

## English 10H

Literary Quest: The Search for Self and Truth  
Tappan Zee High School  
Ms. McMane/Ms. Erickson

### Course Description:

In English 10H, we will study various genres of literature, including short stories, novels, plays, and poetry. You will develop your critical reading skills through class discussion, collaborative group projects, and independent reading of self-selected texts. You will develop your writing skills through essays, journals, and creative assignments as part of our focus on the writing process, which includes both critical analysis and self-reflection.

### Course Goals and Objectives:

- To use literature to help make sense of the world
- To illustrate your own interpretation of a text
- To see yourself positively as a reader, writer, listener, thinker, and speaker
- To draft and revise writing

### Student Responsibilities:

1. Arrive on time and prepared for class each day
2. Participate daily
3. Maintain a class writing folder
4. Take clear and organized notes each period
5. Take care of texts issued to you
6. Work effectively and respectfully with peer groups and teacher
7. Seek help from your teacher as soon as you realize help is needed
8. Follow the school rules
9. Take responsibility for all missed work due to absence or lateness

### Themes:

The Literary Quest will be explored through the following themes:

- I. Identity
- II. Perspectives
- III. Culture and Diversity
- IV. Journeys

### Texts:

We will read texts from the lists provided below:

Animal Farm by George Orwell  
Fahrenheit 451 by Ray Bradbury  
Lord of the Flies by William Golding  
Hamlet by William Shakespeare  
The Bluest Eye by Toni Morrison  
The Picture of Dorian Gray by Oscar Wilde

Frankenstein by Mary Shelley  
Bless Me, Ultima by Rudolfo Anaya  
The Stranger by Albert Camus  
A Doll's House by Henrik Ibsen  
The Grass Dancer by Susan Power

### Films:

We will be watching films from the lists provided below. Please consult [imdb.com](http://imdb.com) for more information.

*Dead Poets Society* (1989, PG)  
*Frankenstein* (excerpts from various productions, PG)  
*Hamlet* (excerpts from various productions, PG- PG-13)

*Lord of the Flies* (excerpts, 1963)  
*Thunderheart* (1992, R)

### Supplies:

You will require the following for this class:

1. A three-ring binder or section of a binder with loose-leaf paper
2. Writing utensils—blue or black ink ONLY please. Assignments in colored pen will be returned.

### **Assignments:**

All assignments should include your name, the date, and the class period in the heading. Final drafts of all essays must be typed with standard margins, in a clear 12pt font. If you have home computer problems, use the school computers. If you have printer problems, bring your assignment to school on disk and print it **BEFORE** class in the library or computer lab, or send it to a friend to print for you. "My printer is broken," "The file is corrupted," or "My computer crashed" are not valid excuses for late work. **IF THE WORK IS NOT HANDED IN AT THE BEGINNING OF THE PERIOD, IT IS LATE.**

### **Evaluation:**

Your quarterly grade will be based on:

Class participation and homework	20%
Writing assignments, tests, quizzes, and projects	80%

Assignments are weighted according to the significance and amount of time allowed for each. Class participation includes all items listed under **Student Responsibilities**. Your final grade will be calculated using your four quarter averages (21% each) and your final exam grade (16%).

### **Policies Concerning Absence:**

1. Any work previously assigned is due on the day you return. Any test previously assigned must be made up during a study period, lunch, or after school. Extenuating circumstances will be handled at the teacher's discretion.
2. You are responsible for making up the classwork and homework assigned during your absence. This work must be made up and submitted **within one week of your return**. It is **your responsibility to find out exactly what you have missed and to complete it without having to be reminded**. When you are absent, call another member of your class to get your assignments. When you return, be sure to check what work you missed.
3. **NO WORK OR TESTS MAY BE MADE UP IF THE ABSENCE IS A CUT. YOU WILL RECEIVE A GRADE OF ZERO ON THESE ASSIGNMENTS.**
4. Your teacher must be informed in advance of any absences for school-related reasons (music lessons, field trips, rehearsals, appointments with nurse, guidance and/or another teacher).
5. If you are in school during the school day but miss English for any reason, you are to be in touch with the teacher that day regarding missed work. Assignments due that day are still due, and tests given that day are still expected to be taken during a study period, lunch, or after school. Assignments given that day are expected to be completed on time.
6. If you know ahead of time that you are going to be out of school for any reason at all, it is your responsibility to ask for all work and give the teacher a reasonable amount of time to gather it. Deadlines for this work will depend upon the assignments, the length and reason for the absence, and the calendar.

### **Policies Concerning Late Work:**

1. Homework will NOT be accepted late. If it is not in class, it is a zero. If you go on a field trip, it is still your responsibility to get the homework and complete it on time. Extenuating circumstances will be handled at the teacher's discretion.
2. Essays and other assignments must be handed in on or before the due date. If you are in school, but miss English on the date the assignment is due, the assignment **must** still be handed into your teacher.
3. **Penalties:** 5 points will deducted for each day a major assignment is late. 1 point a day will be deducted for late journals.
4. Weekends, days off, absences, and vacations will be included in determining credit loss for late work. In this age of technology, work can usually be submitted outside classroom time with the teacher's permission.

**Re-write Policy:** Any major writing process assignment may be re-written within a week of its return to you provided:

- The first draft was handed in on time
- You schedule a writing conference to discuss the revision with your teacher

**Caution:** Copied or plagiarized work will result in a zero for all parties concerned. Be wary of “sharing” assignments with classmates; if they copy your assignment, you will both be penalized for plagiarism. Work that is completed for another class **cannot**, under any circumstances, be turned in for credit in this class; any attempts to do so will be treated as plagiarism and will result in a zero. Talking or looking around during testing situations will result in a zero for all parties involved.

**Homework Grades:**

You will be graded on a scale from 1-3 for every homework assignment you complete. Please refer to this rubric. Keep in mind that your answers do not have to be correct to receive full credit; you are given homework credit based on the level of effort you put into the assignment. Homework should be completed independently and will be collected periodically to ensure integrity. When working with a friend, please keep this in mind; use your own words and ideas. Working with a partner or group doesn’t mean copying.

Any student caught plagiarizing will face disciplinary consequences, which may include suspension and/or denial from honor societies.

Every couple of weeks, homework grades will be tallied and entered into Power School based on the number of assignments that have been given. For example, if you received full credit on 10 assignments, you will receive a score of 30 out of 30.

Journals that are given as homework grades will be scored and entered separately. Journal scores are given out of 10 points.

3	2	1-0
<p><b>ALL</b> parts <b>thoroughly</b> completed</p> <p>Uses quotes to support answers to questions when appropriate</p>	<p><b>ALL</b> parts completed, but not thoroughly (i.e. no quotes or textual support)</p> <p>May include incomplete sentences</p> <p style="text-align: center;"><b>OR</b></p> <p>Most parts completed thoroughly, but may have skipped or missed some of the assignment</p>	<p>Some, but not all parts completed</p> <p style="text-align: center;"><b>OR</b></p> <p>Answers are simple, one-word, silly, or inappropriate</p>
<p>Shows effort and time spent on assignment</p>	<p>Shows some effort and time to complete assignment</p>	<p>Shows little to no effort or time to complete assignment</p>

### Class Participation Grades:

Participation grades will be given approximately every two weeks based on the following rubric.

	<b>4 100-90</b>	<b>3 89-80</b>	<b>2 79-70</b>	<b>1 69 and below</b>
<b>**Attendance</b>	You are rarely late.	You are sometimes late.	You are frequently late.	You are very often late.
<b>*Frequency of participation</b>	Your hand is often raised to participate.	Your hand is sometimes raised to participate and/or you are able to contribute when called on.	Your hand is rarely raised to participate and/or you are sometimes able to contribute when called on.	You do not volunteer to contribute to the class and/or are unable to participate when called on.
<b>*Quality of participation</b>	You make insightful, meaningful, and/or profound comments in class discussion.	You make thoughtful and relevant comments in class discussion.	You are able to offer answers to some questions, but rarely provide insight beyond objective answers to the questions posed.	You rarely participate and/or distract others during discussion.
<b>Preparation for class</b>	You bring all necessary materials to class every day. You are ready to work when the bell rings.	You almost always bring necessary materials to class. You are ready to work when the bell rings.	You sometimes bring necessary materials to class and/or you are only sometimes ready when the bell rings.	You frequently have to ask to borrow materials. You are rarely ready to begin when the bell rings.
<b>Focus</b>	You are on task during group, paired, or individual work the entire time	You complete group, paired, or individual work in the allotted time and rarely need to be reminded to stay on task.	You often need to be reminded to stay on task during group, paired or individual work.	You put forth minimum effort during group, paired, or individual work and are often off task.
<b>Listening &amp; Respectfulness</b>	You always listen to the teacher and classmates. You always treat teacher(s) and students with respect.	You almost always listen to your teacher and classmates. You almost always treat teacher(s) and students with respect.	You sometimes listen to your teacher and classmates. You sometimes treat teacher(s) and students with respect.	You rarely listen to your teacher and classmates. You rarely demonstrate respect towards teacher(s) and students.
<b>Helpfulness</b>	You always help other students and/or the teacher in order to help things run smoothly.	You often help other students and/or the teacher in order to help things run smoothly.	You sometimes help other students and/or the teacher in order to help things run smoothly.	You rarely help other students and/or the teacher in order to help things run smoothly.
<b>Responsibility</b>	Work is always on time; you always make up any missed work due to absence or lateness without being reminded.	Work is usually on time; you usually make up any missed work due to absence or lateness without being reminded.	Several assignments have been submitted late; you sometimes fail to make up missed work due to absence or lateness.	Work is often submitted late or incomplete; you often fail to make up missed work due to absence or lateness.

\*\* If you are late three or more times in a two-week period, you cannot score above a 70.

\*These qualities are rated most heavily.

**PLEASE RETURN THIS ENTIRE SHEET TO YOUR TEACHER. DO NOT TEAR IT.**

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**English 10H**

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Dear Student,

This information has been presented to avoid any future problems or misunderstanding – not to alarm you, but to increase your awareness of your responsibilities. We wish you much success in this course. If you ever need any extra help, do not hesitate to ask. We are available for office hours by appointment only, so please make necessary arrangements to see your teacher whenever help is needed.

Sincerely,

The English 10H Team

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Declaration:

I have read the above requirements **and reviewed the homework and class participation rubrics** (available on each teacher’s website), and I understand my responsibilities in English 10H.

\_\_\_\_\_  
(Student’s name)

\_\_\_\_\_  
(Student’s signature)

I understand the requirements for English 10H.

\_\_\_\_\_  
(Parent/Guardian’s name)

\_\_\_\_\_  
(Parent/Guardian’s signature)

I give permission for my son/daughter to watch the films listed on his/her teacher’s website, understanding that some may be rated R for mature content. (If not, please note objections below. An alternative assignment will be given.)

\_\_\_\_\_  
(Parent/Guardian’s signature)

Home phone number: \_\_\_\_\_

Parent’s cell or work number: \_\_\_\_\_

\*Parent’s email: \_\_\_\_\_

**Please keep the first page of this document for your own reference and return this signed sheet to your English teacher.**

**\*Email is especially helpful in maintaining parent-teacher contact.**