *The Book Thief*; grammar (prepositions)
- 9 *The Book Thief*; grammar (conjunctions/interjections)
- 10 Review for final
- 11 Review for final; final exam

## **Trimester 2**

### **Week Topics**

1. *Romeo and Juliet*; grammar (parts of the sentence)

### **Thanksgiving Vacation**

2. *Romeo and Juliet*; grammar (parts of the sentence)
3. *Romeo and Juliet*; grammar (parts of the sentence)
4. *Romeo and Juliet*; grammar (prepositions and prepositional phrases)

### **Christmas Vacation**

5. grammar (conclude and test); grammar (appositive/app. phrases)
6. Short stories; grammar (infinitives and infinitive phrases)
7. Short stories; grammar ( participles and participial phrases)
8. Poetry ; grammar (gerunds and gerund phrases); compare/contrast essay
9. Poetry; grammar( clauses, independent and subordinate)

10. Poetry; grammar ( adjective clauses and noun clauses)
11. Poetry; grammar( adverb clauses and noun clauses)
12. Grammar( sentence types and structures); expository essay

### **Trimester 3**

#### **Week Topics**

1. *Animal Farm*; grammar ( misplaced and dangling modifiers)
2. *Animal Farm*; grammar ( sentence openers and variety)
3. *Animal Farm*; grammar ( punctuation)
4. Grammar review; persuasive essay

#### **Spring Break**

5. *To Kill a Mockingbird*; grammar ( cases of pronouns)
6. *To Kill a Mockingbird*; grammar (subject/ verb agreement)

#### **Easter Break**

7. *To Kill a Mockingbird*; grammar ( pronoun/antecedent agreement)
8. *To Kill a Mockingbird*; grammar ( special problems in agreement)
9. *To Kill a Mockingbird*; grammar (begin review for final)
10. *To Kill a Mockingbird*; grammar ( continue reviewing)
11. Review for final; analytical essay
12. Finals and graduation

### **Course Outline**

## I. Vocabulary

1. *Vocabulary for Achievement, Level 3*
2. Taken from literature

## II. Grammar

### 1. Parts of speech

1. Nouns/pronouns
2. Verbs
3. Modifiers: adjectives/adverbs
4. Prepositions
5. Conjunctions/interjections

### 2. Parts of the sentence

#### 1. Subject

#### 2. Predicate

#### 3. Complements

##### 1. Direct objects

##### 2. Indirect objects

##### 3. Predicate nominatives

##### 4. Predicate adjectives

##### 3. Phrases: prepositional, appositive, verbals

##### 4. Clauses: independent, subordinate

##### 5. Sentence Types and structures

##### 6. Misplaced/dangling modifiers

#### G. Sentence Openers and variety

#### H. Cases of pronouns

#### I. subject/verb agreement

J. pronoun/antecedent agreement

III. Literature

1. Literary elements
2. Short stories (may include the following:)
  1. “The Most Dangerous Game”
  2. “The Cask of Amontillado”
  3. “Red-headed League”
  4. “The Interlopers”
  5. “The Scarlet Ibis”
  6. “The Necklace”
  7. “The Birds”
  8. “Rules of the Game”
  9. “Blues Ain’t No Mockin Bird”
3. Novels
  1. *The Book Thief*
  2. *Animal Farm*
  3. *To Kill a Mockingbird*
4. Drama
  1. *Romeo and Juliet*
5. Poetry selections
6. Composition
  1. Personal narrative

2. Compare/contrast
3. Persuasive
4. Analytical