



ENGLISH LANGUAGE ARTS (ELA) Grade 9

MOUNTAIN VIEW ACADEMY

September 2008-June 2009

Teacher: Mrs. Lizotte

Welcome back to school everyone. I hope you all had an enjoyable summer. Following is some general information about the Grade 9 English Language Arts class, including program notes, class routines and curriculum to be covered.

- Students in Grade 9 are expected to participate in Mountain View Academy's mandatory *Home Reading Program*. Log books will be handed out on the first day of ELA class and will be checked every Friday. Please note that home reading does count for 5% of the course mark.
- Homework will be given out daily, as per the homework policy of MVA. Generally students can expect 60-75 minutes of *homework* per night, not including home reading and long-term assignments. This total is for all subjects. It is an expectation that homework is completed on a daily basis. A missed homework assignment will automatically result in a loss of .5% of the term homework mark. Late long term/major assignments will also be deducted 10%/day up to a maximum of 50%. Students will have a *Homework Agenda* in which to write their homework assignments. Parents will be asked to sign this book each night. Parents will be notified in the agenda of any missed homework assignments. Please do not hesitate to contact me if your child seems to be spending a lot more time than this on homework each night.
- Attendance is essential for success in ELA. This includes arriving on time and being prepared for class with all necessary materials and textbooks. It is the responsibility of students to get caught up on any material or assignments missed.
- If you need to get a note to me, feel free to use your child's homework agenda for this purpose. I am available to meet or speak on the phone, mornings from 8:15-8:40 or after school until 4:00 pm. Please leave a message at any other time and I will return your call as promptly as possible. I kindly request that students and parents not phone me at home. Your cooperation with this matter is greatly appreciated.

- My email address at school is jlizotte@mountainviewacademy.ca
Please feel free to contact me this way if it is more convenient for you.

COURSE CONTENT

Reading, Writing, Speaking Listening, Viewing and Representing

The following components will make up the content of this course. Details on specific titles of reading material will follow.

- Novel studies (ie. A literature based program)
- Junior Great Books- a guided inquiry program
- Spelling/Grammar- Riggs program
- Vocabulary development- Wordly Wise 3000
- Writing- creative, essays, research reports
- Book Reports
- Home Reading

Never settle for less than your best.

COURSE EVALUATION

Following is the breakdown of marks for this course.

5%- Notebook

5%- Homework

5%- Home Reading

10%- Vocabulary assignments

45%- Daily work, Assignments, Projects, Tests

10%- Book Reports

10%- Midterm Exam

10%- Final Exam

“English is not a spectator sport”

E. Tahririha

Students are expected to earn a minimum final grade of 70% in order to be recommended to enrol in English 10-1 (University entrance English program route).

GENERAL EXPECTATIONS

Students will:

- Attend class every day, prepared and ready to learn
- Work diligently and use class time effectively
- Work independently, unless otherwise directed
- Respect other student's right to learn
- Review on a regular basis
- Ask for extra help if needed to deal with course content, the organization of work, long-term projects, or studying for exams. A mutually agreed upon time will be set up to assist students.

POLICY REGARDING MP3/IPOD PLAYERS AND CELL PHONES

The use of MP3/IPOD players and cell phones during class time is forbidden. Students who use these devices during class times will have them confiscated.

PLAGIARISM

Plagiarism is a serious offense. Writing assignments are checked on a regular basis to ensure that they contain the students' own words and ideas. Students who use the words of others without quoting and citing sources will automatically receive a zero for that assignment. If the problem persists, the administration will be brought in to help deal with the situation.

STUDENT MATERIALS

- ELA binder
- Loose leaf paper
- Report covers
- Pencils, pens, markers, etc.
- Daily reading material
- Textbooks/novels as needed
- Dictionary and thesaurus (students may bring their own or use those provided in the class)

*Dream
Believe in Yourself
Try
Do Good*