

# English 2

“A word after a word after a word is power.” – Margaret Atwood

## Class Expectations

### Respect

yourself, your peers, your teacher, and your surrounding

### Participate

appropriately

### Follow

all directions quickly, the first time given

## Course Description

Welcome to 10th Grade English! Our focus this school year will be learning and developing our skills as critical thinkers, readers, writers, speakers, and listeners. The development and mastery of these important literacy skills not only is important to achieving success in the English classroom, it is a critical component of achieving success in other school subjects, building strong relationships with others, and attaining a flourishing career as an adult. Basically, the quality of life you experience now through adulthood will depend on how well you read, write, and communicate with others.



## Positive Rewards for Positive Conduct

Your appropriate behavior in class assures everyone of an environment conducive to learning. Some possible rewards for continuous appropriate behavior are: intrinsic value (satisfaction of learning), improved skills, verbal praise, positive note to parents, classroom treats, and special class activities and privileges.

## BYOT Policy: (Bring Your own Technology)

- When appropriate and with teacher permission, students may use their own smart phones, tablets, and/or laptops in class for **academic** purposes.
- BYOT is for academic purposes only and is never permission for personal use.

• If BYOT policies are not followed, then students will work their way through the DHS discipline steps and can result in the loss of BYOT privileges.

- A student must have a VCS “Electronic Information Services

Acceptable Use Agreement for Students” form signed and on file at DHS in order to participate in BYOT.

## Classroom Discipline, Tardy, & BYOT Steps

- Step 1: Verbal Warning
- Step 2: Time Out or Seat Change
- Step 3: Parent Contact: verbal or written
- Step 4: Discipline Referral

WHY READ 20 MINUTES AT HOME?		
Student A Reads	Student B Reads	Student C Reads
❖ 20 minutes per day.	❖ 5 minutes per day.	❖ 1 minute per day
❖ 3,600 minutes per school year.	❖ 900 minutes per school year.	❖ 180 minutes per school year.
❖ 1,800,000 words per year.	❖ 282,000 words per year.	❖ 8,000 words per year.
❖ Scores in the 90 <sup>th</sup> percentile on standardized tests.	❖ Scores in the 50 <sup>th</sup> percentile on standardized tests.	❖ Scores in the 10 <sup>th</sup> percentile on standardized tests.
If they start reading for 20 minutes per night in Kindergarten, by the end of 6 <sup>th</sup> grade, Student A will have read for the equivalent of 60 school days, Student B will have read for 12 schooldays, and Student C will have read for 3.		
WANT TO BE A BETTER READER? SIMPLY READ.		

## GRADE SCALE

- A = 90 - 100%
- B = 80 - 89%
- C = 70 - 79%
- D = 60 - 69%
- F = 0 - 59%



## GRADE BREAKDOWN

### Summatives = 60%

(Essays, VCS Performance Tasks, VLT District Assessments, project-based learning, and writing assignments to assess mastery of skills)

### Formatives = 40%

(Classwork, homework, quizzes)

## CLASS SUPPLIES

- 1½" or 2" 3-ring binder
- 5 divider tabs
- Highlighter
- Paper and pen or pencil

## CLASSROOM DONATIONS NEEDED

- !!!COPY PAPER!!!
- Kleenex
- Colored pencils

## Focus

Focus is a web-based tool provided by Volusia County Schools

(<http://myvolusiaschools.org>) that allows twenty-four-hour access to student grades. Each parent and student is assigned his or her own login and password.

## Assessment Based Grades

In accordance with the VCS Secondary Grading Guidelines, each student's English grade will be based on **diagnostic** (0%), **formative** (40%), and **summative** (60%) assessment grades. Diagnostic assessments are given **prior** to instruction to provide information on learner readiness; they can also be given during instruction to target areas of need for intervention. Formative assessments are essential **practice** opportunities and an assessment **for** learning. Summative assessments are a measurement **of** learning and determine whether or not a standard(s) (non-negotiable academic goal) has been met.

Even though summative assessments are often essays and not traditional "tests," they are still authentic assessments. The expectation is that all assessments will be written **in the classroom**, under teacher supervision. This is done to ensure that all assessments are original to each student and allows the teacher to assess each student, at every stage of the writing process, from planning through publication (final draft).

## Remediation of Summative Assessments

In accordance with the VCS Secondary Grading Guidelines, students in an ELA class are required to show acceptable progress in **all** summative assessments. Therefore, **all** summative assessments that do not meet proficiency (70% or higher), will receive intervention(s) of the standard(s) not met. In each nine (9) week grading period, students will have the opportunity to remediate at least one (1) summative assessment, with teacher discretion.

When summative assessments are remediated, students will have the opportunity to revise, edit, and rewrite their writing piece; thus, reinforcing the writing process, with the higher of the two grades recorded in Gradebook. This opportunity is given because it is our sincere hope that all students will not only be successful but also become powerfully literate young adults throughout their academic careers at Heritage Middle School!

## Absence Protocol

When a student is absent, it is the student's responsibility to collect any missing classwork, quizzes, or assigned homework that was due. Please check the class "ABSENT WORK" binder or Focus for missing assignments and handouts. Students and parents will know that an assignment is **missing by an "M" assigned** to an assignment in Focus. (As per VCS Grading Guidelines, a student has one day to make up any missing work for each day a student is absent. It is teacher discretion to extend that timeline.)

## Homework

Homework includes any classwork that was started in class and may not have been completed by the end of the class period. Homework is a formative grade and will reinforce the content and skills being taught in the classroom. Formatives are one and done, and **cannot** be remediated.

## Required - but not exhaustive list of classroom - Readings

"What of This Goldfish, Would You Wish"/"I am Very Real"/"Statement by Alabama Clergymen"/"Letter from Birmingham Jail"/ "The Tragedy of Macbeth"/"Why Read Shakespeare"/"The Kohlberg Dilemmas"/"Men and Women Use Different Scales to Weigh Moral Dilemmas"/"Is There a Cheaters High"/"Called Out"/"Simplexity"/"Revolution"/ Coming to Our Senses"/"The Metamorphosis"/"The Fall of Icarus"/"Musee des Beaux Arts"/"Landscape with the Fall of Icarus"/ "Doing Nothing is Doing Something"/"The Lottery"/"Antigone"/"The Importance of being Earnest"/"Mirror"/"The Sunflower"/"The Lottery"

**PLEASE READ THE COURSE INFORMATION, SIGN, AND RETURN THIS SHEET TO MRS. DALIA**

Parents/Guardians: Please read carefully before giving your consent

Please sign below to indicate that you have read the syllabus for Mrs. Dalia's English class and that you will help your student be accountable for the information provided in the syllabus. If you have questions about the course or your student's work, please do not hesitate to contact me; email is the best way to reach me quickly.



**HOMEWORK:** Please email me at [kmdalia@volusia.k12.fl.us](mailto:kmdalia@volusia.k12.fl.us). Please include your son or daughter's first and last name and what period they have English. This will ensure that I have a working email address for the 2019-2020 school year. I like to email home when FOCUS has been updated or when any major homework assignments have been assigned. It helps to bridge the gap between home and school, ensuring we are all on the same page and a successful school year. 😊

**SOCIAL MEDIA:** If you do not want your child's photo to appear on my (*academic*) Twitter (@teachonstage), or (class) Instagram (@mrsdaliasclass) account, please make a note below.



**PERMISSION SLIP:** During some of our thematic units, there might be an occasion to show film or film excerpts. Below is a list of films that *might be* shown in class this year to enhance our curriculum. Please make a note if you do not want your child to watch any of the films or documentaries listed below.

- *Life is Beautiful* **PG 13**
- *Macbeth* (scenes from the stage play- not Rated R films)
- YouTube or television clips relevant to the curriculum, as needed

I give my child, \_\_\_\_\_, permission to participate in Mrs. Dalia's English class social media, class readings, and film viewings.

\_\_\_\_\_  
Parent/Guardian Printed Name

\_\_\_\_\_  
Parent/Guardian's Signature