

Syllabus for ELA 2

Sessions 1-2: Monday/Wednesday, 11:00-12:30

Educator: Jenni Buchanan, jenni@onesparkacademy.com

[Google Classroom](#) code: tdg4lv3f

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, personal response, and literary analysis. Over the year, students will complete classic novels, several classic short stories, poetry, and relevant articles/speeches. Selections are dependent upon the pace of the group. The themes of our selected readings will help students analyze human behavior and power structures in societies, while making relevant connections to their world today. Required reading will include analysis of both contemporary and classic literature. All reading will be accompanied by in-class reflection, discussion, note-taking, critical analyses, and historical and cultural connections, as well as lessons in composition skills. One to three essays per session will be completed and assessed.

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 and reading/annotating must be submitted by the due date.
- * **Arrive on time, 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% Classwork and 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
• "The Scarlet Ibis" by James Hurst • "The Yellow Wallpaper" by C.P. Gilman • "The Most Dangerous Game" by Richard Connell • "The Moustache" by Robert Cormier • "Thank You Ma'am" by Langston Hughes • "The Story of an Hour" by Kate Chopin • "Recitatif" by Toni Morrison	• <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>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 ONE: focus on Summary

Week 1: Introduction to class. Introduction to annotation. Review elements of fiction. Introduce **short story #1**.

Week 2: Read, annotate and discuss story #1, author and historical background. Summary strategies.

Week 3: (*Wednesday only, no school Monday.*) Summary essay #1 outline.

Week 4: Summary essay #1 in-class essay. Summary #1 final draft.

Week 5: Introduce **short story #2** and begin annotating. Discussion of story #2 literary elements, theme & characterization.

Week 6: Summary #2 outline and in-class essay.

Week 7: Summary #2 final draft. Review elements of summary, preview elements of personal response essay.

Session Break

SESSION TWO: focus on personal response, literary analysis

Week 8: Review elements of poetry, introduce **poetry**, discuss personal response.

Week 9: Elements of **Personal Response (PR) essay**, outline for PR essay #1, PR #1 in-class essay.

Week 10: PR #1 final draft. Introduce **memoir essays**; read, annotate, and discuss personal response.

Week 11: Outline for PR essay #2, PR #2 in-class essay.

Week 12: PR #2 final draft. Introduce in **short story #3** and begin annotating. Introduce elements of **Literary Analysis (LA) essay** and how to read/annotate with those in mind.

Week 13: Discuss theme, connections, and characterization in story #3. How to write a strong thesis statement, gather text evidence, and organize a LA essay.

Week 14: Outline for LA #1, LA #1 in-class essay.

Week 15: LA #1 final draft. Preview Novel #1. Dramatic in-class reading & discussion of *A Christmas Carol*.