

## English I Course Syllabus: Mrs. Taylor &amp; Mrs. Frerichs

### Contact Information

- **Teachers:**

Mrs. Christina Taylor	Mrs. Colleen Frerichs
Room #252	Room #252 & 118
(512) 428-3969	(512) 428-3969 & (512) 428-3933
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- **Classroom Number:** 252
- **Course Website:** Mrs. Taylor's Page at <http://teacherweb.com>
  - **Tutorials:** Both teachers are available most mornings before school from 8:15 - 9:00 AM as well as by appointment. Making an appointment is the **MOST EFFECTIVE** method.

### Course Description (Objectives)

#### Students will:

- Review basic grammar rules and apply them.
- Critically read selected texts and analyze them using various literary devices.
- Review the elements of narration—plot, character, theme, setting, and point of view—and analyze major works of literature by applying these elements to them.
- Explore the writing process and the structure of a multi-paragraph composition.
- Focus their writing and concentrate on composing effective paragraphs. *A structurally-sound, fully-elaborated paragraph is the microcosm of a well-written composition.*
- Explore analytical writing through effective compositions.
- Explore the research process.
- Practice soft skills—awareness of content, audience, and appearance; effective speaking skills; and nonverbal cues.

### Work Load

#### Students will:

- Have an average of thirty (30) minutes of homework every night. The teachers will attempt to establish an even pace; however, this work may occur in waves.
- Complete at least one formal composition each six-week grading period.
- Critically read a text each six-week grading period.

### Grading Policy

- See course website for the “Westwood High School: English Department Grading Policy.”
- Each six-week grading period, grades will be weighted as follows:

➤ Test Grades:	30%
➤ Major Grades:	20%
➤ Daily Grades:	30%
➤ Homework Grades:	20%

**English I Course Syllabus: Mrs. Taylor & Mrs. Frerichs****Expectations**

*As a member of this class, each student should contribute to a productive learning environment by:*

1. **Be prepared.**
  - Submit assignments at the ***BEGINNING*** of class.
  - Start the warm-up activity as soon as possible upon entering the room.
  - Bring all necessary materials to class daily.
2. **Be respectful.**
  - Listen carefully when a teacher ***OR*** student is speaking.
  - Raise your hand and wait to be acknowledged before speaking.
  - Use appropriate language.
  - Behave appropriately for a substitute teacher.
  - Accept responsibility for your actions:
    - Apologize for inappropriate comments and behavior.
    - Pick up and dispose of trash in your area.
    - Return borrowed materials to their proper place.
    - Respect other people's property.
3. **Be positive and open-minded.**
4. **Be honest.**
5. **Be involved.**

**Recipe for Success**

*Students should heed the following suggestions to increase their success in this class:*

- Carefully **read the directions** of all assigned work. If they are unclear or require additional information, then ask for help.
- **Seek extra** help when needed.
- Maintain a system that **organizes** handouts, class work, and assignments.
- Submit assignments ***ON TIME***—at the beginning of class on the day that it is due.
- Develop a personal system for previewing, **studying**, and reviewing course work.
- **Avoid procrastinating.**

**English I Course Syllabus: Mrs. Taylor & Mrs. Frerichs****Course Overview**

\*\*Overview subject to change based on student/course need.\*\*

Each six weeks will include:

- (1) **a formal composition** in one of the following writing modes: narrative, persuasive, descriptive, expository, or literary analysis.
- (2) **grammar** conventions that cover: complete sentences vs. sentence fragments, punctuation, capitalization (related to sentence structure, proper nouns, titles, etc.), verb tense consistency, and sentence variety (simple compound, and complex sentences; vivid language; precise verbs; and diction)

**Textbooks:**

- *The Language of Literature* (McDougal Littell)
- *Language Network* (McDougal Littell)

**Supplemental Materials:**

- Texts from the Round Rock ISD approved reading list

***First 6 Weeks Focus:***

- Orientation
- Reading: The Short Story
  - “The Most Dangerous Game” **[textbook]**
  - Companion Piece **[textbook]**
- Writing:
  - Building basic paragraph structure
  - Writing a Short Answer Response to Literature (A.C.E.)

***Fourth 6 Weeks Focus:***

- **Fall Semester Exam**
- Reading: Nonfiction
  - “I Have a Dream” **[textbook]**
  - “Glory and Hope” **[textbook]**
- Writing: Expository Writing—The Research Process

***Second 6 Weeks Focus:***

- Reading: The Novel
  - *Ender's Game* by O. S. Card **[buy]**
- Writing: Personal Narrative

***Fifth 6 Weeks Focus***

- Reading: The Epic
  - *Odyssey* by Homer **[textbook]**
  - Poetic Devices in Epic Poetry
- Writing: Personal Narrative

***Third 6 Weeks Focus:***

- Reading: Nonfiction
  - *Night* by Elie Wiesel **[buy]**
- Writing: Literary Analysis

***Sixth 6 Weeks Focus:***

- **Spring Semester Exam**
- Reading: Drama
  - *Romeo and Juliet* by William Shakespeare **[textbook]**
  - Poetic Devices in Shakespearean Drama
- Writing: Literary Analysis