

Composition Junior / English 11

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DESCRIPTION OF COURSE

The aim of English Language Arts, as defined in the BC curriculum, is to provide students with opportunities for personal and intellectual growth through speaking, listening, reading, viewing, writing, and representing to make meaning of the world and to prepare them to participate effectively in all aspects of society.

* Composition Junior is intended as a supplementary course to help you succeed in your regular English classes. This is a credit course, and should be treated as such. Regular participation is essential for you to succeed in this class.

Through their participation in English, students are encouraged to:

- comprehend and respond to oral and written language critically, creatively, and articulately
- communicate ideas, information, and feelings critically, creatively, and articulately, using various media
- think critically and creatively, and reflect on and articulate their thinking and learning
- develop a continuously increasing understanding of self and others
- explore language through a variety of media and modes
- develop a lifelong interest in reading
- apply linguistic and literary concepts and skills in a variety of authentic contexts.

METHODOLOGY and ASSESSMENT

This course will incorporate multiple ways of learning including discussion, lecture, project-based work, cooperative learning, reflection, group inquiry and individual inquiry. Throughout the year, students will complete a variety of assessments, including *at least* one piece of extended writing (essay), a test, and another assignment such as a webpage, annotated bibliography, a case study, a presentation, etc. Please go to the school website to view the criteria which will be used to assess students' achievement in this course.

The assessment process reveals what a student understands, knows and can do. The evaluation process indicates the quality of performance based on learner outcomes (curriculum). Assessment and evaluation provide ongoing feedback to teachers, students and parents in order to enhance student learning. Assessment and evaluation are employed when teachers gather information (*diagnostic*), monitor student progress (*formative*), and evaluate achievement of learning outcomes for the purpose of report card marks (*summative*).

HOMEWORK

Ample time will be given during class to complete all class assignments. Should the student be unable to complete the assignment, they will need to finish the work at home in order to receive timely feedback and progress through course concepts.

MAJOR INSTRUCTIONAL MATERIALS / RESOURCES

- Students will not need a textbook for this course, though we will keep a set in the class as a secondary resource
- Online resources will be used for several assignments and lessons

INCOMPLETE OR LATE SUBMISSIONS

Incomplete or late submissions of assignments or projects is not acceptable. If the student is absent they must have an excused absence substantiated by either myself or the office. All assignments will then be handed in on the first class back, unless an agreement has been made between myself and the student due to unforeseen circumstances. Assignments not handed in will receive a NHI (0) until

they are submitted.

ABSENCES AND LATES

Unexcused absences are not acceptable and any information missed must be made up on the student's time. If there is an unexcused absence on the day of a test or quiz, the absence will be seen as skipping, and the student will receive a mark of 0. In case of illness or unforeseen excused absence(s) students are expected to notify the office and myself as soon as possible via email or voicemail. Students are also expected to make up any work they have missed.

FOOD, DRINKS AND ELECTRONIC DEVICES

Please note that food and drinks (other than water) are not allowed in classrooms at Rockridge Secondary. All cell phones should be turned off during class time. I-PODs and other MP3 devices should not be used during class time, unless specifically allowed by myself during personal work. Laptops are allowed for class use, however improper use of laptops during class time will result the removal of laptop privileges.

CLASSROOM BEHAVIOUR

Students are always expected to act in a courteous and respectful manner to other students and myself. This means that no one should be interrupted or insulted in any manner. Students should refrain from speaking while others are speaking and should raise their hand to participate.

Participation is encouraged at all times and is essential for success.