English 10 Preparation: Course Outline (Winter, 2025)

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Course Description

The English 10 Preparation course is designed to equip students with the essential skills and knowledge needed to excel in their upcoming English Language Arts 10 curriculum. Students will build on the foundational skills needed to succeed in upper level English language classes. This course serves as a comprehensive foundation, focusing on writing, reading, speaking, and listening skills. Through engaging activities, diverse literary selections, and targeted exercises, students will strengthen their proficiency in language arts and prepare themselves for the challenges of the mainstream high school English Language Arts curriculum.

Unit	Big Idea(s)	About
Figurative Language	Language and story can be a source of creativity and joy.	In this introductory unit, we will be looking at poetry and learning to recognize the different types of figurative language used in it. Students will also compose a simple poem themselves using figurative language.
Story Structure	 Exploring stories and other texts helps us understand ourselves and make connections to others and the world. Texts are socially, culturally, and historically constructed. 	In this unit, students will read various short texts to learn, recognize, and analyze story elements that authors use to build meaning. Students will also practice their writing skills by composing expository paragraphs about a short story that we will read.
Novel Study	 People understand texts differently depending on their worldviews and perspectives. 	In this unit, students will be reading a novel to recognize and analyze story elements built into a longer form of text. The text is meant to encourage students to think about the different milestones encountered on the journey to growing up. Students will also be composing a presentation on an area related to one of the chosen novel's themes.
Visual Media & Response Writing	Questioning what we hear, read, and view contributes to our ability to be educated and engaged citizens.	Students will be exposed to various visual images and advertisements to hone their understanding of visual media. They will also practice their writing with responses to the media that they are viewing.

Assessment

The purpose of evaluation is to both assess and improve student learning. Students will be completing a number of different forms of assessment, as well as completing self-assessment to track their learning. This is broken down as follows:

- In-class Work 5%
- Quizzes 15%
- Minor Assessments 20%
- Major Assessments 40%
- Final Exam 20%

Class Expectations

Classroom Behaviour

- Be respectful Respect yourself and all others. This includes property, ideas, space, etc.
- **Be on time** Come to class on time.
- **Be prepared** Bring all your material with you, prepared to work for the entire class period.
- **Be mindful** Please handle food, drinks, and electronics appropriately. Listen carefully to directions the first time they are given. If you don't understand any instructions, please ask for clarification. In the event that you finish work early, pull out your independent reading, or any other homework you may need to complete.

Absences

If you are absent from class, you are still responsible for any missing assignments. Please check Teams for any notes or handouts you missed. If you have an excused absence, you will be able to make up in-class assignments, quizzes, and/or tests, provided that you complete them **within a reasonable time frame**. Otherwise, no marks will be granted.

NOTE: All phones must be stored in your assigned locker and are not permitted in class.