

English 9 Overview

English 9 is a course organized around the study of various genres of literature, including novels, non-fiction expository texts, drama, and poetry. The course emphasizes instruction in the development of clear argumentation, support, and structure of analytical paragraphs and essays. Students will construct multi-paragraph essays that respond to non-fiction texts, analyze literature, and persuade an audience. Analysis is a key skill that students will develop as they explore the significance of a piece of text and the elements of writing that create meaning. Students will also be challenged to grow in their practical language skills through class discussions, formal and informal writing assignments, creative projects, and oral presentations. Students will continue to develop grammar, punctuation, and vocabulary skills.

Skills for Success

In order to succeed in English 9, students should be prepared to:

- Comprehend and critically analyze grade-level fiction and non-fiction texts
- Develop and support a coherent argument in an essay
- Contribute effectively and thoughtfully to classroom discussions and presentations
- Demonstrate understanding and control of proper English usage, grammar, mechanics, and writing conventions
- Take notes and organize a notebook independently and routinely

Workload Expectations

- Read 4 major literary works, as well as non-fiction, speeches, drama and poetry (works typically read include *The Weight of All Things*, *The Odyssey*, *To Kill a Mockingbird*, and *Romeo and Juliet*)
- Be prepared for independent reading assignments of 5-10 pages
- Write 2-3 multi-draft essays and 3-4 timed or in-class writing assignments.
- Prepare and deliver a formal oral presentation
- Complete 2-3 group and individual projects

Course Notes

10 units UC "B" approved

Level of Difficulty: Moderate

Estimated Homework

15-30 minutes nightly. NOTE: Homework frequently includes reading and writing. Homework lengths will differ according to a student's reading level and writing proficiency.

IB Learner Profile

Successful RBV honors students are:

- Inquirers
- Knowledgeable
- Thinkers
- Communicators
- Principled
- Open-minded
- Caring
- Risk-takers
- Balanced
- Reflective

Course Objectives

This course is designed to prepare students for the reading and writing requirements of English 10. Students will also practice skills assessed by CAASPP, SAT and ACT.

