

Pioneer High School
Freshman English 1-2
Michelle Bowman, Room 454
Michelle_Bowman@sjusd.org
Msbowman1290@gmail.com
(408) 535-6310
Class Website: <http://msbowman1290.com/>

Texts:

- *Holt Handbook of Grammar & Anthology of Literature*
- *House on Mango Street*, Sandra Cisneros
- *Of Mice and Men*, John Steinbeck
- *The Odyssey*, Homer
- *Romeo and Juliet*, William Shakespeare
- Various short stories and poetry

Course Description:

This course aligns with the California State Standards for 9th grade English and will emphasize many different approaches to learning. Students will be working on and improving skills in the areas of writing, reading and speaking. This class will emphasize critical thinking skills and encourage creative reading and speaking. Skills that will be emphasized include writing, vocabulary study, listening skills, reference/library use and literary analysis. Students will also be expected to communicate their ideas through oral, visual and written texts, in both formal and informal modes of presentation.

Supplies:

- **Journal for English class only**
- College-ruled lined binder paper, 8 ½ x 11 inches
- Blue or black pens
- 3 Expo markers for student use
- Pencils
- Highlighters or Markers
- A safe place to keep course papers (such as a folder or binder)
- Novel or selection we are working on
- Pertinent handouts, assignments, or projects
- Internet and computer access
- USB Flash Drive (*highly recommended*)
- Tissues (*classroom donation*)

Grading Policy:

- Most assignments will be graded on a traditional A-F scale.
- Grades for each period will be based on weighted categories, available in these percentages:
 - Class work, Group work, and Participation: 15%
 - Final Examination: 15%
 - Quizzes and Homework: 20%
 - Writing, Projects, and Tests 50%

MLA Format:

- All formal, typed work for this class **MUST** be in MLA format. Don't worry if you aren't sure what this is, we will learn it together.

Homework:

- Homework is assigned daily. Homework consists mostly of reading, but also preparing for the following day's discussion, writing on a topic discussed in class, and vocabulary study.
- Homework will also include Independent Reading Assignments throughout the year of pre-approved novels.
- Please turn homework in on time. Homework is due at the beginning of class; please see late work policy below regarding work that is not turned in on time.
- The student should be guided by the school's *Academic Integrity Policy* when completing homework. Students will be given a zero for copied work of any kind. Students who allow their work to be copied shall also receive a zero.

Academic Integrity Policy

- Plagiarism, the unauthorized, uncited use of another person's words and/or ideas, is illegal.
- Cheating (copying, i.e., "sharing," use of cheat notes or information of a written, verbal or electronic nature) is taken just as seriously. Any such act by a student will result in an Academic Honesty Referral.
- Possible additional consequences include, but are not limited to: referral to the Assistant Principal, failure of the given assignment/test, parent notification, suspension, and/or transferring to another high school.

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| <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Teacher's professional judgment, with the concurrence of the school administration will determine whether cheating has occurred. Consequences will be assigned at the level determined by the severity and number of the offense.• Consequences may be suspension, removal of school privileges, loss of current school, and/or loss of grade or credit.• A breach of academic integrity includes, but is not limited to: Cheating on tests, exams, or any assessment activity; plagiarism; deliberate deception; stealing or any unauthorized use of assessment tools, answer keys, or school records, etc. <i>San Jose Unified School District Student Handbook</i> |
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Testing Conditions:

- During all in-class quizzes, essays, and tests, students must remain silent and keep their eyes on their own papers *at all times*. The teacher will assume any talking is cheating and the student will receive a zero on the assignment and be referred to the Assistant Principal for further disciplinary action. A "cheat file" will be established for the student.

Make-Up Work and Tests:

- When you are absent you need to call a classmate to find out how to be prepared upon return. If the absence is excused, you will have the number of days of the excused absence to complete the missed work. It is your responsibility to find out what you missed and complete the work. You should do this by asking the teacher *outside* of class. Generally, no extra time will be given in the event of an absence during the course of a long-term project or assignment.
- Missed tests will be taken during the time designated by the teacher. Failure to follow the above procedures will result in a zero. There are many occasions in which some in-class activities by their nature will be impossible to make up.

Late Work Policy:

- *Any work turned in late will receive a grade deduction.* Be certain to allow enough time before a paper is due to deal with computer and printer issues. Late work will incur a 10% per day deduction of points before correcting and grading begins.

Class Participation:

Your participation grade is based on my notes and observations. It reflects your overall, preparation, cooperation, motivation, and positive contributions to the overall success of the class. Participation points are lost for not working on activities assigned individually or with partners, doing other course work during class, distracting from class activities, not listening during class activities. I will award participation points daily for positive class participation and an overall grade will be assigned at the end of each grading period.

Grading Scale:

100-90	A	79-70	C	59-0	F
89-80	B	69-60	D		

Behavior Requirements:

Students need to:

1. Be in their seats and ready to work when the bell rings.
2. Bring all necessary materials at all times.
3. Turn in assignments on time; this includes being fully prepared for class.
4. Be active participants in class and display a positive attitude toward learning.
5. Follow all district and school policies, including cell phone and i-pod rules (*cell phones and i-pods will be taken by the teacher if seen during class and given to the attendance office. They are not returned for 24 hours and a parent must come to the school to retrieve it*).
6. **Respect yourself. Respect your fellow students and teachers. Respect your class and school.**

Consequences for Violation of the above:

Misbehaviors will result in any of the following: detention, On Campus Supervision (OCS), Saturday School, or referral to the assistant principal of discipline. The participation grade may also be lowered.

Recess Restriction

Recess or Free Time restriction (detention) is an imposed condition which limits, for disciplinary purposes, the free time allotted to a student whether such recess be in the morning or afternoon, at the lunch period, or any snack period. (Board Policy 5614.8)
Students shall not be restricted from eating lunch nor from taking care of personal hygiene needs.

Saturday School

Each middle school and high school is authorized to maintain, as resources permit, a Saturday School to which students may be assigned for:

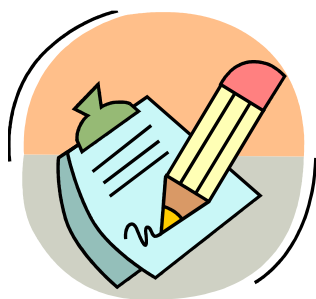
- unexcused and excused absences (Makeup of excused absences is strictly voluntary)
- tardiness
- other unacceptable behavior in lieu of suspension
- makeup of time suspended at a rate of one Saturday School for one day of suspension.

After School Detention

State law states that a student *may be detained* after school for up to one hour after the close of classes for disciplinary action. *San Jose Unified School District Student Handbook*

Please remove this portion and return to the teacher with appropriate signatures.

Thank you.



Study buddies for missed assignments:

Student's Name

Telephone

Student's Name

Telephone



Please sign and return this portion by Friday, August 19, 2011.



I have read and understand the purpose and requirements of Freshman English for the 2011-12 school year. I will give this class my best effort, and in my attendance, behavior and participation I will conduct myself as a responsible adult learner.

Student's Name (print)

Period

Student Signature

Date

I have read and understand the purpose and requirements of Freshman English for the 2011-12 school year. I will do my best to communicate with and support my student and the teacher through the challenges of this course.

Parent/Guardian (print)

Date

Parent/Guardian Signature

Parent/Guardian Signature

Email Address or Cell Phone #

Alternate Phone or Email Address #