



8th Grade English Syllabus

Welcome to the 2023-2024 school year! We are excited to be your English teachers and look forward to a productive and successful year. Our goal is to give you the reading, writing, speaking, and listening skills you will need to be successful next year in high school.

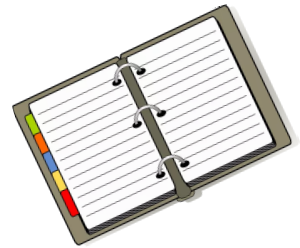
Our Contact Information: Feel free to contact us if you have any questions!

Mrs. Griffith: jgriff1@dryden.k12.ny.us

Mrs. Munson: amunson1@dryden.k12.ny.us



Core Units and Independent Reading: Below you will find a list of the core topics we will cover. Please note that we will be discussing some sensitive issues this year, especially when we talk about World War II, the Holocaust, and refugees. Additionally, throughout the year, students will spend time reading books independently in class. These will be books students choose on their own. We highly encourage parents and guardians to be in conversation with your child about these topics and what they are reading in ELA class. As students move closer to high school they will be expected to read about and analyze difficult content.



Unit 1: World War II and The Holocaust

Unit 2: ELA and Science

Unit 3: Rites of Passage and Refugees

Unit 4: *A Midsummer Night's Dream* by William Shakespeare

Independent Reading Throughout the Year

Supplies: The following classroom materials are due in class by no later than **Monday, September 11th, 2023:**

- 2 Folders
- Small 1 inch Binder
- 2 Highlighters
- Pencils
- Beneficial Supplies:
 - Post-it Notes
 - Personal pencil sharpener
 - colored pencils
 - markers

Grading Policy: All of your grades will be put into one of the following categories and weighted accordingly:

25% Independent Reading: You will be practicing reading skills weekly with your chosen independent reading book. All activities related to your independent reading book will go here, including projects.

25% Class Reading: This includes any reading activity we do together in class.

25% Writing: This includes writing assignments such as journal entries, essays, and short answer responses.

25% Participation/Preparedness: This includes coming to class prepared and ready to learn with necessary materials (agenda, reading book, activity packets, folders, writing utensils etc.). Additionally, this includes participating in and presenting during class discussions.

Late Work Policy: You are expected to hand your work in on time:

- In order to receive **100%**, your work must be handed in **at the beginning of class**.
- After one week, **NO** late work will be accepted.

Classroom Expectations



Missed Work: It is YOUR responsibility to seek out the work you miss when you are absent. When you arrive back in the classroom, check in with the teacher to see what was missed. Remember: it is YOUR responsibility to make up all missed work!

Extra Help: We will always be available for extra help if you ever feel you do not understand a concept, feel lost, or are overwhelmed. It is our job and responsibility as your teachers to make sure you understand. We are also available during activity Period on Tues, but remember to sign up in advance for a bus pass.

DO NOT HESITATE to ask for help – it will only make you smarter!



Student Name: _____

Signature: _____

Parent Signature: _____

Parent Comments: