

# 10<sup>th</sup> Grade Literature

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**Course Texts:** *The Great Gatsby, Antigone, Tell-tale Heart, Monkeys Paw, Mask of the Red Death, Night*

**Course Description:** 10<sup>th</sup> Grade Literature and Composition builds upon the 9th Grade Literature and Composition course through a continued focus on a study of literary genres and informational texts. Students will develop an understanding that theme is what relates literature to life and that themes are recurring in the literary world, and students will explore the effect of themes in regard to interpretation. Students will also read across the curriculum to develop academic and personal interests in different subjects. While the focus of composition studies is writing argument in tenth grade literature, students will also demonstrate competency in informative/expository and narrative writing genres. They will also engage in research, timed writings, and the writing process. Instruction in language conventions will occur within the context of reading, writing, and speaking, rather than in isolation. Students will also demonstrate an understanding of speaking and listening for a variety of purposes.

**Course Expectations:** High quality work is expected from all students and all major assignments will be revised until the student demonstrates proficient or exemplary performance. Instructional activities will involve whole group, small group, paired, and individual efforts. All students must participate in all four areas of the curriculum: reading, writing, listening, and speaking. Ample time will be given for assignments to be completed during the class period, however, any unfinished work will be required to be completed at home. Please use class time wisely to avoid homework.

**Plagiarism and Academic Honesty:** Plagiarism will not be tolerated in this class. Whether you copy the assignment from the internet or a classmate, it is cheating. All parties caught in plagiarism will receive a zero for the assignment, parents will be contacted, and the principal/counselors informed.

**Grading:** Grades are based on standards mastery. Any student who does not turn in an assignment will receive a zero for that assignment. If a student turns in an assignment that does not demonstrate mastery, but I can see they were sincerely trying, they will receive no lower than a 50 for that assignment. It is always important to try your best and turn in what you have!

80% of your grade will be classwork, 20% of your grade will be the exams.

Scoring:

90-100—indicates that the student performs regularly at the exemplary level and is capable of demonstrating proficiency independently. 80-89—indicates that the student performs regularly at the proficient level and is capable of demonstrating their proficiency semi-independently. 70-79—indicates that the student performs regularly at the basic level, and is not yet an independent learner and needs significant help achieving course goals.

**Expectations for Online Participation and Learning:** All assignments and material will be posted to the google classroom. Students are required to log into the classroom twice a week. Students are also required to activate remind.com messaging and have a flipgrid.com account linked to their class for video assignments. Students should check the classroom daily for updates and communications. Each week, assignments and materials will be posted by 9am Monday mornings, and due by 11:59PM Sundays. Students are expected to participate in activities and follow directions, along with completing assignments and submitting them by the due date. Students are required to communicate with the instructor a minimum of two (2) times each week to avoid referrals to the counselors and administration. Communication can happen between the instructor and student via email (preferred), flipgrid videos, or by commenting through the google classroom assignment comments.

**Expectations for Classroom Participation and Learning:** Students should participate in all activities and follow directions the first time they are given. Students should expect to take notes on material presented in class, regardless of who is presenting the material. Students are responsible for all work and instruction missed in their absence. Please check the google classroom for any missed work, and ask other students for notes when necessary. Students are expected to make up work outside of class, and on their own time, with two days of the absence. Students are expected to meet all deadlines unless they have received prior permission from the instructor. Tutoring is available after school, and prior arrangements must be made with the instructor. Students are expected to come to class prepared with paper and pens/pencils for notetaking, and to be in their seat and working on the bell work when the bell rings. Students should refrain from all disruptive behavior, including personal grooming, inappropriate conversation, intimidating or threatening behavior. Students' behavior should always be respectful to self, other students, and instructor. Students will be expected to follow all school and county rules while in the classroom.

**Parent/Guardian Contact:** Students are required to have parent/guardian contact information (Phone and email address) on file with the instructor. The instructor reserves the right to contact the parent/guardian at any time if they feel their involvement is important to finding a solution to behavior or motivation issues in the classroom or digitally. Parents will also be contacted if the instructor has praise for the student.

**Disciplinary Procedures:**

- A. Verbal or written reminders are issued the first time a minor infraction occurs. Such infractions include failure to observe classroom rules, requests for silence, excessive chatter, disrespect of another student or instructor, or failure to be prepared for class. Three such infractions will result in a detention referral.
- B. Detentions will be issued the first time a major infraction occurs. Such infractions include the use of profanity or inappropriate gestures, abuse of privileges, grossly disrespectful or disruptive behavior, and/or failure to use classroom time productively. After 3 detentions, students will be referred to the administration for discipline, and a parent conference will be scheduled to discuss the situation.
- C. Office referrals will be reserved for conduct that is of a more serious nature or which is extreme or defiant in quality. Such conduct may include complete disruption of the learning environment, violent behavior of any kind, sexual behavior of any kind, and/or destruction of classroom property/resources.