

# English 10 Honors (Pre-AP)

Term 2 only, Spring 2021 Vista del Lago High School

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## Introduction to the Course:

Honors English 10 is an intensified program that focuses on literary analysis, rhetoric, composition, and critical thinking. Instruction in Honors English 10 focuses on developing student proficiency in critical thinking, problem solving, creative thinking, and application of skills. In addition, summer reading and writing assignments are mandatory in the Honors English 10 program. Students will develop the speaking skills needed in both small-and large-group discussions; write essays of greater length and level of sophistication; do research of a more in-depth nature with a broader range of sources and an original thesis; and read and analyze a higher level of literature in terms of language, literary elements, and thematic content.

## A Note to Parents

Sophomore year comes with its unique set of challenges, especially because your child has chosen to take at least one more rigorous course. Because this is a pre-AP course, I expect students to handle problems that arise in my class/in their lives directly with me. If your student is dissatisfied with any part of the class, please have him/her speak with me directly. If you feel you should be involved after your child has spoken with me, the most efficient way to reach me is email. Of course, if your child is having difficulties in the course, please have him/her speak with me immediately. Communication is key: students must advocate for themselves and speak up if there are any issues.



## Curriculum

### Semester 1:

- ❑ **Unit 1: Summer Work.** This unit will assess honors summer work by asking students to hold discussion, construct short responses analyzing author's purpose, and will result in a processed paper about the summer reading texts analyzing: *diction, detail, imagery, figurative language, tone, and syntax.*
- ❑ **Unit 2: (Short) Personal Narrative.** After analyzing the importance of a writer's voice in Unit 1, students will be asked to practice their own voice skills by constructing a short (albeit rich) personal narrative describing "the world they come from." This essay will nurture and hone self-expression and provide an excellent foundation for future writing projects — in particular, scholarship and college application essays.
  - ❑ **Note: This unit is time permitting**
- ❑ **Unit 3: Prose Explication:** A prose explication involves close examination, analysis, and exposition of a work of prose. An explication focuses on the underlying text structures, main ideas, language, style, content, and the interrelationships of the parts to the whole in regard to the author's purpose. Small, manageable tasks lead students through the prewriting, planning, drafting, revising, and editing/proofreading/publishing steps of the writing process, while skill lessons offer modeling and instruction on criteria within each step specific to the writing form.
  - ❑ **Novel: Fahrenheit 451**

### Semester 2:

- ❑ **Unit 4: Research and Argumentation.** In this unit, students will consider both the positive and negative outcomes that may occur through advances in science and technology and argue what responsibility the creator and/or society has when developing a said advancement.
- ❑ **Unit 5: Poetry Explication/Drama.** A drama or poetry explication, much like a prose explication, involves close examination, analysis, and exposition of a work of drama or poetry. A drama or poetry explication focuses on many of the same skills in a prose explication (underlying text structures, main ideas, language, style, content, and the interrelationships of the parts to the whole in regard to the author's purpose) but also on literary and poetic elements elements such as theme, figurative language, imagery, symbolism, rhyme and meter, etc.
  - ❑ **Texts: Macbeth & Selected Poems**
- ❑ **AVLs & Writing Workshops:** These ongoing units are weekly assignments paced throughout the term. The most dominant are AVLs (**A**cademic Language and **V**ocabulary) which focus on specific language skills and vocabulary (including roots) and **Writing Workshops** focusing on clarity, cohesion, and other revisions strategies and techniques.

**Materials:** In order to be successful in the class, certain materials are recommended. Please let me know if you have difficulty obtaining these items:

1. A one-subject spiral notebook - Should be 8.5" X 11"
2. Pens and pencil/erasers
3. Highlighters

4. Post-it notes
5. Assigned novels if you want to take notes in the books yourself
6. Planner to write daily homework

## Grades

Grades will be calculated in PowerSchool and will reflect the [six-point scale](#). Rubrics will be used to evaluate student work, and feedback will be offered to help students improve their learning before being assessed summatively. Formative work will make up 20% of the overall grade, and summative work will make up 80%.

→ **Formative Assessments** (Assessments *for* Learning)  
include: Quizzes, annotations, writing practice, etc).

→ **Summative Assessments** (Assessments *of* Learning)  
include: Exams, essay final drafts, terms exams, etc).

The semester grade will be based on a running total of the first and second quarter points and the final exam points.

### Grade Scale:

A (5 or 6) = 83.3 - 100%

D (2) = 33-49.9%

B (4) - 66 = 83.2%

F (1) = 32.9% or below

C (3) - 50 = 65.9%

## Extra Credit

No extra credit will be accepted. Students are expected to do the reading and writing assignments as designed for the course.

## Asynchronous Work

Most often, daily homework is assigned to prepare for the next day's lesson. If a student does not do the homework, you will not be able to participate fully. Students will receive at least two days notice on major tests. Quizzes will be given at any time, without advance notice. No extra credit is offered or given—the way to excel in this class is to do all of the work assigned, and in doing so, learn the material in a profound way.

## Late Work & Make-Up Work

With pre-approval, essays and electronic assignments may be turned in up to two days late. Communication is key here—if you are not turning something in, speak to me immediately after class. The EXCEPTION to this rule: ROUGH DRAFTS of ESSAYS will not be accepted late. They are due in class on the due date. Conversational blogs are also due on the posted dates...BOTH of these assignments require peer participation, so late work is not possible for points.

## Citizenship Grade

The [citizenship grade](#) is measured by your ability and willingness to follow the policies of this class. As an English Department, we value courtesy, cooperation, and respect. The policies reflect this and the standards conducive to an orderly, productive classroom environment. Therefore, the following will be used to determine your citizenship grade: attendance and class contribution, following directions, obeying rules, and attitude toward me, fellow classmates, and substitutes.

## Important Information

**When and where will assignments be posted?**

I will post the daily/weekly agendas in Google Classroom under the appropriate week of the semester (e.g. Semester 1 Week 1: 9 Aug. - 13 Aug.). The easiest way to navigate Classroom is by clicking on the "Classwork" tab instead of the "Stream." This is the best place to reference your daily assignments. Please check the Classroom often. \*Organization is a key component of any successful virtual learning experience. Please make a copy of this [Weekly Planning Document](#) to use for this class as well other classes. Please also make a copy of the [Daily Planning Document](#) to help you plan your time throughout the day.

<b>When will our class meet?</b>	Our class meets every day for the full term. Remember, Wednesdays are short days, and missing any school day is almost like missing two days of school with Vista's schedule. You are expected to communicate via email if you have questions or concerns..
<b>What role does participation play in this course?</b>	Participation in this course is very important, as not only will you have the opportunity to receive real-time feedback from me, you will engage with your peers in critical discussions about content and skills. You will also earn listening and speaking grades for these discussions, so be sure to come to class prepared with the day's reading and engage the entire time.
<b>How will we communicate, and what are those expectations?</b>	Please check the announcements in Google Classroom daily. <b>The best way to communicate with me is via email.</b> Please use the following phrasing in the subject line of the email: " <b>First, last name &amp; block number.</b> " That will help me filter through my emails much more easily.
<b>What tech tools will help me be successful in this course?</b>	We will primarily use Google Classroom and Turnitin.com in this course. Please note, <b>all processed writing assignments will be submitted in both Classroom and Turnitin.com.</b> I will evaluate you using the rubric tool in Classroom, and I will check similarity results in Turnitin.com. If assignments are not submitted in both places, I will not post the scores in PowerSchool. Access codes and/or passwords will be given out in class..

### Links to School Policies/Info

- [Attendance Policy](#)
- [Tardy Policy](#)
- [Academic Dishonesty](#)
- [Electronic Devices/Technology](#) (pg. 21)
- [Final Examination Policy & the Student Handbook](#)
- [Virtual Learning Schedule](#)
- [Virtual Learning Policies](#)

### Spring 2021 Schedule Mrs. Swenson G-106 (ext. 410320)

- Block 1: PREP
- Block 2: Beginning Comp
- FlexTime (T-F); Advisory (M)
- Block 3: Honors English 10
- Block 4: Beginning Comp

### Student & Parent/Guardian Signature

Please feel free to reach out to me if you have any questions: It is easiest to reach me via **email**; however, feel free to call and set up a phone or Zoom appointment at any point.

**\*Once you have read through the syllabus, please [click on the this link](#)**

