

## PRE AP ENG I Course Syllabus

**Course Title:** Pre AP English I

**Teacher:** Vanessa Gallahue

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**Planning:** 12:25-1:15

### Course Overview:

Welcome to PRE AP ENG I. This class will focus on engaging students in different modes of critical thinking. Students should expect an extensive amount of high-level reading, writing, thinking, speaking, and cooperative group activities over the school year. One of the main goals of this course is to challenge students to reach their individual potential as students.

### Required Class Materials:

1. Chromebook
2. Loose leaf paper
3. Writing Utensil
4. Binder or folder (for English class *only*)
5. Novel – Please obtain a copy of *To Kill A Mockingbird*

### Classroom Expectations:

1. Keep cell phones up and out of sight.
2. Treat others with respect at all times.
3. Come to class prepared.
4. Give your best effort.
5. Clean up after yourself.

***Be safe, Be responsible, Be respectful!***

### Classroom Guidelines:

1. **Cell Phones:** Cell phones should be placed in a pocket of the cell phone holder upon arrival to class. *Please understand that you risk your cell phone being taken if you choose not to turn in your phone.*
2. **Absences/Make-up Work:** If you are absent, it is **YOUR RESPONSIBILITY** to get your make up work from the appropriate folder. Make up work must be completed in a timely manner (see BEHS handbook). Make-up tests will be completed after school.
3. **Late Work:** Any assignment turned in late will receive no more than 60% of the possible point value.
4. **Academics:** Academic detention will be assigned once a student has accumulated three zeroes or is failing the class.
5. **Chromebook:** Your chromebook should be fully charged each day and used appropriately for classroom activities only.

6. **Hall Passes:** You will be allowed only **TWO** hall passes per nine weeks. These are for emergency use only. If unused, they can be turned in at the end of the term for extra credit.
7. **Organization:** Keep all work organized in your folder. All materials will assist in preparing you for a cumulative final exam at the end of the semester.
8. **Cheating/Plagiarism:** Do not ever cheat. You will earn a zero for any assignment that is copied from another student, internet, or any other source.

### **Course Content:**

1. **Writing:** We will be writing daily. Our focus will be on the forms of writing you will use throughout high school. Pieces include a monologue, a persuasive speech, essay, and literary analysis.
2. **Literacy Online Portfolio:** This year, you will create an online portfolio. The purpose of this website is to create a record of your literacy and demonstrate your learning throughout the course of your high school career. You will be responsible for uploading an “artifact” for each class listed on your schedule. **This online portfolio is a requirement to pass the course.**
3. **Reading:** We will cover many genres including short stories, plays, poetry and informational articles. *To Kill a Mockingbird*, *Romeo and Juliet* and *The Odyssey* will be our focus pieces.
4. **Dialectical Journal:** This log will be used with novels and books for active reading.
5. **Grammar:** Good grammar is essential to your success in all classes. We will have ACT- aligned grammar mini-lessons, homework, and quizzes. You will also be held responsible for correctly applying the grammatical conventions we review in class in all your written work.
6. **Vocabulary:** ACT Vocabulary lessons will focus on teaching reading strategies to help enrich vocabulary. We will have various practice assignments and a quiz every two weeks.
7. **Bell Ringers:** Each day there will a bell question for you to complete as you enter the room. The bell ringers have been taken from ACT English practice tests. These activities allow you to familiarize yourself with the structure of the ACT, as well as apply strategies and techniques for the test.
8. **Research:** This year, you will be learning more advanced methods of research using current educational databases.
9. **Speaking, Listening, and Viewing:** Language arts consists of much more than reading and writing. During this course, you will academically discuss, critically view and present information in a professional manner.