

Mr. Rebello's English Class

Location: D215

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Grading Scale

Your total grade in the class will be averaged by the following categories:

Assessments	90% (Quizzes, worksheets, shorter writings, etc.)
Homework:	10%
Total:	100%

Class Materials

Unless told otherwise, all students are expected to bring the following to class every day. Failure to do so will result in a verbal warning, after three verbal warnings a Lunch Detention will be assigned. If any student has an issue attaining any needed supply, please see me privately.

1. **3-Ring binder (1 ½" or 2"). This binder must be separate for English class ONLY.**
2. **Spiral bound notebook (or white lined paper neatly kept in binder).**
3. **Pen or Pencil (Can be signed out from Mr. Rebello but failure to return the writing utensil will result in a Lunch Detention)**
4. **The novel or short story that is currently assigned.**
5. **Reading material for SSR**
6. **Chromebook**

Reading Materials

Throughout this year, we will be reading a wide variety of texts. Aside from random poems, excerpts, articles, or other minor works, the following works will be the major focus of the class:

General - 8th grade ELA

1. **A collection of short stories**
2. **Scope and a collection of nonfiction articles**
3. ***Warriors Don't Cry* by Melba Beals**
4. ***The Hunger Games* by Suzanne Collins**

AP - 8th grade ELA

1. **A collection of short stories**
2. **Scope and a collection of nonfiction articles**
3. **A small selection of poetry**
4. ***Warriors Don't Cry* by Melba Beals**
5. ***I am Malala* by Malala Yousafzai**
6. ***Animal Farm* by George Orwell**
7. ***My Name is Asher Lev* by Chaim Potok**

Daily/Weekly Activities

Students should expect a number of routines that we will maintain throughout the school year. These include:

SSR (Sustained Silent Reading): There will be approximately one hour of SSR every week. During this time students are expected to supply their own reading material (library books are included). I will issue library passes once every two weeks to ensure that all students have the opportunity to exchange books regularly. SSR will take place at the start of class every Monday and Wednesday.

Video Writing: In place of SSR, class will begin on Tuesdays and Thursdays with video writing. During this time I will show the class a short clip and they will be required to answer a prompt. Video Writing is the perfect time to practice a wide variety of writing skills and prompts will vary from Freewrites to scholarly essays.

Article of the week: Class will begin on Friday with an article of the week. There will be a variety of questions that will accompany each article.

SAT Vocabulary: Vocabulary words are divided into sets of 9. Over the course of three weeks, students will learn a new set of 9 words, practice with these words, and finally have a test on them. All words are expected to be kept in the student's binder until the end of the year because there will be a Final Exam testing all words from throughout the year. If a student finds an SAT word in something we are working with that day, candy will be given as a reward.

Word of the day: Aside from the SAT vocabulary, there will be a word of Mr. Rebello's choice posted on the board every day. Maybe they will be on a quiz. Maybe they won't. Maybe they will be extra credit. Maybe they won't.

Grammar: Perhaps not the most fun part of ELA but undoubtedly one of the most important. There will be notes on Monday, practice with the new content on Tuesday, Wednesday, and Thursday, and there will be a quiz on Friday.

Policies and Expectations

First and foremost, it must be understood that all school rules apply.

This means all students are expected to follow the Warrior Way, meaning they must:

- **Be Present**
- **Be Proactive**
- **Be Responsible**
- **Be Respectful**
- **Be Positive**

Depending on the circumstances, any student that is not following the warrior way will be subject to

1. Verbal warning
2. Verbal warning, parent contact, and a log
3. Verbal warning, parent contact, a log, and meeting with an administrator

Furthermore, there are a number of classroom policies and expectations you must know.

1. Hall passes: there will be 5 hall passes per semester. These hall passes can be granted for any need to leave the room, including but not limited to bathroom breaks and going to a locker to retrieve materials. Any need to leave the classroom past these initial three will result in a Lunch Detention. Keep in mind that students will be given library time once every two weeks as well. Emergency situations are not considered as part of the 5 passes.
2. Start of class: class will begin on Monday and Wednesday with SSR. This means that students must be IN THEIR SEATS and READING their SSR book when the bell goes off. On Tuesday and Thursday class will begin with a video, followed by a writing prompt. Students must be seated and quiet by the bell. If a student is not in their seat by the bell, they are considered late to class.
3. All students are expected to take part in SSR ... this IS NOT nap time.
4. Remain seated unless told otherwise. Need to blow your nose? Raise your hand. Need to go to the bathroom? Raise your hand. Need to sharpen your pencil?

Raise your hand... This is a matter of respect. I will not get up and walk around while you are presenting a class project, and I expect that you will not do the same while I am teaching.

5. Tardies: Don't be. Every tardy will be logged in the computer. If a student is late, they will be instructed to stand for the period. After three tardies a lunch detention will be issued.
6. Absent work: you have as many days as you were absent to make up work without penalty.
7. Late work: Late work will **always** be accepted, -10% for every day late until a 60% has been reached. But hey, 60% is better than 0%, no?
8. Your chromebook MUST STAY IN ITS CASE AT ALL TIMES!
9. Chromebook lids are to be closed during instruction.
10. Students are to ensure that all desks are to remain in their proper places and chairs are to be pushed in at the end of class.
11. Spotlight style discussion: There will be countless discussions in this classroom. Discussion is the crux of learning in my room and it is expected that everyone participates at some point in some form. With this being said, this means that discussions must be done right for the class to work smoothly. In spotlight style discussion only one person may be speaking at a time, and all others are listening until it is their turn to participate.
12. Exceptional behavior or work may result in an opportunity to play cards, boggle, or work on a puzzle in the center of the room at the end of class.

TAB system:

In my classroom there will be many opportunities for fun, engaging conversations, and wild moments. During this time it is very easy to go overboard or for a situation to get out of hand. I understand this and am not looking to penalize someone for something that is normal. If you are asked to TAB, this means I would like you to *take a break* by stepping out in the hall to cool off for minute or two. You ARE NOT in trouble if you are asked to TAB.