**Course Syllabus & Classroom Expectations**

**2nd Semester**

**Course** **Title**: 9th Grade English

**Teacher**: Ms. Yatoma

**Website:** <http://syatoma.weebly.com>

**Textbook**: *Prentice Hall Literature Text – Gold Level*

 *Perfection Learning –Writing with Power*

**Novels/Poems**: 3rd Quarter: *Night* by Elie Wiesel

 4th Quarter: *The Tragedy of Romeo & Juliet* by William Shakespeare

# **Materials Needed:**

1. **Class Folder/Binder-** (all class assignments and class notes will be kept in this folder or binder for future reference)
2. **Pencil-** everyday!
3. **Red** or **Blue Pen-**everyday!
4. **1 Spiral Notebook** (100-150 sheets of lined paper)- The notebook needs to have perforated (dotted) lines so that you can easily remove the page if need be. DO NOT use a composition notebook.
5. **Gold Literature Book-** Students will be told ahead of time when to bring their textbooks.

**Michigan Department of Education High School Content Expectations for ELA are based on the Common Core:**

 Standard 1 – Reading Standard 3 - Speaking and Listening

Standard 2 – Writing Standard 4 – Language

**Daily/Weekly Course Objectives:**

* The learner will (TLW) effectively utilize higher-order thinking.
* TLW expand his/her vocabulary and grammatical skills.
* TLW be able to identify, as well as create within his/her own writing, the essential elements of writing.
* TLW be able to utilize writing tools effectively.
* TLW be able to write a cohesive multi-paragraph essay (while utilizing the writing process).
* TLW improve his/her reading skills.

**General Expectations:**

Students are expected to come to class prepared to learn every day. They are expected to put forth no less than their best effort at all times. Students should respect their teacher and fellow classmates as well as class time. Students should come to class with a willingness to share their ideas and keep an open mind to what is expressed by fellow classmates.

**Course Description & Methods:**

This course will encourage students to develop a positive attitude toward literature, writing, and language study. It will focus on teaching grammar skills, higher-order thinking, and improve writing through the writing process. Students will also expand their vocabulary, develop their reading skills, and express detailed thoughts through daily classroom and homework assignments.

Students will learn by teacher lecture, classroom discussion, writing exercises, brainstorming activities, group work, peer editing, note taking, readings and written reflections, journals, daily grammar and vocabulary activities, and essay assignments.

**Class Rules:**

**School code of conduct will be upheld.**

1. Come to class with supplies (ID, book, pen, pencil, assignments). Backpacks, large purses, beverages, candy, food, iPods, and cd players are NOT permitted.
2. Be respectful of others’ comments, opinions, and ideas.
3. Be respectful of the teacher, the teacher’s work area, and classroom time.
4. The teacher dismisses the class at the end of the hour and ALL students are to remain seated until dismissal.
5. Be an active classroom participant by asking questions, sharing ideas, and providing insightful input when appropriate.

**Electronic Devices**

Our classroom is a **Red Zone**. This means that the use of cell phones, iPads, iPods, and other electronic devices within the classroom will NOT be allowed!

Ms. Yatoma will abide by the WMHS School Policy on cell phone usage and the disciplinary action taken when a student fails to abide by the school policy. Please refer to the Student Handbook for all the details on cell phone usage and disciplinary action. This can be found on the school website.

**Grading Procedure:**

All card marking grades will be assigned a weighted value:

Homework & Classwork **15%**

Assessments  **85%**

Course grade will be comprised of the following weighted values:

 3rd Card Marking = 40% 3rd Card Marking = 40% Final = 20%

**Homework/Classwork Policy:**

Homework will be assigned for this course on an as needed basis. Students are expected to complete and turn in all work as instructed.

The following procedure will be applied to each assignment:

1. Due Date: Assignment will receive the points/percentage earned.
2. 1st Day Late: 10% of the grade will be deducted.
3. 2nd Day Late: Half credit (50%) will be given for the assignment.
4. **After** 2nd Day Late: 0% will be given for the assignment.

*Important Note:* All notes taken in class automatically turn into homework. This means that the student should spend 10-15 minutes a day reviewing his/her notes as the notes will apply to the assignments and assessments.

**Absences/Skips/Tardies:**

**District attendance policies will be enforced.** Regular class attendance is a student’s obligation. WMHS attendance policy can be found on the school website.

**Make-up work**:

It is the **student’s responsibility** to request and make up all missed assignments due to an EXCUSED/VERIFIED absence. To make up a missing assignment, the student will need to take the following steps:

1. Visit syatoma.weebly.com for the agenda and objectives of the day missed.
2. Collect assignments missed. Assignments will have your name on them. If you missed **notes**, you should get them from someone in class, or they will be posted on the classroom webpage.
3. Ask a fellow classmate about the notes and assignments.
4. Approach the teacher individually and in a timely manner IF you still don’t understand the material and notes.

All make-up work is due no later than the beginning of the next class period (unless otherwise instructed).

**Missed Assessments**

For any assessment missed, the student will need to set up a time either before or after school with the teacher to make up that assessment. It is the student’s responsibility to communicate with the teacher on the day and time of the make-up. Students will have up to TWO days upon their return to class to make up a missed assessment.

**Retakes on Assessments:** There are NO retakes on tests/quizzes.

**Passes:**

Each student will be given a total of TWO passes per quarter. A pass cannot be used during the **first 10 minutes of class, the last 10 minutes of class, or during instruction**. Wait until it is work time, fill out the yellow hall pass, and then approach the teacher for a signature on the pass. Students who abuse the attendance policy (frequently tardy or absent) will be restricted from leaving the classroom for any reason. NO PASSES will be given for locker usage or any other place where you’ve housed your materials.

**Communication:**

Schedule before or after school meetings in advance by calling (extension 13325) or email syatoma@wcskids.net. I strongly encourage parents to become acquainted with PowerSchool in order to follow their student’s performance through Parent Portal.

Each week’s agenda and objectives can be found on my website, <http://syatoma.weebly.com>. Lesson plans are updated weekly and are subject to change. I encourage students and parents to check it regularly for lesson plans, links, and important classroom resources.

**Course Syllabus Due Date:**

The course syllabus needs to be signed and returned by **Friday, January 24, 2020**. If the syllabus is not returned to Ms. Yatoma, any assignments and/or assessments will be given a **zero percentage grade** until the syllabus is returned. It is imperative that students and parents/guardians understand the classroom expectations and procedures as is outlined by the syllabus. Signing the syllabus by student and parent/guardian guarantees that the student and parent/guardian understand and abide by the classroom expectations and procedures.

**This course syllabus should be kept as a reference for the semester.**

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**Ms. Yatoma**

**9th Grade English – Syllabus Acknowledgement**

 By signing below, you acknowledge that you have been made aware of the expectations, procedures, rules, and guidelines set forth in this syllabus and you agree that you/your child will comply with them.

Student Name (Print): \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ Hour: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

Student Name (Sign): \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_Date: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

Parent/Guardian Signature: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

Parent/Guardian Phone #: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ (Best Number to Reach You!)

Parent/Guardian Email Address: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

\*Please list any medical or academic concerns that you would like to share – thank you! ☺

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