

Course Summary 2017-2018

Course	Teacher	Conference Times	Telephone	Room	E-mail
English 8 PAP	Ms. P. Power	A3: 12:20-1:40 B3: 12:20-1:40	(956)-388-2649	134	Patricia.Power @stisd.net

Purpose: An integrated language arts curriculum centers on the student, focuses on listening, speaking, reading, and composition, and anticipates the future. The 8th grade pre-AP program is intended to prepare students to continue to the Advanced Placement program in high school and to build toward completing higher education goals successfully. It is our endeavor to promote independent thinkers, effective communicators, and life-long learners.

Objective: The primary objective of English language arts is to further develop each student's ability to read, analyze and respond to a variety of literary genres; to listen and speak effectively for a variety of purposes, audiences, and modalities; and to apply the conventions of standard English to all written and spoken communications.

Assignments:

SUMMER READING IS ASSIGNED IN THE SPRING OF THE 7TH GRADE YEAR. RISING 8TH GRADERS ARE EXPECTED TO HAVE READ THE ASSIGNED WORK AND COMPLETED THE ACCOMPANYING WRITTEN TASKS (see STPA website) PRIOR TO THE FIRST DAY OF SCHOOL. THIS YEAR'S TITLE IS *The Giver* by Lois Lowery.

Homework and classwork/compositions WILL BE ASSIGNED to reinforce or extend classroom instruction. A class notebook will be maintained and brought to class on a daily basis. It will contain wide-ruled notebook paper and six dividers, labeled as follows: NOTES, CLASSWORK/HOMEWORK, VOCABULARY, TESTS/QUIZZES, COMPOSITIONS, and MISCELLANEOUS. This notebook will be graded intermittently each semester. **Students will be required to copy the Daily Assignments/Activities from the board to the daily school planner as the very first activity of each and every class day.** This will provide a running account of all work completed in and out of class. Homework will consist of outside reading and written exercises (specifically AR) and projects which support class objectives. Textbooks issued to students are to **stay at home until the end of the school year** for use there. A classroom set is maintained in the classroom for student use; therefore, it is NOT necessary to bring backpacks to class containing books. Parents are encouraged to monitor student's notebook and to discuss the ongoing class work throughout the term with their children. **Students HAVE homework M-F.**

Needed Supplies:

- 1 70-80-page spiral notebooks (expressive journal) Dialectical journal practice may be written on loose leaf paper and collated.
2. A dictionary/thesaurus (available for home use)
3. Paperbacks : *Fahrenheit 451* by Ray Bradbury/ *Night* by Elie Wiesel
4. Black/blue ink pens (ballpoint preferred) and highlighter (yellow preferred)
5. A 3-ring binder with paper (2-2.5") and 6 dividers (see above for tabs)
6. USB flash drive for saving digital files for use on home computer
7. Roll of Scotch tape
8. 4 variable dark-colored pens (ie, red, purple, green, turquoise, pink, fuschia)

NOTE: Library has laptops available for students with clear library records to check out, as need dictates, for the completion of on-line assignments requiring Study Island, Blackboard, Edmodo, or other on-line classroom resources.

Formative Assessment

Frequently during the year, formative assessments will be given. These will be in the form of homework, written or oral quizzes, readings, discussions, student writing, or tests. Teacher response will be given to these formative assessments. These ongoing assessments are critical to learning because they provide information to determine what essential learning we will target next. They also help influence and shape the process of learning while we still have time to improve before tests or grades for marking periods are recorded.

Grading Procedures & Weights:

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|--------------------------|-----|
| 1. Homework/Class work: | 30% |
| 2. Quizzes/AR Tests: | 15% |
| 3. Compositions: | 20% |
| 4. Tests/Major Projects: | 35% |

All work is due at the designated assigned time. Students absent on a day work is due shall receive a due date for the next day the student returns to class. All homework is due at the beginning of the class hour. Assignments submitted electronically are due before the beginning of class time on the scheduled due date. On some occasions there will be a need for makeup work assignments. Provisions will be made during tutorial for makeup work. Students must complete the makeup work in a timely manner, either during after-school tutorial or at some other mutually agreed upon time before or during the school day. The semester average will be based on the two nine week averages and the grade earned on the semester final exam. The final exam is worth 25% of the grade

Retesting procedures: Students may retake tests only upon receiving a grade below 70. Additional material during tutorial may be a prerequisite to taking a test. The time and date for all retests is determined by the teacher. Highest possible grade will be a 70. **Retests will not be given for quizzes, final drafts of compositions, projects, oral work, or AR tests.**
Semester finals may not be retested.

Pyramid of Interventions.

The objective of this class is for every student to successfully demonstrate mastery of the Texas Essential Knowledge and skills (TEKS) and the South Texas ISD Essential Learning Outcomes (ELO's) for English 8 Pre-AP/GT. Students demonstrating success will have flexibility in class activities and out of class time. Students not successfully progressing will be assisted by the in class pyramid of interventions and the campus pyramid of interventions. These interventions may include special class activities and assignments, required tutorial during the school day or after school, and other interventions specific to the student.

Teacher *Dept. Leader* *Principal*
Ms. P. Power Mrs. Elva Figueroa *E.F.* Mrs. Ana Castro *asc*

I have received a copy of this course outline, have been given the opportunity to ask questions, and understand the contents:

Student Signature

Date

Parent Signature

English I Pre AP

Course Summary 2017-2018

Instructor: Patricia Power • Room: 134

Conference Hour: A & B 12:20-1:40

Telephone: (956) 381-5522 • Email: patricia.power@stisd.net

Purpose: English I Pre AP is an advanced level course designed to prepare students for the AP English Literature classes. Students are expected to participate actively in daily activities and class discussions. Literature from the text, selected novels and other supplementary readings will also be incorporated throughout the year.

Objective: The objective of English I is to help each student acquire written and oral communication skills and to help develop an appreciation for various forms of literature.

Assignments:

1. **Homework:** May include the following: class notes, essays, and assignments.
2. **Quizzes:** Both announced and unannounced.
3. **Tests:** Unit tests, 2 semester finals. Teacher reserves the right to include other announced exams throughout the year.
4. **Projects:** Students will be assigned individual and group projects throughout the year. Essays may be counted as Project grades as well.
5. **Formative Assessment:** STISD promotes the use of formative assessments to check for student understanding and success. They are not the usual grade based assignments given on a daily basis in class, but they will be given periodically and feedback will be given to the student. Formative assessments may include quizzes, class work, homework, discussion, or tests. A grade will not be given since the purpose of formative assessments is to serve as a checking point for students and the teachers in regards to skill success.

Grading:	<u>Nine Weeks</u>	<u>100%</u>	<u>Semester *</u>	<u>100%</u>
	Homework/Classwork	30%	1 st 9 weeks	37.5%
	Quizzes	15%	2nd 9 weeks	37.5%
	Essays	20%	Semester Exam	25.0%
	Tests/Projects	35%		

*This process repeats itself during the 2nd semester.

All work is due at the beginning of class on the assigned date. If you are absent, work due on day of absence is to be turned in on the day of your return (regardless of A or B day). It is your responsibility to contact the teacher to see lessons/assignments were covered on day of absence. Tests and quizzes must be made up within two days.

Late work is to be avoided and may result in students having to attend intervention during SET.

Research projects are due on assignment dates only. If you are going to be absent the day your paper is due, have someone turn it in for you. NO EXCEPTIONS!

Retesting procedures: Retesting is for students who wish to achieve a higher mastery of what has been produced.

1. You must attend tutorial. *
2. Retest must occur within two weeks.
3. No grade higher than a 70 will be given.
4. Quizzes, nine weeks exam, and finals are excluded.

*If you earn below a 72 in a nine week period you are required to attend mandatory after-school tutorial. Details regarding times/days will follow once the Academic Team decides this.

Policy on Plagiarism: Plagiarism is the use of the words, facts, ideas or opinions of someone else without a specific acknowledgment of their source. It is an attempt, deliberate or unintentional to pass off borrowed sources as one's own work. To fail to indicate that you used sources of information and/or fail to identify them constitutes plagiarism. Any work which has been plagiarized will receive a 0, and the student will forfeit the right to re-do the assignment. The student may also face more serious consequences. Please refer to your student handbook. To avoid plagiarism, please learn to cite the sources, using MLA format.

Needed supplies:

- Textbooks (grammar and on-line lit. text provided; hard copies available for use in class)
- 3 ring binder
- Dividers
- Loose-leaf paper
- Blue or black ink pens
- 1 spiral notebook (expressive journal)
- College Dictionary (for use at home)
- USB drive to save digital information
- Yellow highlighter for close reading

Supplementary Texts: MYTHOLOGY by Edith Hamilton; Oedipus Rex by Sophocles; Romeo and Juliet and A Midsummer Night's Dream by Wm. Shakespeare; Lord of the Flies by William Golding; NIGHT by Elie Wiesel. When additional titles are requested, students will have adequate time to acquire these supplements before being used in class.

Please sign below as an acknowledgment of the class policies and commitments required. Return this portion by the next class period. It will count as the first homework grade. Keep the copy of the course summary in your binder.

Pyramid of Interventions

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Student Signature

Date _____

Parent Signature

P. Power- Instructor

Patricia J. Power

A. Castro-Principal

Ann L. Castro