

## **JUNIOR HIGH ENGLISH SYLLABUS**

**Teacher: Mrs. Donna Rooney**

### **COURSE DESCRIPTION:**

The English courses offered in the Drexel Junior High will offer grammar, composition, literature, and thinking skills which are aligned to the Core Curriculum Standards. This includes creative writing, a review of basic grammar, writing fiction as well as non-fiction, and working in effective groups using listening and thinking skills. Folktales, myths, short stories, essays, sourced reports, and novels will be addressed during English classes. Strengthening vocabulary and improving writing skills will be ongoing throughout the year. Writing will include argument, expository, informative, and persuasive essays. Board approved objectives and curriculum will be covered to meet and/or exceed Missouri State requirements; it is my goal to have all of my students score at the proficient level and above on the state assessments. This can be accomplished if we work together as a team.

### **GRADING SCALE:**

A (95-100%) A-(94-90%)

B (85-89%) B-(80-84%)

C (75-79%) C- (70-74%)

D (65-69%) D-(60-64%)

F (59% and below)

### **LATE ASSIGNMENTS:**

Work should be completed in a timely matter. If an assignment is NOT turned in by the date due, a "0" will be put into Power School until it is turned in. (An "M" will be shown in Powerschool to indicate the assignment is "Missing." In addition, a full explanation might also be attached in the text box as well. Partial or full credit may or may not be given depending on the circumstances.

### **TARDIES:**

Tardy -- Arriving late to class. Using class time to get materials. (I give you 3 "freebies" per quarter to go fetch items —use them wisely. You will have a detention with me after the 4th tardy out of my room. This does NOT include being late—that counts as a tardy in the office and Mr. Bolton will follow the student handbook policy regarding excessive tardies.

### **COMPUTER USE:**

You will be held accountable to be in compliance with all computer use policies while attending Drexel R-IV School. See Student Handbook for further explanation.

### **CLASSROOM RULES:**

1. BE RESPECTFUL. This means to respect each other, your teacher, and the property.
2. NO FOOD IS PERMITTED IN CLASS. However, gum and hard candies ARE permitted in my classroom, unless I can hear it or see it. Hard candies include Tic-Tacs, mints, Jolly Ranchers etc. This does NOT include Skittles, Starbursts, candy bars etc.
3. Water is permitted in class, provided it is in a CLEAR container with lid.
4. Substitute teachers are sometimes required. Should you cause the substitute grief of any kind, you will receive an automatic detention the first day I return.

## **CLASSROOM PROCEDURES:**

1. All assignments will have the following:

\*First and last name

\*Assignment and page number \* Date

2. Papers and Word documents should reflect accuracy and neatness.

\*Don't draw or doodle all over your paper \*Papers should not be torn from spirals, or wrinkled. (No spirals permitted in my class) \*ONLY LEGIBLE NEATLY WRITTEN PAPERS WILL BE ACCEPTED FOR GRADING!

3. If an assignment has 2 or more pages, please staple in the top left corner.

4. When returning from an excused absence, check the front bulletin board for your assignments. THIS IS YOUR RESPONSIBILITY! You have one day for makeup work for each day missed (up to one week), UNLESS you had prior knowledge of the assignment. If you knew about the assignment before your absence, it is due the day you return.

5. CHEATING IS NOT TOLERATED! \*Your paper will be taken and you will receive a 0%. If you permit someone to copy from your paper, you will also receive a 0%. (This includes assignments from other classes as well) \*PLAGIARISM (Using someone else's work as your own in a written document) is NOT permitted. (Up to 10 days O.S.S.—see student handbook)

## **ACCELERATED READER:**

Students will be responsible for either **four** books per quarter or 25 AR points total. These books must be within your reading level, and an AR test must be taken (in my classroom only) after the book has been read. A final grade for Accelerated Reader will be given at the end of each quarter, and will be an average of your scores (or score) from those AR quizzes.

## **EXTRA CREDIT**

Extra credit of up to 25 points will be given to those that have read over 25 points in a quarter. This is figured quarterly, and does not carry over into succeeding quarters.

## **NOTE:**

Accelerated Reader grades are NOT entered until the end of each quarter.

**TEXT MESSAGE REMINDERS:**

Please sign up for my text message reminders. This is a service that allows you to sign up for alerts, messages, etc. that I will send out about assignments, due dates, and other important information. It is a one way communication that you will receive only. I promise not to "blow up your phone" with unnecessary messages! (I do NOT have access to your cell phone numbers, as this goes through a special delivery system only)

**HOW TO SIGN UP:**

\*English 7: Enter this number: 81010

Text this message: @mrsrooney

\*English 8: Enter this number: 81010

Text this message: @03e8a

\*English I: Text this number: 81010

Text this message: @b01.a3

**GOOGLE CLASSROOM IS HERE!**

Students will be required to check Google Classroom for assignments and upcoming due dates. This will be the STUDENT'S RESPONSIBILITY to make sure that their assignments are completed. In the event of an absence, the student will be able to check Google Classroom to see what was assigned or missed that day.

**CONTACT INFORMATION:**

Please don't hesitate to contact me with any questions or concerns. The best way to reach me is through email, as it goes directly to my cell phone, or you may call the school.

Email: drooney@drexelbobcats.net

Phone: 816-619-2287 #5103 (Before or after school and 1st hour)

I am looking forward to teaching another year here at Drexel, where we are the home of the Bobcats, and home to the best students and parents in the state! Together, we can make this the greatest year ever!

Sincerely,

Mrs. Donna Rooney