

MRS. TRUDGEN'S COURSE OVERVIEW AND CLASS PROCEDURES

8TH GRADE ENGLISH: 2023–2024



CURRICULUM

The English 8 curriculum will be comprised of literature, writing, grammar, and vocabulary. Below is a course outline that consists of the central units of study, which may be subject to change.

Literature

Drama: *The Diary of Anne Frank*

Novel: Two novels to be chosen by students from pre-selected genres throughout the year for independent reading.

Short Story: "Flowers for Algernon," "The Landlady," "Lamb to the Slaughter," "The Ransom of Red Chief," a variety of other stories to be chosen by students

Poetry: various poetic forms from the literature book

Writing

Narrative Writing, Research-based Writing, and Text-Dependent Analysis Writing

Grammar

Punctuation, Voice, Verb Mood, Usage

Vocabulary

Vocabulary units will vary; however, on average, students will receive approximately 20 words every other week, which will be based on current units of study.

CLASSROOM RULES



1. Be kind to one another!
2. Be prepared.
3. Be in your seat and begin your class warm-up before the late bell rings.
4. Raise your hand and wait to be called on before speaking.
5. No cell phones.

Consequences:

- 1st violation—verbal warning
- 2nd violation—conference with teacher
- 3rd violation—discipline referral to principal/email to parent

Note: Steps may be skipped in cases of extreme or habitual violations.

REQUIRED MATERIALS:

- *Pens, pencils, highlighter
- *1-inch binder
- *Folder (for English papers only)
- Chromebook and WIRED headphones
- *Notebook
- Mu Perspectives* textbook

SCHOOLGY

I will be using Schoology to create assignments, assessments, discussion boards, and to upload important documents. Please get in the habit of checking Schoology daily.

CONTACT INFORMATION

Email: trudgen@freeport.k12.pa.us

Phone: 724-295-9020 ext. 2220



GRADING INFORMATION

***If students fail to complete or turn in an assignment by the due date, they can receive a zero for that assignment.

The following assignments will be graded:

Content-related test and quizzes—Regularly scheduled tests and quizzes will be given to students during the completion of a unit of study. Quizzes may also be given in the middle of a unit.

Warm-ups—Students will be required to complete a class warm-up each day. Responses will be graded on thoughtfulness, accuracy, and effort.

Compositions—Grading procedures will be based on the PSSA scoring guidelines or teacher-created rubric, which will be provided with each assignment.

Homework—Homework will be given on an as-needed basis. Homework will be graded for completion and/or accuracy.

Classwork—Occasionally, students will be graded on classwork and collaborative learning opportunities as well as discussion boards posted on Schoology.

Projects—Students will be required to create various projects throughout the year. Projects will be graded on CREATIVITY, effort, content, and neatness.



100-91% - A
90-81% - B
80-70% - C
69-60% - D
59% and below - F



HOMEWORK

All homework will be posted in Schoology on the *Weekly Schedule* and the *Daily Agenda* slide.” You should check Schoology every day to get the most current homework information.

*If you do not submit your homework by or on the due date, you can receive a zero for the assignment.

** If you are absent the day an assignment is due, you must submit the assignment the next day you are in class.

***Additionally, any time you fail to turn in homework, you will need to complete a “NO HOMEWORK FORM” in Google Forms, and a copy of the form will be sent home to your parents/guardians.

SMART PASS USE

Please make a concerted effort to use the restroom and get a drink **BEFORE** class begins. If you need to use the restroom during class, you will need to use the electronic Smart Pass on **YOUR** Chromebook.

FIRE DRILLS

In the event of a fire drill, students should quickly and quietly exit the classroom and remain with your class as you exit the building. Please use **EXIT 2** (near the faculty room). Students who are seated closest to the windows should make sure to close all windows, turn off the lights, and close the door after exiting.

CLASS WARM-UPS

Each day of the week you will begin class with a different warm-up. You should start completing the warm-up as soon as the bell rings—if not before! Warm-ups will be graded.

SCHOOLY AND GOOGLE

In addition to using *Schoology* on a daily basis to upload documents, assignments, assessments, discussion boards, classroom calendars, etc., I will also use many Google applications including slides, docs, forms, sheets, and more. These will be used in conjunction with Schoology. You will need to become familiar with Schoology and the Google tools and get into the habit of checking and using your student Gmail and Schoology accounts regularly.

ONLINE TEXTBOOK

We have new textbooks this year! You will receive a paperback version of the *My Perspectives* textbook in which you are permitted to write. Additionally, there is an online version of the textbook that you can access through Clever; it is entitled **SAWAS EasyBridge**. I will be assigning much of your homework through the online platform.

CHROMEBOOKS / CELL PHONES

We will be using the Chromebooks almost daily, so please make sure to bring them to class, **charged and ready to go**, each day!