

# Multi-Level English

*Miss Gardner*

## Welcome!

...to Miss Gardner's 3<sup>rd</sup> block English class. I am looking forward to this semester!

This course will serve students in multiple grade levels and will be designed around the needs of individual students as well as the collective needs of the class. For this reason, any texts listed below are subject to change.

We will have three primary focuses in this class:

**Reading.**  
**Writing.**  
**Thinking.**

## Course Unit Themes

- Gothic Literary Tradition
- Dystopias
- The Burden of War

## Text Selections

We will be reading a lot of short stories, poems, and some longer works. The texts for this course will be selected to meet the needs of the students. The texts for the Gothic Literature unit will include short stories by Edgar Allan Poe, Roald Dahl, and some other authors as needed.

## Tentative Novels

- *Unwind* – Neal Shusterman
- *The Things They Carried*- Tim O'Brien

## Class Expectation/Rules

### 1. Always arrive on time.

- Class starts at 12:16, meaning you need to be in the room by 12:15 and ready to go by 12:16 **Lunch is from 12:54-1:24.**
- You may come back to the room after you finish eating, but **MUST** be back (and ready to go) by 1:24.

### 2. Pay attention and raise your hand to speak.

- **Always come prepared.**
- Supplies are in the room. Get what you need and be ready to go.

### 4. Complete your work on time.

- Worked not completed during class time will likely be assigned as homework.
- **5. Give all work your best effort.**
- Try. Do your best. Don't give up.

### 6. Have a positive attitude.

- If you are always looking for faults, you will always find something to be unhappy about.

### 7. Be nice , even if you don't feel like it. (Or at least be quiet).

- Learn this skill now and it will help you out in life.

### 8. Help out.

- As part of this class, how can YOU contribute?

### 9. Value class time.

- We have a short amount of time to learn a lot of things!

### 10. Keep your hands and feet to yourself!

## Bathroom Passes

Each student will be given ten (10) bathroom passes. These must last the entire semester. At the end of the semester, any unredeemed passes can be cashed in for extra credit. This means you can earn up to **150 extra credit points** for using the bathroom before and after class.

You may NOT use a pass while we are in the middle of a lesson. Each pass must be signed, dated, and put into the pink cookie tin on the student station.

## Phone Policy

Students are NOT permitted to be on their phone during class time. If a student is on their phone, the teacher will follow the school policy regarding confiscating phones if phone use during class becomes problematic.

## The Juice Box

The Juice Box is where you may charge your phone during class. There are several rules for using the box.

1. Your phone must be plugged in by the time the bell rings.
2. It must be on silent with vibrate off.
3. You may not check it during class.
4. It's first come, first serve. If you want a slot, come to class earlier.
5. If you come in after the bell, no juice for you!
6. You may take your phone with you to lunch, but must return it to the juice box or to your bag/pocket by 1:24.

\*\*\*NOTE-The Juice Box (and charging your phone) is a privilege that can be taken away.\*\*\*

**SHOW RESPECT TO EVERYONE!**

# English, 2018-2019

## Grades:

### Knox County Grading Scale:

All grades for this course are on a point system based on the adopted school grading scale .

93-100=A

85-92=B

75-84=C

70-74=D

0-69=F

## Course Grades:

Points will be given for the following types of class assignments:

**85%** of the course grade will consist of:

- Daily grades (what we do in class)
- Quizzes
- Participation (being present, prepared, working, and answering when called upon)

**15%** of the course grade will come from the final/EOC

Grades **9-10** will take a state-level EOC.

Grades **11-12** will take a county level EOC.

**Participation grades** will be taken at the teacher's discretion. Students who are absent will not exempt from these grades.

**Quizzes**— Some quizzes will be announced; some will be surprises.

## Binders:

Due to the number of students struggling with paper management and organization, we will be maintaining binders as a class. These will be provided so that they are all uniform.

Tab 1: Stories/Texts

Tab 2: Reading Notes

Tab 3: Writing

Tab 4: Vocabulary

Tab 5: Grammar

Tab 6: Morphemes

Tab 7: Miscellaneous

Tab 8: Blank Paper

## Use of Media

This course will use video clips on YouTube occasionally to enhance the course. These videos will be from some of the channels below, as well as others as needed:

- Ted Ed.
- Ted Talks
- Crash Course
- History Channel
- Teacher Tube

Film adaptations of texts may also be viewed in full or clips, but will never have an R rating.

## Projects

Biography Research Project

We will be using books from the "Who was..." (Penguin Publisher) series as the basis of our research. These are biographies that are written in a narrative (story) format. Students may choose from the teacher's collection or buy a book on a person of their choice. These books retail for \$5.99 and can be found at McKay's, Books-A-Million, Barnes & Nobles, and Amazon.

## Gothic Texts

Gothic literature capitalizes on topics and themes that most teens find interesting and relatable.

The term **Gothic Fiction** refers to a style of writing that is characterized by elements of fear, horror, death, and gloom, as well as romantic elements, such as nature, individuality, and very high emotion. These emotions can include fear and suspense.

## Dystopias

A **dystopia** is a society (often set in the future) that is characterized by things such as mass poverty, public mistrust and suspicion, a police state or oppression. Most authors of dystopian fiction explore at least one reason why things are that way, often as an analogy for similar issues in the real world.