

Canyon Crest Academy: English 9

Level of Difficulty	Estimated Homework	Prerequisites
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Moderate	30-60 minutes	<u>District</u> None
<input type="checkbox"/> Difficult		<u>Department</u>
<input type="checkbox"/> Very Difficult		None

Course Description

English 9 is a one-term course with a focus on various genres of literature with a central theme of "The Individual and Society." Students will be reading and studying novels, expository texts, short stories, autobiographies, drama, and poetry. Students will be challenged and given the opportunity to grow in their practical language skills through meaningful class discussions, journal prompts, essay writing, creative projects, oral presentations, and theater arts. Students will continue to use and practice grammar, punctuation, and vocabulary skills. With an understanding of the fundamentals of literary analysis, students will be able to construct a multi-paragraph essay as well as experiment with other essay forms and modes. The writing focus is designed to prepare students for the SAT, CAHSEE, and college level writing requirements. Students will develop critical thinking skills based on teacher modeling and will apply them to assignments independently and in cooperative, learning groups.

NOTE: Homework frequently includes reading and often writing. Homework lengths will differ according to the student's reading level and writing proficiency.

Necessary skills: Upon entering the course, students should possess the following skills:

- Able to write a process/multi-paragraph paper
- Develop main ideas with supporting evidence
- Support perspectives & judgments with convincing evidence
- Speak effectively and deliver presentations
- Use varied sentence types
- Use parallelism to present items in a series
- Use subordination, coordination, apposition to indicate relationship between ideas
- Use standard punctuation, spelling and capitalization

Description of a 9th Grade English Student:

- Interests may lie in other curricular areas
- Hard working, self-motivated
- Accepts challenges, but may need some assistance with complex, critical-thinking and non-routine problems
- Prefers to be shown a problem solving strategy and will learn it and be able to apply it to new problems
- Has the ability to work in large and small cooperative learning groups
- Able to keep a well-organized notebook and take notes

Performance Objectives: Students will be able to demonstrate proficiency in the following areas:

- Comprehension and analysis of grade-level text (fiction and non-fiction material)
- Creating clear and coherent writing (clearly stated thesis, presentation of argument, development of main ideas with appropriate evidence, synthetic conclusion)
- Evaluating the credibility of an author's argument

- Blending quotations and textual evidence within their work
- Timed Writing of On-Demand essays
- Creating multi-media presentations, using a wide variety of technology

Workload Expectations for a 9th Grade English Student:

(NOTE: Individual work depends on the length and involvement of the assignment, project, essay, group project, etc.)

- 3-5 major literary works (novels) or units (i.e. poetry, short stories)—being assigned 15-30 pages of reading for each class period (note: when work is being studied/so not every night.)
- 1-2 pages of written response to literary works/ units
- No fewer than 2 multi-draft essays – research, process pieces, and in-class / take home drafts.
- 4-8 timed writings (including essay tests)
- 1-2 projects (group or individual)

Works Typically Read:

Anthology (short stories / poetry)

Lord of the Flies

Black Boy

Of Mice and Men

Romeo and Juliet

The Bean Trees

The Odyssey (excerpts)

Sample Essay Prompt:

Black Boy: In a five-paragraph essay, identify three major characters, events, or locations that are responsible for Richard Wright's adult attitudes. Focus on how they contributed to his becoming a rebel and an artist. (Include brainstorming, outline, rough draft, peer-editing comments, final draft).

Grading

Syllabus Link

Supplemental Information

10 credits

Meets high school graduation requirement for English

Meets UC/CSU subject area "b" requirement