

## 8<sup>th</sup> grade English

### Course Information for 2020-2021

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The following information will help students to be successful in my class. Keep this letter at home for reference throughout the school year.

#### Course Description:

This course encompasses a wide range of learning:

- Reading literature from various genres
- Vocabulary
- Grammar
- Narrative Writing
- Expository Writing
- Persuasive/Argumentative Writing
- Literary Response
- Research Paper

#### Required Supplies:

- One spiral notebook** - This item will be used for notes and writing practice.
- One package of highlighters** - These will be used for various activities in the writing process.
- One package of pens or pencils** - These are essential for the writing that we will be doing.
- Headphones or earbuds available** - Students will need these for interactive material.
- Mask** - Students will be collaborating on a daily basis as part of our required coursework, and this protection is needed. If things change, you and your student will be notified.

#### Grading Procedures:

- ★ Major Grades (tests, projects, papers, etc.) = 50%
- ★ Minor/Daily Grades (class work, quizzes, participation, etc.) = 50%

All work will be due on the assigned due date. Anyone who is in class to get the assignment is expected to turn it in on the due date. Late work results in 10 points deducted per day following the due date. Late work will **not** be accepted after 10 days following the day grades are entered in the gradebook. Per the 2020-2021 Parent-Student Handbook Appendix C:

## **Hawley Middle/High School Make-up Work Practice**

Hawley Middle and High School establishes a make-up work policy for late work in order to provide consistency throughout the school with regard to the acceptance and credit awarded for work that is turned in by students beyond a prescribed deadline. The expectation is that all students turn in assignments on time. When students do not turn in work on time, however, the staff encourages students to show responsibility for their learning by completing the assignments.

Students are expected to make up work expeditiously and to discuss arrangements with teachers outside of class upon their return. ***IT IS THE SOLE RESPONSIBILITY OF THE STUDENT TO COORDINATE ALL MAKE-UP AND LATE WORK.*** Hawley secondary teachers will ensure a consistency of make-up work expectations. Conditions and time limits for this work are established as follows:

### **MAKE-UP WORK**

1. Students who are absent one day will take previously announced quizzes and tests and hand in previously assigned work the day they return to class. Assignments made and/or quizzes/tests given in their absence should be made up within one (1) school day after returning to school.
2. Students who are absent for more than one day are responsible for conferring with the teacher to arrange a make-up schedule. Students will receive additional time to complete make-up work for two or more days of consecutive absence. For each day of absence, one day will be added to the make-up period. Again, work previously assigned is due the day of the student's return.
3. In the case of pre-arranged absences, students will deliver to teachers all previously assigned work due during their absence the day they return.
4. A student who is absent from class (e.g. for a field trip, medical appointment, excused tardy or clinic visit) but who is in attendance for any part of the day, is required to hand in assigned work and make up quizzes/tests on that day.
5. Assignments become late when a student turns in assignments after the equal number of days allowed for excused absences. Refer to each teacher's syllabus for determination of credit for late work.
6. Under extenuating circumstance(s) an extension may be granted for make-up work at the teacher's discretion.

All work is available to the student to correct for the maximum grade of 70 unless otherwise informed. Late work deduction points will not be able to be made up or corrected. Per the 2020-2021 Parent-Student Handbook Appendix C:

Grades should reflect the student's academic achievement. All students shall be given an opportunity to be **retested** after **reteaching** if he/she received a grade below 70 on any assessment or major class assignments. In this case, **the highest grade a student can earn will be a 70.**

If a student is caught cheating on any work, the student will receive a grade of 0 for that assignment/test and will not be given the chance to correct or retake it. Per the 2020-2021 Parent-Student Handbook Appendix C:

### **Academic Dishonesty**

Students found to have engaged in academic dishonesty shall have a zero recorded for assignments or tests with no opportunity for retesting and shall be subject to disciplinary penalties in accordance with the Student Code of Conduct. Academic dishonesty includes cheating or copying the work of another student, plagiarism, and unauthorized communication between students during an examination. The determination that a student has engaged in academic dishonesty shall be based on the judgment of the classroom teacher or another supervising professional employee, taking into consideration written materials, observation, or information from students. (EIA Local)

### **General Classroom Rules:**

1. Be respectful of people (teacher, students, and self) and of property at all times in this class.
2. Be prepared to give your best effort possible.

Social Contracts (agreements of behavior) will be created in each class period to define specific class rules.

**Consequences:** This series of consequences will be followed as necessary.

1. Teacher warning
2. Logical consequence for action
3. Parent call/contact and logical consequence for action
4. Behave Out (behavior removed out of classroom; office referral for serious offenses)

I am looking forward to a year full of growth - both educational and relational - for students and myself. Parents, you are a vital part of this growth as well. Please feel free to contact me with questions or concerns through email ( see top of letter ), Remind 101/app, or by calling the HMS office and leaving a message. I will get back with you as quickly as possible. My conference period is 10:13 - 11:00 am. This is going to be a fantastic school year even with the changes and craziness brought about by COVID-19!

Respectfully, Mrs. Fleener

-----Return ONLY the completed portion below by Fri., Aug. 28-----

**Mrs. Fleener - 8th English**

Student Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Class Period: \_\_\_\_\_

I have received and read a copy of the course information for 8th grade English.

\_\_\_\_\_  
Parent Signature                      Student Signature                      Date

**\*\*\*\*Parents, please fill this section out in your handwriting so that I know that the information below is coming from you. Thank you!\*\*\*\***

The preferred way to contact me about my child is by: **(circle at least 2 ways)**

Phone                      Text/Remind                      Email                      Mail

\_\_\_\_\_  
Parent Name (printed)                      Home Phone                      Cell Phone

\_\_\_\_\_  
Work Phone (if necessary)                      Email