

Brentsville District High School
Language Arts – IGCSE 9
Mrs. Oberle
Room 1112
School Year 2014-2015
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Welcome to International General Certificate of Secondary Education First Language English (from now on, we will call it IGCSE English 9!). This class and the IGCSE English 10 class are actually one course. The works you will study have been divided into two years of study and assessment. At the end of your sophomore year, you will sit for a series of exams which will give you a cumulative score for your work in this two-year class. You will receive this score in the fall of your junior year. All assessments will be graded using rubrics designed from the Cambridge rules and regulations. All assessments will receive a Prince William County grade, but will have a corresponding IGCSE grade as well

Course Description:

In IGCSE English 9, students will increase their literary skills through the analysis of short stories, novels, drama, poetry, autobiography, biography, mythology, epic, as well as non-fiction. Students study vocabulary development, application of the information management process, and grammar. Grammar instruction includes sentence formation, usage, and mechanics. Students compose narrative, literary, expository, and technical writings, and literary skills. Reading increasingly complex texts and composing written and oral communications are emphasized in each unit. The skills of collecting, evaluating, and organizing information are used to create a research paper.

Materials:

Independent Reading Materials (students are responsible for getting their own copy of a teacher and parent approved novel to read in class each day)

Loose leaf, 3-ring binder * (no larger than 1 ½ inches...for English class only)

Dividers for the binder*

Blue or Black ink pens (These are **the only colors permitted** on work you would like graded)

Marble Composition book

3 x 5 index cards (100 count min.)

Tools for annotating/marking the texts

Post it pads

Agenda (provided by BDHS)

All of the following novels and plays:

Dangarembga, Tsitsi

Nervous Conditions

Dunmore, Helen	<u>The Siege</u>
Hill, Susan	<u>I'm the King of the Castle</u>
Lee, Harper	<u>To Kill A Mockingbird</u>
Miller, Arthur	<u>All My Sons</u>
Shakespeare, William	<u>Romeo and Juliet</u> (Cambridge School Edition Fourth edition 2014 ISBN 978-1-107-61540-3)

You must have your own copy of these texts in order to annotate them. Not having the appropriate text in class may have academic consequences (such as a reduced grade). See your counselor, assistant principal, or teacher if you have financial concerns with purchasing these materials for class.

*As a ninth grader, it is important to be organized! Everyone has their own way of being organized, but we have some specific requirements for English 9 that must be followed for class compliance. Students **must** bring the required text, independent reading, notebook, agenda and writing materials (meaning a blue or black ink pen) to class **every day**. Notebooks will be organized based on the requirements of our class. When you receive handouts or returned papers, keep these papers in the appropriate section of your binder.

ASSESSMENT OBJECTIVES:

Students will be assessed on their ability to:

1. show detailed knowledge of the content of literary texts in the three main forms (Drama, Poetry, and Prose);
2. understand the meanings of literary texts and their contexts, and explore texts beyond surface meanings to show deeper awareness of ideas and attitudes;
3. recognize and appreciate ways in which writers use language, structure, and form to create and shape meanings and effects;
4. communicate a sensitive and informed personal response to literary texts.

Course Schedule:

First Quarter

Short Stories

To Kill a Mockingbird by Harper Lee

Narrative Writing

*Second Quarter**

Drama: Romeo and Juliet by William Shakespeare

All My Sons by Arthur Miller

Poetry

Persuasive Writing

Third Quarter

Novels

I'm the King of the Castle by Susan Hill

Nervous Conditions by Tsitsi Dangarembga

Fourth Quarter

The Siege by Helen Dunmore

Odyssey

Research Paper

*Beginning second quarter, long term projects will be assigned with each unit. Students are encouraged to use their time wisely and begin working on these projects early to ensure they are completed by the due dates.

Assignments and Due Dates:

Part of a student's education is learning to accept responsibility for completing assigned work on time and without constant reminders. Therefore, assignments are accepted for full credit on the due date only, unless there are extenuating circumstances. If an assignment is not turned in when the teacher asks for it the assignment will be counted as late and will not be accepted. (Make-up work for excused absences will be accepted in accordance with PWCS make-up policy.) **The research paper will only be accepted on the designated due date!**

Homework will be assigned daily in the form of reading, writing, and /or studying. The work is to be completed before the student returns to class. No credit will be given for "forgotten" homework.

If you are absent, whether in body or spirit, you will be able to see what was done in class by checking with a classmate. There will be no excuses for not knowing what was done in class and having the proper assignments ready to be turned in when they are requested.

All writing assignments must be typed according to MLA format (12 point, Times New Roman or Courier New, double-spaced, 1 inch margins on all sides, page numbering in the upper right hand corner, name, class and date in the upper left, stapled **before** coming to class). Please note that technological difficulties are NOT an acceptable excuse for late work. Also, a flashdrive is NOT a paper! **Points will be reduced for poorly formatted papers.**

Grading Policy:

Grades will follow the county grading scale and students will be informed of the "weight" of a particular assignment when it is assigned.

Tests	3 grades (3x)
Quizzes	2 grades (2x)
Homework	1 grade (1x)

Classroom Expectations:

*Attend class on a regular basis

-All absences need to be excused in order to receive a grade for make-up work

-“Make-up” work will NOT be given out at the end of the marking period for work missed due to absences or simple failure to turn in an assignment when it was due

-It is the student’s responsibility to check School Fusion for any work missed due to an excused absence

-It is the student’s responsibility to coordinate with the teacher to make up any tests or quizzes missed due to an excused absence

*Show respect for your school, your classmates, and your teachers

-Raise your hand and wait to be called on if you wish to speak

-There will be no talking while someone else is speaking. This includes when the teacher is presenting a lesson, and when a student is sharing their thoughts with the class.

-Leave the room as you found it or better. There is a trash can by the door – PLEASE USE IT!

-Do not be late to class. You will be marked tardy if you are not in your seat when the bell rings. Please acquaint yourself with the tardy policy in the student hand book.

Plagiarism/Cheating:

- **Students are responsible for neither giving nor receiving assistance (written, orally, or otherwise) on tests, exams, or class assignments that are to be graded as the work of a single individual. It doesn’t matter whether it is intentional or accidental. Either way, it is plagiarism!**
- **Students who are found plagiarizing/cheating shall receive a zero for the assignment (whether it be an exam, test, quiz, homework or extra credit), their parent will be contacted and the student may be disciplined up to and including expulsion.**

Please return this sheet to teacher on the second day of class.

I have read the class syllabi, and I understand that in order to be successful, I must do my best to adhere to the requirements and rules listed for the class.

Student's Signature

Date

I have read the class syllabi, and I will contact you if I have any questions regarding my daughter's/son's progress in IGCSE English 9.

Parent's/Guardian's Signature

Date

Parent's/Guardian's Email

I will do everything in my power to help your daughter/son achieve success in IGCSE English 9. If she/he is not progressing well by interim time, I would like for us to meet and discuss what steps we can take to improve his/her achievement.

Teacher's Signature

Date

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