Welcome to English 10!

I am very excited for this school year. I look forward to getting to know each of you as we work on various assignments and projects. I want each of you to have a great experience in my classroom. In order for that to happen we need to work together. Here are some things that you will need to know:

Course Content: During the course of this year, you will learn to appreciate and understand the role of Language Arts as well as develop communication, reading, and writing skills. This course is based on the three standards from the Utah State Core Curriculum:

Standard 1 (Reading): Students will use vocabulary development and an understanding of text elements and structures to comprehend literary and informational grade level text.

Standard 2 (Writing): Students will write informational and literary text to reflect on and recreate experiences, report observations, and persuade others.

Standard 3 (Inquiry/Research/Oral Presentation): Students will understand the process of seeking and giving information in conversations, group discussions, written reports, and oral presentations.

Required class supplies:
- Binder or folder
- Filler paper
- Pen or pencil
- Planner (supplied by the school)

Approved Course Texts: Elements of Literature & Elements of Language – HRW Fourth and Sixth Courses supplemented by various other literary works, criticism, non-fiction articles, essays, etc., that are appropriate for our course of instruction.

Supplementary Class Work Selections:
- Hiroshima - John Hersey
- A Separate Peace - John Knowles
- To Kill a Mockingbird - Harper Lee
- The Chosen - Chaim Potok
- Julius Caesar - Shakespeare
- The Hunger Games – Suzanne Collins

School Policies: You are required to abide by all school policies (attendance, discipline, dress, etc.). The SHS mission statement states: Dedicated to Excellence, United in Service, and Educated for Success (DUES). You will be given a DUES score of 100 points at the beginning of each term. It is your responsibility to keep these points by displaying appropriate behavior that is in line with the school policies. You will lose five points every time you are tardy or are found using a cell phone during class. DUES penalties for behavior and lack of preparation for class will be determined as needed. **In order for you to be considered on time to class, you must be in your seat and working on the bell work when the bell rings.**

Reward: If ALL of your assignments have been turned in and ALL exams and quizzes have been taken, your final grade will be raised 1/3 (i.e. B+ to A-).

Late Work Policy: You are responsible for getting your work turned in on time. However, late work will be accepted with a penalty. You will lose 10 percentage points for each day that your work is not accounted for, excluding weekends. If an assignment is turned in more than five days late, you will be
deducted 50 percent of the grade for that assignment. Each student will be given one *Oops!* pass per term. This may be redeemed in order to turn in a late assignment without penalty. If you do not use your *Oops!* pass, it does not carry over to the following term.

**Absences:** Your attendance will affect your grade. If you are absent, it is your responsibility to get all missing class work, assignments, and notes either from me or from a fellow student. The time you will have to turn in make-up work is equal to the time you were absent. (If you were absent for two days, you will have two days to turn in your work.) If the missing assignments are turned in past this time, they will be considered late. Bell work (completed the first few minutes of class) may be made up. However, bell work may not be turned in late. Therefore, once the allotted time to complete assignments due to an absence is past, I will not accept bell work for that absence.

**Expectations:**

*Be Prepared* – You are expected to be in your seat when the bell rings and to be alert. You should bring all assignments or other needed materials with you to class.

*Be Respectful of Others* – You will engage in many activities involving discussions and debates. You are expected to participate in these activities in a way that is polite and courteous to your fellow classmates. You are also expected to listen when I am speaking or when another student is making a comment. Inappropriate or disrespectful behavior will not be tolerated.

*Be Respectful of Others’ Property* – You should keep the room clean and neat. Return any materials that have been borrowed and be respectful of the property that other students bring to class.

**Grading Scale:**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Grade Range</th>
<th>Percentage</th>
<th>Grade</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>94-100%</td>
<td>90-93%</td>
<td>(A)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>87-89%</td>
<td>83-86%</td>
<td>(B+)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>77-79%</td>
<td>73-76%</td>
<td>(B)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>65-69%</td>
<td>60-64%</td>
<td>(D+)</td>
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<tr>
<td>55-59%</td>
<td>Below 55%</td>
<td>(F)</td>
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**Honor Code:** This class will be conducted under an Honor Code. You are expected to be *academically honest* and to complete and submit only your own work. A brief definition and explanation of what constitutes “plagiarism” is provided below. We will continue to review and discuss methods for avoiding plagiarism as the school year progresses. Should you violate the Honor Code, course penalties will be swift and severe, at a minimum likely to result in the loss of credit for the assignment and/or that term of English.

**Plagiarism** can be defined as submitting another person’s ideas, words, images, or data without giving that person credit or proper acknowledgement. Plagiarism, a form of academic dishonesty, is equal to stealing and will not be tolerated. In order to clarify what constitutes plagiarism, you should be aware that you have committed plagiarism when you:

- Use phrases, quotes or ideas not your own;
- Paraphrase the work of another even though you may have changed the diction or syntax;
- Use facts or data not considered common knowledge;
- Submit a paper written for another class (academic dishonesty);
- Submit a paper from an essay service or agency even though you may have paid for it
- Submit a paper by another person even though s/he may have given you permission to use it.

You should note that plagiarism not only encompasses written work, but also computer data, research, musical scores, video programs, and visual arts.

Plagiarism is a serious issue, especially in an academic environment. Teachers must be able to rely on the integrity of a student’s work in order to maintain a climate for successful learning. Plagiarism reflects on character; therefore, you should diligently avoid inadvertent plagiarism. When you are unsure if acknowledgement is needed, ask your teacher!