

English Language Arts Literary Texts 10

Semester 1 (September 2024– January 2025)

Mrs. Stewart
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Welcome to English 10! We will be covering the three strands of the English Curriculum in all sorts of creative ways.

In our **reading** program, you will engage in independent and shared reading, and will respond to your reading through journals, discussions, projects, mini-assignments, and sometimes quizzes and tests. You will be required to read independently during SSR, and it is expected that you will also read at home, especially with regards to the novel study. Our novel has a large number of chapters, and the expectation is that by grade ten, many of those chapters will be read independently at home in order to enhance the flow of the unit. You will not complete projects on SSR books, rather you will conference with me and be asked to complete demand activities on your book, some of which might be presentation based. I have a classroom library, which you can use to sign out books, and of course, you can access the many resources that are available in our school library.

Our **writing** program will take the form of a writing workshop, which means that students may travel through the writing process at different speeds. Writing workshop will always begin with a quick write or a mini-lesson on grammar, writing techniques, the writing process, or issues concerning our current genre. You must have a **hard or soft cover writer's notebook**, which will be used for quick writes, journaling, prewriting, and drafting.

You will also have the opportunity to brush up on your **speaking and listening** skills, which are an important part of the provincial curriculum. I realize that speaking in front of peers is an area of struggle for many students, but you will be expected to contribute to discussions in partners, small groups, and whole class discussions.

Unit 1- Writing Strategies (Personal Essay)

This introductory unit will allow us to review some of the writing strategies that you have learned over the past few years in a writing workshop approach. Through the use of mentor texts, you will learn some creative craft techniques for essay writing. This mini-unit will prepare you for the larger essay unit second semester.

Unit 2- Short Stories

- Review of the reading comprehension strategies (connecting, questioning, predicting, inferring, determining importance, visualizing)
- Short story terms and characteristics
- Reading as a writer, with particular reference to the writing of suspense
- If time, students will write their own piece of flash fiction.

Unit 3- Novel Study: *To Kill a Mockingbird*

- This will be a project-based unit that includes further exploration of reading and writing strategies as well as oral discussion and presentation skills.
- Primary focus on response using quotation integration
- Context study – Social inequality in Canada

The course will be marked as follows:

Class Mark (participation at home and in class; formative assessments)	10%
Short Fiction	20%
Personal Essay	10%
<i>To Kill a Mockingbird</i>	20%
Independent Literature Studies	10%
Final Exam (Incentives, 15% or 50%, apply with 7 or fewer missed classes)	30%

Important information regarding late assignments: All assignments are due by 3:30 pm on the due date. As per MVHS Late Assignment Guidelines, 10% will be deducted for each day an assignment is late for the first four days. The assignment will be valued at 60% for days 5, 6, and 7. After day 7, the mark is zero.

Materials Needed:

- Access to Microsoft Teams (for viewing assignments)
- Binder with loose-leaf (can be shared with other classes)
- Pens and Pencils
- Highlighters
- Post-it Notes

Communication: All handouts, assignments, and feedback will be in Microsoft Teams, so this should be checked regularly. I can be reached through Teams, or by email

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