

DESCRIPTION AND REQUIREMENTS

Freshman English CP is an overview of literary genres and themes, as well as an ongoing review of English grammar and vocabulary.

OBJECTIVES

During this course, you will learn to:

- become a more careful and critical reader
- understand other's perspectives through reading, writing, and discussing
- extend your oral and written vocabulary
- learn and apply elements of style, grammar, and mechanics
- use and analyze literary devices and rhetorical strategies
- write as a means of learning
- connect literature to your own experiences
- use your imagination

ACTIVITIES

In order to achieve these objectives, you will:

- read, discuss, and do written assignments on selections from *Holt Elements of Literature*, novels, and various handouts
- write essays, narratives, poetry, reflections, and other various responses based on personal experience, imagination, and literature
- complete exercises and take tests in *Vocabulary for the High School Student* (Amsco) and *Vocabulary Workshop, Level D*
- complete grammar assignments in *Daily Grammar Practice* and Sadlier-Oxford's *Writing for Grammar*, as well as take grammar tests as needed
- keep a notebook on class lectures, discussions, media, and literature

TEXTS

Holt Elements of Literature, 3^d Course
Daily Grammar Practice, Student Workbook, Grade 9
Grammar for Writing, Sadlier-Oxford (Blue)
The Pearl, John Steinbeck

MATERIALS

You will need to bring a **pen** or a pencil and **paper** to class every day, as well as **all needed texts**. You will need most of the grammar and writing texts every day; literature texts will be assigned as you move through the semester. Failure to bring any one of these items **can result in detention**. You must have and keep an orderly notebook. I require a **3-ring binder (1") with 5 pocket dividers** and ample college-ruled notebook paper.

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GRADING AND EVALUATION

The St. Pius grading scale is located in your Student Handbook. In order to calculate grades, I will use the following system:

Projects/Tests	20%
Formal Writing Assignments	20%
Homework	15%
Quizzes	10%
Participation	15%
Final Exam	20%

RULES AND EXPECTATIONS

Following an *excused* absence, you may turn in **late work** according to the arrangement you make with me. You are responsible for initiating this process. Otherwise, I accept late work at a loss of ten points per day. When you are absent, check with me on your first day back (you will receive an "In Absentia" form), or email me from home at jcollier@spx.org. A missed test must be made up the first day back or no later than three days after your return. Again, you are responsible for initiating this process. I offer extra credit on almost every quiz or test, but you **MAY NOT earn extra credit** through additional work. Many of the course assignments and all of the daily activities are listed on a class calendar posed weekly on my website (at www.spx.org).

There are not many **rules** for our class, but I expect you to respect others and yourself by listening, cooperating, and participating. You are expected to follow the rules of the St. Pius X handbook, and to be an honorable person.

A WORD ON PARTICIPATION

Your participation grade can make you or break you. This is 15% of your grade and will be posted 4 times during the semester. Effective participation depends on three things: 1) preparedness (on time, seated when the bell rings, has proper materials for the class, EVERY DAY; 2) focus and attention (respectful of teacher and peers, does not disrupt the class or chat with neighbors at inappropriate times, does not put his/her head down on desk, does not work on other subjects, and participates with eye contact and non-verbal cues); and 3) participation (listens and responds actively in class, raising his/her hand to volunteer ideas and answers, works well in groups by contributing his/her share of the assignment).

AVAILABILITY

I am available most days after school and always by email. If you need to see me after school, please check with me first to make sure I'm available. Please don't hesitate to contact me. I look forward to working with you!

YOU MUST KEEP THIS SYLLABUS AS THE FIRST PAGES OF YOUR NOTEBOOK. I will keep a record of signatures in my grade book.

I have read and understand the requirements and expectations for English CP1 and will comply with them.

Student's signature _____ Parent's signature _____