



JOHN F. KENNEDY HIGH SCHOOL
COURSE SYLLABUS
DEPARTMENT OF ENGLISH



ENGLISH 9P (EZS101-7)

COURSE DESCRIPTION: English 9 classes approach English Language Arts with an emphasis on building students’ reading ability, thinking skills, and sense of efficacy. Students will gain the confidence, experience, and skills critical for literacy success and, most importantly, see themselves as successful students. Our curriculum at JFK English 9 includes independent reading as well as a literacy curriculum designed by Pebble Creek Labs, which emphasizes expository and literary texts aligned to the ELA Common Core State Standards.

David Phanthai
 David-Phanthai@scusd.edu
 Check grades on Infinite Campus via www.scusd.edu
 Check homework assignments on class website via <http://dphanthai.tripod.com>

COURSE OBJECTIVES: In addition to developing and improving the reading, writing, thinking and other literacy skills described in the above course description, students in English 9 will learn academic reading, writing and speaking skills. Attention will be focused on how to interact with text and how to think critically about what you’ve read. Students will engage in learning that is aligned to the Common Core Standards for the English Language Arts.

CLASS TEXT:

- Thematically grouped literary and expository texts included in the curriculum (provided by the teacher).
- *Holt Literature and Language Arts – Third Course* will be used in class.
- Novels: *The Absolutely True Diary of a Part-Time Indian*, *Z for Zachariah*, *House on Mango Street*, various short stories, selected poems, political speeches, and professional essays.

First Quarter Emphasis

- 📖 Pebble Creek Skills (Natural Disasters)
- 📖 Narrator and Voice
- 📖 Pebble Creek Skills (New Orleans)
- 📖 Pebble Creek Skills (Latin America)
- 📖 Figurative Language and Poetry

Second Quarter Emphasis

- 📖 Pebble Creek Skills (Nelson Mandela)
- 📖 Imagery and Symbolism
- 📖 Pebble Creek Skills (Jamaica)
- 📖 Comparing Themes
- 📖 Pebble Creek Skills (Mount Everest)

REQUIRED CLASS MATERIALS:

- Three-ring binder
- Binder paper
- Pencils and blue or black pens
- Highlighters (pink, yellow, green)

You should plan on bringing your books and materials to class every day.

GRADING: All assignments are worth points and grades will be calculated based on the amount of points earned in each category. Most work will be completed in class, during class time. Work will be divided into the following categories:

- **Knowledge** (40%) Demonstration of content knowledge, intended to assess comprehension
- **Product** (40%) Demonstration of task mastery, intended to assess progress towards skills-based objective
- **Process** (20%) Practice necessary towards content and skills mastery, most daily classwork

The grading scale is given below:

A	A-	B+	B	B-	C+	C	C-	D+	D	D-	F
100-94	93-90	89-87	86-83	82-80	79-77	76-73	72-70	69-67	66-63	62-60	59-0

CLASSROOM RULES AND EXPECTATIONS:

- (1) We are here to learn together. We are a community as well as individuals and we should limit distracts from our academic mission, such as texting, eating, drinking, working on other things, sleeping, rude behavior, long walks to the bathroom, etc.
- (2) Attendance is vital. Should you miss class, it is your responsibility to find out what you've missed.
- (3) Completing work on time is critical to ensure learning.
- (4) Students will enter the classroom ready for class. This means removing any hats, hoods, earphones and putting away cellphones or Ipods.
- (5) As soon as the bell rings, students will be reading a student chosen reading book.

ALL STUDENTS ARE ASKED TO:

- Be respectful to everyone.
- Be on time, courteous, and prepared to work.
- Be polite by listening and participating.
- School rules will also be incorporated and enforced in the classroom (e.g. discipline policy, tardy policy, cheating, plagiarism, etc.)

SUPPORT SERVICES: I am available to assist and help students before and after class. For further questions, you may contact me at (916) 395-5090 (ext. 506217) or by emailing me at david-phanthai@scusd.edu. Also, refer to the class website <http://dphanthai.tripod.com> for more information on class assignments and homework. In addition, I am usually available before and after school in Room C217.

------(Please sign and return)-----

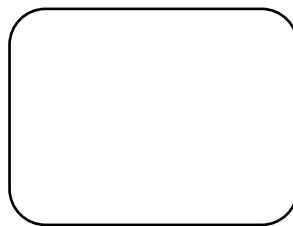
ENGLISH 9P SYLLABUS 2016-2017

I have read and do understand the policies and expectations explained in this course syllabus.

Student Name	Student Signature	Email
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Parent/Guardian Name	Parent/Guardian Signature	Email
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Upon return of this document, you will receive 10 points.



(Teacher's Stamp)