

June 1, 2014

Dear Prospective English I Honors Student and Parent/s:

We would like to express our pleasure at having the opportunity to work with you this next year in English I Honors. As this will be your first experience in a high school Honors class, it is important you understand what it means to be an Honors student at this academic level. This is a college preparatory course. Therefore, the Honors student can expect a more rigorous workload, including more reading, more writing, and deeper analysis. Remember, 9th grade Honors is an *elective*. Any student who enrolls in the Honors program is electing to work harder than if he/she enrolled in a regular academic English class.

We set high standards in the classroom, both for ourselves and for our students. Each summer we collaborate and attend university classes and/or the AP Institute in an effort to keep current with stimulating learning practices. We bring this newly-acquired learning into our classrooms each year to further our practice and your learning. As far as what you will be bringing to our learning environment, we expect each student to bring with him/her an open, inquisitive mind and respect for the institution of education, for fellow classmates, and for the instructor.

On Mrs. Little's website, you will find the annotated English I Honors Pre-AP book list; select English I Honors, then go to Outside Reading. There will be a page with a list of resources for your required outside reading including the Honors book list. Click this link, and the list will open in Excel. Begin choosing your school year reading material from this list. You will be required to read a certain number of books and pages throughout each semester from outside reading books. Your choices for the outside reading to be used on the annotated bibliographies **must** come from this list (no exceptions).

In addition to choosing your school year reading from this list, this summer you are required to read one book by Ernest Hemingway (other than *Old Man and the Sea*) **or** one book by John Steinbeck (other than *Of Mice and Men*, *The Red Pony*, and *The Pearl*) before the start of first semester. You can find these books at the public library, at any bookstore (including Half Price books), or online through Kindle/Amazon. Write an annotated bibliography on the book (Steinbeck **or** Hemingway) from your summer reading (click directly on the same website as above - Outside Reading – Annotated Bibliography Explanation/Example – for an example). We will be studying these authors and their works this coming year, doing comparative studies with the other works by these authors you will have read during the summer. Come the first week of school prepared to seminar and write about the Hemingway or Steinbeck book read over the summer. Also, bring these books with you to the first week of class. The second required readings for summer are *Fahrenheit 451* (novel) and "The Murderer" (short story) by Ray Bradbury. The link to the short story is also under Outside Reading on Mrs. Little's website. You will be tested on these readings early in the first semester. Finally, there will be several pretests (vocabulary, literary terms (see list on next page), and grammar) to gauge your prior knowledge. Attached is a list of literary terms with which you are expected to be familiar as you enter our class this fall.

It is our pleasure to welcome you to an exciting, rewarding academic year in English I Honors. We look forward to the stimulating ideas you will bring to this classroom.

Sincerely,

Heidi Little
English I Honors
AP English Lit/Comp

Kyle Peacocke
English I Honors
English I
AVID I

Torri McEntire
English I Honors
English II

<http://www.everetsd.org/Domain/962> <http://www.everetsd.org/Domain/980> <http://www.everetsd.org/Domain/1015>

*(To access the book list on Mrs. Little's website, choose Honors English I – Outside Reading)

Literary Terms for Summer Study

You can find definitions for these terms online. See the footnote at the bottom of the page for information about where to find the definitions.

Alliteration	Diction-Colloquial	Irony	Rhyme
Anaphora	Diction-Dialect	Irony-Situational	Rhyme-End
Anecdote	Diction-Jargon	Litotes	Rhyme-Internal
Antagonist	Diction-Slang	Metaphor	Rhythm
Anticlimax	Discourse	Mood	Rising Action
Archetype	Argumentation	Moral	Sarcasm
Atmosphere/Mood	Description	Myth	Satire
Audience	Exposition	Narrative Voice	Sentence Variety
Autobiography	Narration	Narrator	Setting
Biography	Ellipsis	Non Fiction	Short Story
Catastrophe	Epiphany	Novel	Simile
Character	Essay	Onomatopoeia	Sonnet
Dynamic	Formal	Oxymoron	Petrarchan-
Flat	Informal	Parallel Structure	Italian
Round	Exposition	Periodic Sentence	English-
Static	Fable	Personification	Shakespearean
Climax	Falling Action	Plot	Stanza
Coherence	Fiction	Point of View -	Subplot
Comedy	Flashback	First Person	Symbol
Conflict	Folktale	Third Person	Syntax
Connotation	Foreshadowing	Limited	Theme
Couplet	Genre	Omniscient	Tone
Crisis	Haiku	Prologue	Tragedy
Denouement	Hero/Heroine	Prose	Tragic Flaw
Denotation	Hyperbole	Protagonist	Understatement
Detail	Idiom	Quatrain	Verse
Sensory Detail	Image	Refrain	Villain
Dialogue	Imagery	Repetition	Voice
Diction	Inverted Sentence	Resolution	

*To access the definitions to these terms (and others we will study in class), please go to JHS website, Mrs. Little's website under English I Honors, Outside Reading, Literary Terms and Definitions