



JOHN F. KENNEDY HIGH SCHOOL
COURSE SYLLABUS
DEPARTMENT OF SOCIAL SCIENCE



ENGLISH 9

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.

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Check grades on Infinite Campus via www.scusd.edu

Handouts and other class assignments are here: <https://mccarthyjfk.wordpress.com/english-9/>

Texts

Thematically grouped literary and expository texts included in the curriculum (provided by the teacher).

Holt Literature and Language Arts- will be used exclusively in class. Students will not need to bring it home.

Required Materials:

A classroom folder/notebook will be supplied and kept in the classroom.

Grading Policy

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:

- Practice: Demonstration of Practice Toward Mastery (20%)
- Reading: Demonstration of Reading Analysis (30%)
- Writing: Demonstration of Mastery (50%)

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.

Academic Expectations

- **We are here to learn together. We are a community as well as individuals and we should each remember that when engaging in things that distract from that mission, such as texting, eating, drinking, working on other things, sleeping, rude behavior, long walks to the bathroom, etc.**
- **Attendance** is vital. Should you miss class, it is your responsibility to find out what you've missed.
- Students will enter the classroom ready for class. This means removing any hats, hoods and earphones and putting away cellphones or Ipods.
- As soon as the bell rings, students will be working on the Check Your Head task.