



**English 10 Advanced--Ms. Finn
Cornwall Central High School
2023-2024
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“Literature is the one place in any society where, within the secrecy of our own heads, we can hear voices talking about everything in every possible way.”-Salman Rushdie

10 Advanced English is a rigorous pre-college level course designed to challenge students to improve their critical thinking skills, strengthen their ability to analyze literature and to improve their writing skills. Students will read and analyze a broad and challenging range of texts. Through close reading and continuous writing, students will develop their expository expertise with a greater awareness of an author’s purpose, the needs of an audience, the demands of the subject, and the resources of language. Course readings will feature narrative, exploratory, expository, analytical, personal and argumentative texts from a variety of writers and historical contexts, allowing students to enter into multiple dialogues with authors. We will use the 10 Advanced texts to analyze how an author uses rhetorical devices to persuade, to inform, to enlighten, and to entertain.

You will be expected to meet the following course objectives:

- Read and understand challenging texts
- Discuss and analyze a variety of literary genres
- Develop a variety of essay writing skills
- Develop and apply research skills
- Develop effective reading and note taking skills
- Expand vocabulary and review grammar concepts
- Study the art of rhetoric and employ rhetorical strategies
- Analyze, compare and evaluate the literary strategies authors use in selected genres
- Identify complex central ideas in literature and effectively develop and analyze them
- Actively participate in class discussions and collaborative work
- Abide by MLA guidelines

Reading List

Texts this year will include **some or all** of the following:

Animal Farm (Orwell), *Macbeth* (Shakespeare), *Lord of the Flies* (Golding), *Night* (Wiesel), *The Crucible* (Miller), and *The Scarlet Letter* (Hawthorne). Additionally, we will read a variety of short stories, essays and poems. We will also be doing a research unit and a current events independent study. **Please keep in mind that our reading list is not set in stone; as the year progresses, we may replace texts as necessary.**

Independent Reading

Students will read books independent of class instruction (AIR) at various points throughout the year. I will provide students with a list of suggested reading titles, but students will also have the freedom to choose their own books.

Classroom Policies and Expectations:

The expectations in English class reflect the Cornwall Central School District standards. You are expected to be respectful toward your classmates, your teacher, and yourself. You are required to come to class on time, prepared and ready to participate in class discussions and/or writing and reading exercises. You are also expected to comply with the school's safety procedures and guidelines.

Materials

Each day you will be expected to bring the following items to class:

- A large 2-section notebook with pockets and perforated pages **OR** a binder with loose leaf and dividers
- Agenda (assignments will always be posted in Google Classroom, however)
- Text we are currently reading
- Pen(s) /Pencil(s)
- Highlighter
- Post-it Notes/Post-it Flags

Evaluation is based on the following:

Homework/Reader Response/Classwork/Participation (5-20 points):

The amount of time spent on homework depends on the text we are reading. Homework will typically be worth 5-20 points, depending on the nature of the assignment. Sometimes I will collect and formally grade homework assignments; at other times, I will simply circulate and check your homework in class. All homework, unless I collect it, should be completed in the **homework section** of your notebook.

You will be keeping an in-class section in your notebook throughout the year. It will serve as a place for you to respond to prompts from class and to include your reflections on the texts and our class discussions. I strongly encourage you to organize this from the start. Try to **date each entry**.

Every student is expected and encouraged to participate. Positive participation in English class means:

- Being on time and prepared for class
- Asking questions (both clarifying questions and discussion questions)
- Demonstrating a willingness to help classmates
- Responding to directions or a writing prompt on the board without being reminded
- Actively listening and taking notes
- Sharing in discussions
- Remaining respectful even during disagreements

Quizzes (5-50 points):

You will have reading quizzes during each unit. There will be times when I will allow you to use your notes, so it is imperative that you keep your notes consistent and neat.

Over the course of the year, we will expand your vocabulary. **We will have vocabulary quizzes approximately once per quarter.**

Essays/Projects/Tests (40-100 points):

This year will be a writing-intensive year. You will be writing both on-demand and out of class essays throughout the year. These essays will serve as a way to assess your understanding of a text, your ability to write clearly and effectively and to continually hone your writing skills. Sometimes I will assign projects-individual and group-as alternative forms of assessment. Occasionally you will take an exam to assess your understanding.

Grading:

This is a pre-AP level course and performance expectations are appropriately high. The workload is challenging. Coursework will sometimes involve long-term writing and reading assignments, **so effective time management is key**. Because of the demanding curriculum, students must have a command of writing conventions and possess an ability to read and discuss prose on a sophisticated level.

The following updates have been made to our 2023-2024 grading policy. In classes where midterms are required this assessment will be 6% of a student's overall grade. In classes that end

in finals/regents exams, these assessments will count as 10% of a student's overall grade. Below lists the breakdown for most full and half year courses.

Type of Course	Quarter %	Midterm %	Final/Regents %	Total %
Full Year Course	21%	6%	10%	100%
Half Year Course	45%	N/A	10%	100%

In courses that do not end in a regents or final exam, quarters will be worth 25% for a full year and 50% for a half year.

Late Assignments:

Absence is not an excuse for a missing or late assignment. In the age of technology, the expectation is that work is submitted electronically (via google classroom or email) in the event that a student cannot be present in class. If a student has a legitimate excuse, it is their responsibility to reach out to me to determine whether an extension is warranted.

Writing assignments (final drafts), projects, or long term assignments:

The English Department policy states that late essays will be penalized **10 points for every day an assignment is late**. After five days (including weekends) the late assignment, project or presentation will **NOT** be accepted and you will receive a 0.

Homework:

Due to the varied nature of homework assignments throughout the course of a year, the penalties for late work will reflect the expectations of the assignment. Typically, homework assignments to be reviewed the next day in class will receive a penalty of 0 if not turned in on time. If you miss class, it is YOUR responsibility to show me the assignment for credit when you return.

Quiz and test make-up:

It is the student's responsibility to make up quizzes and tests within **five days of returning to class**. Work not made up in the allotted time will result in a 0.

Extra Help

If at any time you are interested in checking on your progress, please reach out to me in person or via email.

To foster independence and encourage student ownership, the procedure for a student who is unsure about a grade is as follows: 1. Request and schedule a meeting with me (most

grade questions can be resolved at this step). **2. If the grade in question is unresolved after the student-teacher meeting, contact me about scheduling a parent teacher meeting.**

Tardiness

It is your responsibility to be on time. **If you are tardy three times, you will be assigned detention.**

Plagiarism

I do not anticipate that plagiarism will be an issue in this class. If you are not familiar with Turnitin.com, please let me know ASAP so we can sign you up. Otherwise, you should check to make sure you can log in to Turnitin.com sooner rather than later. Should an issue with plagiarism arise, disciplinary action will be taken as outlined in the student handbook.

CCHS Cell Phone Classroom Contract

As everyone knows, cell phones and airpods/earbuds/head phones cause distractions. It is for that reason that in the 2023-2024 school year, cell phone use will be *strictly* prohibited by the English department (unless otherwise instructed for the given lesson), as per the CCSD's Code of Conduct Off and Away Policy. By signing this contract, students and parent(s)/guardians acknowledge the following rules. Please note that this policy will be enforced whether or not the contract is signed and returned.

- ❖ Upon entering the classroom, students are required to place their cell phone out of sight, preferably in their bookbag/purse-- NOT in their pocket/on their person. Airpods/headphones must also be put away with the phone.
- ❖ Should the student be caught violating the classroom guidelines for cell phone use, the following protocol will follow:

CCSD's Code of Conduct contains a cell phone policy of "off and away".

- **1st offense-** Warning
- **2nd offense-** Warning and a teacher phone call home
- **3rd offense -** Teacher phone call home and lunch or after school detention with teacher.
- **4th offense and beyond-** The student will receive an office referral.

****NOTE:** Refusal to put the phone away will automatically result in the 3rd offense.**

****After reading and reviewing the course policies and expectations and the cell phone policy, please complete the Google Questionnaire and submit it to me by Thursday, September 7th. This will count as a homework grade. ****