



Pre-AP/IB English I

Mrs. McIntosh

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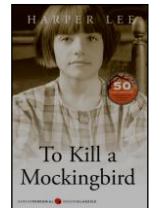


Course Description: I'm glad to have you in my Pre-AP/IB English I class! This is an advanced class, so it will require additional reading and writing at an advanced pace, depth, and complexity. Homework should be expected after every class period. Speaking of homework ☺ ... your required summer reading assignment was to read **one** of the following books and then complete the Pre-AP English I **Summer Reading Think Sheet** available on the Allen ISD Summer Reading webpage (<http://allenisd.org/page/334>):

- *The Book Thief* (by Markus Zusak)
- *The Hot Zone* (by Richard Preston)
- *The Nazi Hunters* (by Neal Bascomb)
- *Same Kind of Different as Me* (by Ron Hall and Denver Moore)
- *Sleeping Freshman Never Lie* (by David Lubar)
- *When We Wake* (by Karen Healey)

Textbooks

- Primary text: *SpringBoard–English Textual Power, Level 4*
- Supporting text: *Holt McDougal Literature*
- Required novel: *To Kill a Mockingbird* by Harper Lee (preferred ISBN 978-0-06-093546-7). Students are expected to **purchase this book** and bring it to class by **September 11 (A-day classes)** or **September 12 (B-day classes)**. You may purchase a different version, but page numbers will be different.



Independent Reading

- Independent reading is required for each student (often based on the current unit of study).
- Books must be grade-level appropriate; must receive teacher approval; and may be purchased, checked out from a library, or brought from home.
- So that you can learn to annotate (make notes on the text as you read), you'll need your own copies of a very few books, beginning with *To Kill a Mockingbird*. I'll let you know when you need to find a copy of another book.

Writing Focus

- Expository—including explanatory essays, literary analyses, reviews, and critiques.
- Research—including planning, doing accurate research, citing sources, and writing final version in MLA format.
- Narrative—including personal narratives, short stories, poems, and quick writes.

Materials Needed

 (except for optional "wish list" donations, you will keep these for yourself)

- 1 composition book (**not** a spiral)
- Loose-leaf notebook paper
- Yellow legal tablet (8-1/2 x 11)
- *1 pocket folder (with brads)
- Blue or black pens
- Pencils (but sometimes I will **require** you to use pens)
- Small Post-it notes (any color, any brand)
- Highlighters (1-2 colors)
- USB "flash" drive (optional; highly recommended to back up electronic assignments in all Lowery classes)
- *Optional "wish list" items to be donated to the classroom (only bring one)—Kleenex, hand sanitizer*

***Notebook:** I won't require you to keep a graded notebook ☺. **HOWEVER...** please keep all papers and handouts for each report card grading period in a binder/pocket folder/notebook until report cards are finalized. **Grade disputes will only be considered if the assignment in question is available for review.** Furthermore, keep all items somewhere safe until the end of each semester; this ensures that you'll have all the necessary materials to review for your **semester exam**.

English Department Grade Distribution and Grading Policies

- **Quarterly (report card) Grades:**
 - Daily/Homework: 30% (5-10 per quarter)
 - Quizzes: 30% (2-4 per quarter)
 - Tests/Major Grades: 40% (2-3 per quarter)
- **Absent/Make-Up Work:** For every school day absent, you have **one class rotation** for completion of the missing assignment(s) without a penalty. Upon your return to school, it is **your** responsibility to determine what you missed and to complete the work. If make-up work is not turned in within this timeframe, it will be considered late. I will be available during tutoring times and by appointment to assist students as needed.
 - **Finding make-up work:** Look for the missed day's agenda board picture on my website Assignments page as well as on my classroom make-up work wall. Hard copies of assignments will be in a red bin beside the wall and on my website Unit pages. I will give you login information for the online copy of our *SpringBoard* text in class. (Copyright restrictions prevent me from posting this on my website SpringBoard page, although the link and login steps are there.)

- *****Late Work:** Students in Pre-AP/IB classes have one class rotation to turn in a missing assignment for a **maximum grade of 60** (District Policy for Academic Grading for Advanced Courses). You should be prepared to submit assignments at the beginning of the period.
- *****Extracurricular Absences:** If you are absent because of a school activity, it is **your** responsibility to notify me when you will be absent and make arrangements with me before the absence. **Assignments should still be turned in on the date due or before the absence occurs.**
- **Homework and Test Revisions:** Any assignment (except a semester final exam) that is **turned in on time** and earns a grade of less than 70% may be revised and resubmitted for a maximum grade of 70. You should make arrangements with me for this on a case-by-case basis...and in a timely manner! (In other words, don't wait two weeks after the original assignment's due date to request or complete a revision/redo.)
- **Electronic Assignments:** Electronic assignments should be printed before you come to class. If your assignment needs to be printed, but your printer is not working, then you should e-mail me the assignment **before** class or come to a tutorial before class. I have one student computer you may use, and the library has several more available before and after school.

Tutoring: I will be available for tutoring Tuesday mornings (7:40-8:10) and Tuesday afternoons (3:35-4:30) or by appointment. You must sign in on the Tutoring Log in my room to document your time. Academic support is also available through other English I Pre-AP/IB teachers (Clark, Downham, Helvey, Leigh, Neal, Nguyen, Paa, Phelps, Tworek); their tutorial schedules are posted in the hallways.

Academic Integrity: What you produce in this class should be a reflection of what you know, so you are expected to complete your own work. Examples of academic dishonesty include, but are not limited to, using uncited information where sources are required, copying homework, and sharing content (questions or answers) of quizzes or tests. An opportunity to re-do the assignment may be provided on a case-by-case basis; if given, this opportunity will be counted as a **late grade**. Academic dishonesty will result (at the least) in contacting your parents, giving you an Office Referral, and a meeting between you and our Advanced Academics Coordinator.

Pre-AP/IB Schedule Changes: Pre-AP schedule change forms must be completed by **October 1**. Before a change is considered, students must obtain consent (signatures) from their parent, teacher, and the Advanced Academics Coordinator.

Communication through Skyward/Family Access: Please check to make sure that the parent and student contact information in Skyward/Family Access are both correct. I will do my best to send alerts for major assignments and occasional class reminders through Skyward. Also, feel free to contact me with questions, concerns, or comments at any time. (I'm serious; don't just wonder about something when you can ask me, call, or send me an email! I'm here to help you ☺.) I check my e-mail throughout the day, but with my teaching schedule, I may not be able to respond until after the 3:30 bell. My contact information is **972-236-0600 ext. 4875 (voice mail)** or Lauri_McIntosh@AllenISD.org.

Remind App (formerly Remind 101): During the first weeks of school, I will ask students to subscribe to their class period-specific Remind group, which allows one-way text communication from teachers to students. Therefore, I won't have access to students' personal phone numbers, and they won't have access to mine or be able to respond. Parents are welcome to join their student's group so that they can receive reminders as well. (I will post more information on my website.)

Restroom Passes: I will give each student limited restroom passes each quarter (3 passes each for First and Second Quarters; 4 each for Third and Fourth Quarters since they are longer). However, you must first get my permission to use them so that you don't miss any instructional time.

Classroom Procedures: As your teacher, my primary goal is to ensure that each of you has the opportunity to learn and to discover your strengths. So that each student's right to learn is respected, **classroom disruptions will not be tolerated**. A classroom disruption is anything that prevents or interrupts my ability to teach or interferes with someone else's ability to learn. Below are some basic expectations for my classroom:

- **Be on time**—be seated, check agenda, have homework prepared to turn in, and begin warm-up.
- **Be prepared**—with required materials and assignments and for active participation in class activities.
- **Be respectful**—show respect to others, yourself, and property (and I will, too).
- **Be informed**—about all school rules; make sure that you read your student handbook and code of conduct!
- **Food/drink**—water is permitted in this classroom, but other drinks/food items are not.
- **Cell phones and other electronic devices**—turn these off and put them away when you enter the classroom. We will use them periodically for instructional activities, but I will tell you when to get them out.

Students who disrupt the learning environment will be subject to consequences that include, but are not limited to:

- Verbal warning
- Written warning
- Phones or other electronics sent to house office
- Parent contact by phone or e-mail
- Lunch detention or after-school detention
- Office Referral

Please complete this sheet and return it to your English teacher by
Tuesday, September 2.
 You should **keep** the rest of this syllabus
 in your English I notebook or pocket folder
 so that you can refer to it throughout the year.

I have read, understand, and will comply with the policies and procedures for this class.

I am aware that I will need my own copies of a few selected books for annotating (note-taking in the margins).

Parent Signature: _____

Student Signature: _____

Date: _____

Comments/questions/anything you would like me to know about your student: _____

Parent Contact Information

Please print information carefully (especially e-mail addresses).

Parent Name(s): _____

Parent Phone (best): _____

Parent Phone (alternate): _____

When is the best time to call you? _____

Parent E-mail (please print): _____

Does your student have the following at home:

- Access to a computer? _____
- Internet access? _____
- Printer access? _____
- E-mail access? _____

Please return only this page by Tuesday, September 2. Thanks!