

# English 9A and 9B

Two Semester Course = 1/2 credit for each semester (1 credit overall) REQUIRED  
Co-Teacher Instructors: MS. DAUNINE HARLOCK AND MS. HEATHER NAYBACK

Lesson Plans found on school website – mps-up.com – click on “Teacher Pages”

**Textbooks:** *Prentice Hall Literature*  
*Prentice Hall Writing and Grammar*  
*Writers’, Inc.*

**Required Materials:** Notebook for class notes and assignment details  
Two-pocket folder (will be provided) –MUST BE KEPT IN THE CLASSROOM

## Objectives:

By the conclusion of the course, the student will:

- Explore ideas based on the theme of inter-relationships, identity and self-reliance
- Gain a greater understanding of the rules of grammar, punctuation, word usage, and sentence structure in order to improve writing skills.
- Practice effective note taking strategies.
- Understand the basic structure of an essay.
- Practice various types of writing.
- Learn reading strategies to help improve comprehension of fiction and nonfiction.
- Gain further understanding of important literary devices (terms) in order to increase understanding and enjoyment of fiction selections.
- Increase vocabulary by studying words used in various readings selections.
- Learn and practice test skills and strategies.
- Learn strategies for reading and understanding poetry.
- Gain further understanding of poetic devices.
- Understand dramatic devices and characteristics of Shakespearean tragedies.
- Understand historical contexts of literature selections.

## Course Content:

- Standards for 9<sup>th</sup> grade as required by the state of Michigan and found at: [http://www.michigan.gov/documents/ELA\\_9\\_167747\\_7.pdf](http://www.michigan.gov/documents/ELA_9_167747_7.pdf)
- Grammar and punctuation exercises
- Practice of effective sentence combining
- Reading of and responses to various short stories, nonfiction selections, poems, and plays (from literature textbook) and novels
- Whole-class and small-group discussions
- Vocabulary study- words used in the literature selections read
- Written responses to reading selections
- Drama selection: *The Tragedy of Romeo and Juliet* by William Shakespeare
- Novel: *To Kill a Mockingbird* by Harper Lee
- Selections from some epic poetry, *the Odyssey*

**Grading Scale:** Grades are figured on the basis of total points.

93%-100% = A	73%-76%=C
90%-92% = A-	70%-72%=C-
87%-89% = B+	67%-69%=D+
83%-86% = B	63%-66%=D
80%-82% = B-	60%-62%=D-
77%-79% = C+	59% and below = E

Your trimester grade is based on:

- points earned on homework assignments and worksheets
- points earned on writing assignments -  
**++++Any final draft of a lengthy writing assignment that contains more than 10 non-repeating errors in spelling, punctuation, word use, and/or sentence structure or that is illegible must be rewritten to correct the errors before credit will be given for the assignment. A deadline for the rewritten assignment will be given depending on the assignment's length.**
- points earned on tests and quizzes
- daily participation points

**++++You may earn participation points each day that you are in class and do the required class work, without being disruptive. Your final participation grade will be based on the percentage of the maximum possible points you have earned throughout the marking period on the days you were in attendance.**

**Homework Policy:**

- Homework assignments and writing assignments are due on assigned due dates.
- Students with IEP needs may have different deadlines as needed.

**Late assignments handed in**

- \*One day late will be deducted 25% of the total points.
- \*Two days late will receive 50% of the total points.
- \*Three days late will receive 75% of the total points.
- \*Beyond this will receive no credit unless other arrangements made with both instructors.

**Makeup Work Policy:**

- When you return from being absent, check the makeup work folder or on the school website (or power school) for any in-class work and assignments you missed. Get any handouts or worksheets from the makeup folder. If you have any questions about any of the work, see me.  
**GETTING YOUR MAKEUP ASSIGNMENTS IS YOUR RESPONSIBILITY – I WILL NOT REMIND YOU TO GET YOUR MAKEUP WORK.**  
**\*\*\*You have one day for each consecutive day you are absent to get any makeup assignments completed.**
- All tests and quizzes must be made up within one week of the date of the test. Tests must be made up before or after school only- can be made up in S.T.A.N.G.S. Required in class work that must be witnessed by instructor may also be made up in Stangs

### **School-business Absences:**

If you are going to be absent from class for school business (sporting event, field trip for another class, etc.):

- any written assignments that are due that day **MUST** be handed in **BEFORE** you leave school. (They will be considered late if handed in the next day).
- you **MUST** stop in to see me **BEFORE** you leave school to get any assignments you will miss in class that day. **YOUR ASSIGNMENTS WILL HAVE THE SAME DUE DATE AS THE REST OF THE CLASS. YOU DO NOT GET ADDITIONAL DAYS TO COMPLETE YOUR ASSIGNMENTS.**

**\*\* Remember, you are not considered absent if you are not in school due to school business.**

### **GENERAL CLASSROOM RULES**

1. Be in your desk ready to start class when the bell rings or you will be marked tardy.
2. Bring all materials to class – do not ask to go to your locker after the bell rings.
3. Leave personal materials in lockers, **NO** backpacks, book bags, gym bags, or huge “purses” allowed in class.
4. Leave electronic devices at home or secured in lockers. No CD players, MP3 players, I-Pods, etc. – I will confiscate it and turn it into the office. You will have to get it from the principal.
5. Cell phones may not be used or be visible in the classroom (turn off while in class) – cell phones will be confiscated and turned into the office.
6. **NO** eating in the classroom – this includes candy, suckers, etc. unless I give you or a special celebration
7. **NO** beverages in the classroom except water in a clear container.
8. **NO** jackets, hats, or hoods may be worn in the classroom.
9. Bathroom Policy:
  - You will not be allowed to use the bathroom right after the bell rings.
  - Bathroom visits during class should be for emergencies – if you ask to be excused too often, you will be denied permission. You will receive up to 5 for each semester. Unused bathroom passes can be used for extra credit.
  - You must obtain a signed pass from me **BEFORE** you leave to use the bathroom.
10. Use class time well. **DO NOT** ask to be excused from class to visit another classroom, student or teacher – take care of this between classes. You will not be excused to go to the office unless it is an emergency.
11. Use appropriate and respectful language. Swearing, discussing illegal activities, and other objectionable language will not be tolerated.

12. Use English class time for English. DO NOT work on homework from another class until your work for this class is completed and then, please ask so I do not misunderstand.
13. Respect the property and equipment in the classroom – do not write on desktops, school items, or throw garbage on the floor.
14. If you sleep during class work and/or do not complete any in-class assignments, you will be assigned to S.T.A.N.G.S. where you will complete the work or assignment.
15. Respect other students' personal space, others' belongings, their rights to learn without disruptions and use proper language and tone when addressing instructor.

**\*\* THE CLASS WILL NOT BE EXCUSED AT THE END OF THE CLASS PERIOD UNTIL ALL STUDENTS ARE SEATED IN THEIR OWN DESKS AND WE ANNOUNCE THAT THE CLASS IS DISMISSED.**

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Sign and return this page after reading all of the class rules and expectations:

I agree to do the best I can in class without distracting others to improve my writing abilities. I will strive toward publication and attempt to create my own unique style of writing. I will cooperate with the instructor to the best of my ability and follow all classroom rules...or otherwise face consequences of my actions.

I also realize that cheating points cannot be made up. Copying materials from the Internet, from other students or other locations is considered cheating.

\_\_\_\_\_ Student Signature \_\_\_\_\_ Date

I understand all the rules and regulations of Munising High School as explained in the student handbook. I agree that my student is to be graded by the expectations outlined in this document. I understand how to contact the instructor for any questions. I will support my student in his/her reading improvement.

\_\_\_\_\_ Parent/Guardian Sig. \_\_\_\_\_ Date