

# English II Course Syllabus

## Mrs. Vallow – Pearland High School – 2020-2021

Email: [vallowh@pearlandisd.org](mailto:vallowh@pearlandisd.org)

Conference Period: 4th period

**Tutoring:** Canvas Messages will be checked daily during 5th period study hall and immediately before/after school. Remind 101 messages will be checked during this time as well. If there is a need for 1-to-1 tutoring/in-depth explanation or a need for a reteach/reassess opportunity, an appointment will need to be scheduled.

### I. General Information

Welcome to English II. This is a reading, writing, language, and literature course that will help students learn to communicate more effectively and understand written material more completely.

**The course objectives will consist of the following:**

- Vocabulary Development
- Grammar, Revising, and Editing
- Listening and Speaking
- Reading comprehension:
  - Literary Text: Fiction / Non-Fiction / Drama / Poetry
  - Informational Text: Culture and History / Expository / Persuasive / Procedural / Media Literacy
- Writing:
  - Literary texts / Expository / Procedural / Persuasive
- Research:
  - Gathering sources / Synthesizing information / Organizing and Presenting Ideas
- English II STAAR EOC Preparation: Administered Spring 2021

### II: Resources and Materials:

Students are responsible for their own resources. **Shared resources in the classroom are not permissible in order to minimize the spread of germs.**

**Supplies** to be maintained by the student in class on a daily basis:

- **REQUIRED:**
  - **Red and Black pens**
  - **Pencils**
  - **Highlighter(s)**
  - **Folder**
  - **1 pack – College Ruled notebook paper**
  - **1:1 Device**

**Mrs. Vallow's Donation Wish List:** (These items are not required but would be appreciated!)

- **Box of Tissues**
- **Hand Sanitizer**

- Literature textbook, novels, and other reading materials will be provided by PHS.
  - English II Consumable Workbook: McGraw-Hill
  - Night by Elie Wiesel
  - "A Raisin in the Sun" by Lorraine Hansberry
  - The Glass Castle by Jeannette Walls

### III. Attendance

- Students are allotted **one day for every absence** to return missed work (unless accommodations allow additional time). It is the student's responsibility to schedule missed quizzes or tests within the allotted time (set up an appointment with Mrs. Vallow). Assignments due on the date of an absence must be turned in upon returning to class.
- Students need to be proactive regarding their education. If a student is absent from class, I expect **him or her** to get all missed work and then ask about any questions or concerns.

#### IV. Tardies

- Students are considered tardy if they are not in the classroom in their assigned seat when the bell rings. If students are not in proper dress code, they will not be allowed in the classroom and will be considered tardy.
- **If a student is 10 minutes late, or more, to class, he or she will be marked ABSENT in Skyward. This will not be changed upon arrival to class. This is a PHS policy that will be strictly enforced in this class.**
- Tardies are subject to separate disciplinary consequences and are tracked by PHS Admin.

#### V. Grading policies

Grades will be based on the following: Daily Assignments, Quizzes, Projects, Tests, Term (9 weeks) exams and Final exams.

- Daily Assignments:
  - In class assignments, as well as homework, will be assigned. Please refer to Mrs. Vallow's Canvas page for any assignments and necessary attachments (minimum of one daily grade per week).
- Quizzes:
  - There will be announced and unannounced quizzes. Sometimes students will be allowed to use their notes or homework on a quiz. Quizzes are worth two daily grades.
- Bell Ringers/Warm ups:
  - Bell ringers/Warm ups are given at the start of every class period. Students are expected to complete the day's warm up. These may be graded at the end of each week and weighted as a daily grade. If tardy or absent, the student is still EXPECTED to complete the warmup for the day(s) missed.
- Projects:
  - Projects, when assigned, will be accepted on their specified due dates. If students are absent on the due date, the project is due the day the student returns to class. Late projects will NOT be accepted, per the English Department Late Work Policy.
- Term (9 weeks) Exams / Semester Final exams:
  - Term exams will cover objectives for that 9 weeks grading period and will count as one test grade. Semester final exams will cover objectives for the entire semester.

\*Students will be permitted a reasonable opportunity to redo an assignment or retake a test for which the student received a failing grade. *Please refer to the Student Handbook for details.*

#### VI. Classroom Guidelines

1. Be in assigned seat and working on the daily warm up when the tardy bell rings.
2. Bring all required materials to class every day.
3. Remain in assigned seat and stay on task until the teacher gives permission to leave seat and/or dismisses the entire class. (The bell DOES NOT dismiss the class; the teacher dismisses the class. It is possible to miss important information if students are up moving around prior to dismissal).
4. Raise hand and wait to be called on before speaking to avoid people speaking over one another.
5. All students must place their personal belongings (i.e. backpacks, purses, jackets) underneath their desks during class.
6. Treat classmates with respect and dignity (i.e. no swearing, teasing, bullying).
7. **CELL PHONES and BYOD DEVICES will regularly be used in class. They should be utilized for educational purposes ONLY. Students should not be on social media sites/FaceTime/texting during class.**
  - If a student has his/her phone out for non-educational purposes, disciplinary action will be taken.

**NOT following the guidelines will result in:**

1. Warning and documentation.
  2. Action plan, parental contact, and/or teacher assigned detention.
  3. Failure to attend Teacher Assigned detention and/or the behavior does not stop, there will be a Disciplinary Referral (write up) submitted to the student's respective Assistant Principal.
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\*\*\*The most convenient and quickest way for Mrs. Vallow to communicate with parents regarding their student is via **email**. Email address is: **vallowh@pearlandisd.org**.\*\*\*

Occasionally, Mrs. Vallow will send out text message reminders through **Remind101** regarding assignments, upcoming tests, or projects. Parents and students are encouraged to join and be included on the list of recipients! (Students and parents can also send messages via Remind101.)

Text @vallowh to 81010 to join the course Remind101

***Parents and students are encouraged to access grades through Skyward REGULARLY.***

Skyward is a very useful tool enabling parents to monitor student progress at any time during the school year. Occasionally, Skyward is used to communicate with parents throughout the year regarding class announcements and major projects. Please ensure that contact information in Skyward is accurate, including a contact email. If no email is listed in Skyward, important updates may not be received.

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## **Online Learning Etiquette**

Please note, that if you cannot comply with the policies below, you may be deemed “unsuccessful in the online setting” and could be required to come back to school in person. “Unsuccessful” may look like: excessive absences or tardies, inappropriate or uncontrollable behavior, or failure to complete work, etc.

Professionalism: When you are in class online, you should behave as if you were in the classroom.

- **Dress code:** You should be clothed according to the PHS dress code policy (clothing, facial hair, etc).
- **Distractions:** Pay attention to your surroundings. You should not attend class in an environment where your background or ambient noise is distracting to yourself or others in the class.
- **Behavior:** Do not engage in distracting behavior, especially while your peers or teacher is talking.
- **Digital Citizenship:** Remember that all posts on Canvas, Office 365, and TEAMS will have your name attached. Read (and re-read) before you post. Unless you communicate to the teacher directly, all comments are public.
- **Attitude:** Be respectful of yourself and others.

Communication:

- **Use correct grammar, spelling, and professional language** in your communications with the teacher and your classmates.
- **Do not interrupt the teacher or your classmates.** If you have a question raise your hand and wait for the teacher to call on you.
- **Mute your microphone unless you are speaking.**
- **If you wish to communicate privately with the teacher,** use either the teacher's email or your Canvas message center.

Attendance: To be counted as present, you must:

- Be logged in and on time. It is better to be early than late.
- Keep your camera on and stay engaged with the lesson.
- Do not leave early or miss large parts of the class. This includes turning your webcam off for long period of time while class is in session.

Privacy: Similar to the in-person classroom, we may have virtual parent or administrator visitors to class. Furthermore, some lessons may be recorded for absent students to review. This applies when you speak out loud or comment on a public thread/discussion for students in-person and online.