

English 10 Preparation

Spring 2026, Period 1

Instructor: Mr. Burke

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Office Location & Hours: Room 113, 8:45 -10:15 (Wed. 8:45-10:00)

Online Contact hours: Monday - Friday, 08:15 -4:15



Mr. Burke

Contact Email: brian.burke@pattisonhighschool.ca

Office Hours: Room 113; after school or by appointment

Course Overview:

The goals of English 10 preparation are to give students a foundation from which to have further success in secondary language arts studies. Our class is comprised of reading, writing and interpersonal communications both towards the class and in small groups. We will start the semester with an overview of English grammar tenses which will be helpful for class reading and writing assignments. A major component of this class will also include materials related to passing compulsory tests for foreign born students to enter university such as IELTS. Test materials as well as strategies to pass the test will be extensively covered. Our class will also cover a section on poetry and creating individual poems. For this section we will look at First Nations inspired “slam” poetry as a means to get inspiration and learn from Canada’s indigenous peoples.

Some of the skills encompassed:

- **Higher level grammar** leading to more complex language interactions.
- **Developing Reading skills** such as skimming, scanning, contextualising as well as summarizing.
- **Expanding Vocabulary** through word banks, synonyms, antonyms, expressions and modern slang.
- **Writing Strategies:** essay construction, draft writing, paragraph constructions and paraphrasing.

Evaluation Guideline*

- Participation: 15% (Class daily work)
- Class/Homework, Quizzes, Assignments: 40%
- Tests, Projects: 30%
- Final: 15%

*subject to change

Now, let's talk about our class expectations!

There is a full list on the class website, which I expect all of you to read thoroughly!

Here's what you need to know:

1. Come on time! If you are more than 15 minutes late, you will be marked absent!
2. If you are late for more than three classes, you will be asked to stay after class for fifteen minutes. So if you want to be somewhere with your friends after class, don't come complaining to me. Just be on time!
3. Please do not use your phones in class unless I say you can! If I permit you to use your phones, that is strictly for class work, which means translation, research or group work. This does not mean snapchat, Instagram, Facebook, QQ, or any other social media you kids use!
4. If I see your phones out when they're not supposed to be, I will take them away. If I take your phone away more than three times, they will stay with me for an entire day.
5. Assignments have due dates! If you hand in your work late, I will deduct 10 points from your grade. That's 10 points for every day that you are late. If you have a good reason for handing things in late, such as illness or an emergency, I will need either a doctor's note or an email from a parent/guardian.
6. Plagiarism is not tolerated under any circumstance. If you copy from your classmates, your assignment/exam will be cancelled, and you will be given a 0.
7. Attendance is important! If you are sick, please send me an email. If you are missing a class for another reason, please come talk to me in advance. Serious illnesses which cause you to miss more than two classes will require a doctor's note.
8. If you miss more than three classes in total, I will be speaking with your parent/guardian.