

Mr. Payeur's English 20-1 Course Outline

Welcome! The six strands of language arts – reading, writing, viewing, listening, interpreting, and speaking – will be covered in a variety of ways with the focus being on **reading comprehension and analysis** and **essay writing and revision**.

Senior High English Language Arts explores a variety of texts, including those in written and visual formats, such as novels and films. As students mature, so do the themes and conversations around those themes as we analyse and study a variety of literature. Please take time to review the course outline. Any comments or questions you may have are welcome. Should there be a concern over a particular literary text, arrangements can be made if necessary to provide an alternative literary choice.

Unit 1: Short Stories - 2 wks.

Unit 2: Critical/Analytical Essay Planning – 1 wk.

Unit 3: Novel Study – Yann Martel's *Life of Pi* - 5 wks. (including full essay)

Unit 4: Poetry - 1 wk. - a great lead into...

Unit 5: William Shakespeare's *Macbeth* – 4 wks.

Unit 6: Film Study – Clint Eastwood's *Million Dollar Baby* - 1 wk. (if time)

Unit 7: Course Review and Final Exam Preparation – 1 wk.

FINAL EXAM

- Part A - a critical/analytical literary essay worth 50% of the final exam
- Part B – reading comprehension (multiple choice) worth the other 50% of the final

A. Evaluation

Homework Completion (BONUS!)	5%
Everything Else (Essays, Projects, Tests, etc.)	65%
FINAL EXAM (2 parts combined)	<u>30%</u>
TOTAL	100%

B. Resources and Supplies

-CHROMEBOOK!! Fully charged is helpful. EVERY. DAY. "But I forgot it/the battery's dead." Enjoy pens and hard copies (NO cell phones instead - more on that later.)

-texts (as needed), writing utensil (preferably pen), some paper, binder

***-personal novel - more to be explained soon**

C. Homework/Assignment Policies

- Homework assignments are due at the **beginning** of class.
- If you are truant (skipping) the day an assignment is due or an exam is written, it shall be counted as a zero.
- ***NEW**: Assignment due dates will be clearly communicated. If you have not handed in an assignment (without speaking to me about it) by the due date, it will be entered as NHI. If it still hasn't been handed in after a week and an email home, it will be entered as **P.E.D - Past Extended Deadline**, which makes it a **permanent** zero. Students can still Flex with a P.E.D. code, but the mark will not be changed. Arrangements for exceptional circumstances can be made, but must be done with the teacher **BEFORE** either deadline.
- Ideally, if you KNOW you are going to be absent ahead of time, you should come to see me **OR CHECK THE GOOGLE CLASSROOM** in order to get any materials we might cover on that day so you do not get behind. **When absent, it is your responsibility to catch up on missed classwork.**
- The week's general lesson topics will be written on the board.

LATES and ABSENCES:

For Lates - Complete a late slip located in the blue folder on the wall. Several lates in a short period of time will result in a DT, phone calls home, and upon your fifth late, you can be referred to the school's administration as per school policy for a late contract.

Absences - the school's policies and consequences for numerous absences and truancy are clearly stated in your agenda.

***Plagiarism** – taking someone else's work or ideas and passing them off as one's own (by copying a friend, downloading from the internet, etc.), either in whole, in part, or in concept, is a SERIOUS offence. **THIS INCLUDES THE USE OF A.I. (ChatGPT, etc.).**

-Work that is suspected of being copied OR ADAPTED from A.I. sources will NOT be accepted and graded until the student has proven, under direct supervision of the teacher without access to technology (Chromebook, phone, etc.), that they are capable of producing the quality of work they are claiming is original. Ultimately, a student has to prove that they know what they are saying they know.

Students caught plagiarising may:

- receive a mark of zero
- redo the assignment under direct teacher supervision (at lunch or after school).
- have their parents contacted by the teacher, explaining the issue and purpose of the consequences given

STUDENTS SHOULD NOTE that:

- Even if only brief parts of an assignment are plagiarised or reworded, the entire assignment is considered invalid.
- Those who allow their work to be copied are aiding in the process and therefore **JUST AS RESPONSIBLE AND LIABLE** to be held to the same consequences as the student who handed in the plagiarised work.

The Other Basics

Washroom/Drink Break – you need NOT ask my permission to go, simply use the sign-out log by the door. **Only ONE person at a time may be absent from the room for this purpose.** **PLEASE WAIT FOR AN APPROPRIATE TIME TO LEAVE** (like independent work time, NOT during important discussions).

-Also, **no personal devices in washrooms (see below).**

Cell phones (+ other personal devices):

- At the start of class, personal devices are powered down, not on your person, and placed in the “Cell Safe.”
- Chromebook dead or forgotten? Cell phones NOT to be used. Hard copies will be provided as necessary and available.
- **No personal devices in the washrooms. Just leave it in the Cell Safe.**
- Students with severe medical issues (ie. Type 1 Diabetes) that require their phone for medical purposes ARE allowed to hold on to them and use them as needed.

Hats – please hang them on the hat rack as you enter. This includes ANYthing wearable on the head – toques, hoodies, lampshades, underwear, etc.

Food – NONE, please. Finish or put away whatever you’re eating BEFORE entering the class. Open food will be confiscated... and possibly shared.

Drinks – liquids of a NON-alcoholic nature may accompany you to class. Please recycle.

Music– Earbuds/headphones must be removed during instruction. When the class has been given time to work independently, you may listen to music at a volume that does not disturb others THROUGH YOUR CHROMEBOOK. **Music is NOT permitted during exams and major assignments.**

“Success is simple. Do what’s right, the right way, at the right time.”

-Arnold H. Glasgow

"Will this be on the test?"

"Right, about the test. Listen closely: the test will measure whether you are **an informed, engaged, and productive citizen of the world**, and it will be administered in bars and hospitals and dorm rooms and offices and in places of worship and yes, even schools. You will be tested on first dates and job

interviews, while watching football, and while scrolling through your Twitter feed. The test **will judge your ability to think** about things other than celebrity marriages, whether you will be persuaded by empty political rhetoric, and whether you'll be able to place your life and your community in a broader context. The test will last **YOUR ENTIRE LIFE**, and it will be comprised of millions of decisions which, taken together, will make your life **YOURS**. And everything - EVERYTHING - will be on it."

-John Green

Parental Consent:

One of the major course texts, the novel *Life of Pi*, involves some periodic discussions about a few major world religions. The Alberta Government requires parents to be informed of this ahead of time and provide consent for their child to read it. The approximate dates of this novel study will be October 6 to November 14. If you do not wish your child to participate in this novel study, an alternative reading and work will be assigned to be completed independently over the course of those dates.

By signing below and having your child return this, you are agreeing to allow your child to participate in the *Life of Pi* unit. Please have your child return this to their English teacher as soon as possible. Thank you.

Parent name (printed): _____

Parent signature: _____

Date: _____