

Syllabus for ELA 2

Sessions 3-4: Monday/Wednesday, 11:00-12:30

Educator: Jenni Buchanan, jenni@onesparkacademy.com

Description: This course is a mix of 8th-level English Language Arts and 9th-level English Literature & Composition, aligning with many recommended curriculum standards for both grades. Writing will focus on summary and literary response. Readings will include both contemporary and classic literature, with themes that will help students analyze human behavior and power structures in societies, while making relevant connections to their world today. Over the year, students will complete at least three classic novels, several short stories or poetry, and or/relevant articles and/or speeches. Selections depend upon the pace of the group. All reading will be accompanied by in-class reflection, discussion, note-taking, critical analyses, and historical and cultural connections. One-two essays per session will be completed and assessed. Lessons in composition skills (summary and literary analysis) will be included.

Materials Needed:

- ☐ Spiral Notebook or 3-Ring Binder (or portion of a large binder) dedicated to this class, as well as paper for notetaking, and folder/binder space to keep all completed writing assignments for future reference.
- ☐ Pencils, pens, eraser, highlighters in 2 or 3 different colors
- ☐ Required reading (short stories or novels)

Expectations:

- * **Attend all classes** or follow up with required work if absent.
- * **Check in on Google Classroom.** Work must be submitted by the due date.
- * **Arrive on time and be prepared to participate in class discussions** by having completed all assignments (both reading and writing).

Grading

- 20% Attendance
- 30% Participation: preparation, note-taking and discussion
- 50% Homework (reading and writing assignments)

Reading List:

*These are potential short stories/novels we may be reading, actual reading list will be decided based on class abilities. **I will be confirming books and giving ample time for purchase throughout the class.** Students will only need to purchase novels, short stories will be provided.

Potential Short Stories	Potential Novels
<ul style="list-style-type: none">• "The Scarlet Ibis" by James Hurst• "The Yellow Wallpaper" by C.P. Gilman• "The Most Dangerous Game" by Richard Connell• "Charles" by Shirley Jackson• "The Moustache" by Robert Cormier• "Thank You Ma'am" by Langston Hughes• "The Story of an Hour" by Kate Chopin• "Recitatif" by Toni Morrison	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• <i>Fahrenheit 451</i> by Ray Bradbury• <i>Animal Farm</i> by George Orwell• <i>To Kill A Mockingbird</i> by Harper Lee• <i>The Book Thief</i> by Markus Zusak• <i>The Merchant of Venice</i> by Shakespeare• <i>Lord of the Flies</i> by William Golding• <i>The Joy Luck Club</i> by Amy Tan• <i>The Outsiders</i> by S.E. Hinton

Course Outline — *Subject to change and dependent on class abilities and pace.*

SESSION THREE

Week 1: Review elements of Response to Literature essay. Introduction to **novel #1** (*To Kill A Mockingbird*), Pre-reading assignment. History/culture of the Jim Crow south.

Week 2: (*Wednesday only, no school Monday.*) Read/Annotate *TKAM* ch. 1-7 and answer questions.

Week 3: Read/Annotate *TKAM* ch. 8-11 and answer questions.

Week 4: Read/Annotate *TKAM* ch. 12-17 and answer questions.

Week 5: Read/Annotate *TKAM* ch. 18-20 and answer questions.

(No School Feb. 16-20)

Week 6: Read/Annotate *TKAM* ch. 21-25 and answer questions. Discuss character and themes, work on thesis statements.

Week 7: Finish the book (ch. 26-31) and answer questions. Literary Response essay outline, text evidence, collaborative editing and fine-tuning.

Week 8: Literary Response essay rough draft, peer review editing, begin revising essays in-class.

Week 9: Literary Response essay second draft.

SESSION FOUR

Week 10: Introduce & analyze **Poem #1**.

Week 11: Response to literature assignment for poem #1.

BREAK (No school April 6-17)

Week 12: Introduce **novel #3**.

Week 13: Read/Annotate novel #3 and answer questions.

Week 14: Read/Annotate novel #3 and answer questions.

Week 15: Finish novel #3 and answer questions. Discuss character and themes, work on thesis statements.

Week 16: Work on novel #3 Literary Response essay outline, text evidence, rough drafts.

Week 17: (*Wednesday only, no school Monday*) First novel literary response essays final draft due.