ACCELERATED ENGLISH 9

Contact Information:
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Course Overview:
In this fast-paced course, students explore a multicultural survey of literature and language. Students complete ongoing, self-directed tasks in and outside of class. Projects and assignments incorporate a variety of critical reading, writing, and analyzing skills. Students develop the ability to providing textual evidence for their opinions and thinking critically about texts. With these skills, students have a solid foundation for the tasks required in all upper level AP and CIS courses.

Checking Student Grades: https://ereport.spps.org/campus/stpaul.jsp

We keep our grades up-to-date. Students who check their grades regularly tend to do better overall. If you need help getting this set up, please let us know!

Get the campus app so that you can get notifications and other updates about your school performance! http://media.infinitecampus.com/public/html/mobile/moreinfo.html

Expectations:
Johnson is proud of our positive school environment:

→ What hurts my brother or sister hurts me.
→ Nothing will work unless I do.

Ms. Her’s classroom expectations:
1. Be respectful: No electronic devices – no charging phone in class, headphones away!
2. Sit in your assigned seat. Don’t get up during class! If you need to get up, ask first.
3. Follow the school rules: No sleeping, no hats, no food etc.
   (all Johnson school-wide rules will be enforced)
4. Do the appropriate thing at the appropriate time: use polite language, ask good questions, etc.
5. High help, high perfectionism

Breaking any of these rules can lead to being asked to leave class and meeting your AP.

Tardiness and Passes:
Being on time means being in your assigned seat when the bell rings. Four consecutive tardies will result in being sent to your AP. No passes will be given out during teaching or lecturing time. Passes to use the bathroom are available during independent work time. No passes are given out during the first and last 10 minutes of class.

Grading Scale:
100 – 90% = A 89 – 80% = B 79 – 70% = C 69 – 60% = D

Class work will be weighted as follows:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Summative Assessments: 60%</th>
<th>Formative Assessments: 30%</th>
<th>Participation: 10%</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Final projects</td>
<td>Homework</td>
<td>Missing more than 7 days = loss of the entire 10%</td>
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<tr>
<td>Final essays</td>
<td>Worksheets</td>
<td></td>
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<td>Final presentations</td>
<td>Rough drafts</td>
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<tr>
<td>Final tests</td>
<td>Quizzes</td>
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Late Work:
Meeting deadlines is crucial. Develop the habit of staying on top of your work and turning assignments in on time.
1. Late work is acceptable until the end of a unit. After that, it cannot be turned in for points.
2. After 1 week, you only get 1/2 the points for the assignment.
3. If you want missing assignments, get it after school- not during class time!
**Cheating and Plagiarism:**
Cheating is the use of any resource not allowed by a teacher to aid in the taking of an exam or in the completion of an assessment. Plagiarism is the act of using the language and thoughts of someone else and representing it as your own without giving them credit. Both result in zeros for the assignment or assessment.

**Need Help?**
Please keep in touch with me. If you are struggling, or if you need more of a challenge, please let me know. You can also email me any time, especially if you have questions from home. I am always available after school to help. Mondays, Wednesdays, and Thursdays are best. The school also provides tutoring for homework in the library almost every day.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>All JHS 9th graders will be:</th>
<th>What are we doing Semester 1?</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Reading every day</td>
<td>Unit 1: Analyzing character</td>
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<tr>
<td>Selecting books based on personal interest</td>
<td>Unit 2: Analyzing theme</td>
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<td>Thoughtfully interacting with the texts</td>
<td>Unit 3: Writing narratives</td>
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<td>Applying information learned in class</td>
<td>Unit 4: Writing annotated bibliographies</td>
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<tr>
<td>Writing analytic responses</td>
<td>Unit 5: Expository reading and writing</td>
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<tr>
<td>Discussing ideas and discoveries with teachers and class members</td>
<td>Unit 6: Research presentations</td>
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</table>

**Conferencing:**
While reading, there will be days when I will walk around and conference with students about their books. During conferences, I will be checking to see how your reading is coming along and helping with any misunderstandings. This is a good time to ask me questions about the book if you don’t understand something.

**Cold Calling:**
Cold calling is when the teacher calls on students randomly instead of asking for volunteers. I do this in class so that I can hear everyone’s voice. Don’t be afraid if you get called on. Take your time to answer. I will never cold-call about new information, only for information that we have already covered in class.

**Ipads:**
When we get our ipads, we will be using schoology for our English class. This means that you will need to bring your ipad CHARGED with you to class everyday! If you are not working responsibly on your ipad or your ipad is not charged, you can do assignments with paper and pencil. On Schoology, you will find all handouts and assignments. This is very nice for those of you who miss class or lose an assignment. Instead of asking me first—look on Schoology.

**About Accelerated Classes:** If you are feeling overwhelmed with your schoolwork, please tell your teacher, your parent, or a school counselor. Additional help can be provided. If you feel you are not able to handle the challenges of Accelerated English 9, we should definitely discuss this together.

> “Great works are performed, not by strength, but by perseverance.”
> - Samuel Johnson
Accelerated 9 Novel Options:
To start Accelerated English 9: Choose a novel from below to start your reading journey!

**The Absolutely True Diary of a Part-Time Indian by Sherman Alexie.** Junior is a budding cartoonist growing up on the Spokane Indian Reservation. Determined to take his future into his own hands, Junior leaves his troubled school on the rez to attend an all-white farm town high school where the only other Indian is the school mascot.

**Animal Farm by George Orwell.** On an English farm, the oldest pig, Old Major, calls for a clandestine meeting of all animals. He shares with them his dreams about a revolution against Mr. Jones, the farm owner. When Old Major dies, the other animals decide to fulfill his dream and start a rebellion that results in taking control of the farm and creating their own set of commandments.

**Bless Me Ultima by Rudolfo Anaya.** Antonio Marez is six years old when Ultima comes to stay with his family in New Mexico. She is a curandera, one who cures with herbs and magic. Under her wise wing, Tony will probe the family ties that bind and rend him, and he will discover himself in the magical secrets of the pagan past. And at each life turn there is Ultima, who delivered Tony into the world...and will nurture the birth of his soul.

**The Bluest Eye by Toni Morrison.** Pecola Breedlove, a young black girl, prays every day for beauty. Mocked by other children for the dark skin, curly hair, and brown eyes that set her apart, she yearns for normalcy, for the blond hair and blue eyes that she believes will allow her to finally fit in. Yet as her dream grows more fervent, her life slowly starts to disintegrate in the face of adversity and strife.

**The Bonesetter’s Daughter by Amy Tan.** Ruth Young and her widowed mother, LuLing, have always had a tumultuous relationship. Now, before she succumbs to forgetfulness, LuLing gives Ruth some of her writings, which reveal a side of LuLing that Ruth has never known.

**Farenheit 451 by Ray Bradbury.** Guy Montag is a fireman. In his world, where television rules and literature is on the brink of extinction, firemen start fires rather than put them out. His job is to destroy the most illegal of commodities, the printed book, along with the houses in which they are hidden.

**The House on Mango Street by Sandra Cisneros.** The remarkable story of Esperanza Cordero is told in a series of vignettes – sometimes heartbreaking, sometimes deeply joyous it is the story of a young Latina girl growing up in Chicago, inventing for herself who and what she will become.

**The Lord of the Flies by William Golding.** A group of very ordinary small boys is marooned on a coral island. At first it seems as though it is all going to be great fun; but the fun before long becomes furious and life on the island turns into a nightmare of panic and death. As ordinary standards of behavior collapse, the whole world the boys know collapses with them.

**Night Flying Woman: An Ojibwa Narrative by Ignatia Broker**
Ignatia Broker recounts the life of her great-grandmother, Night Flying Woman, who was born in the mid-19th century and lived during a chaotic time of enormous change, uprootings, and loss for the Minnesota Ojibway. But this story also tells of her people's great strength and continuity.

**The Secret Life of Bees by Sue Monk Kidd.** When Lily’s fierce-hearted black “stand-in mother,” Rosaleen, insults three of the town’s most vicious racists, Lily decides they should both escape to Tiburon, South Carolina — a town that holds the secret to her mother’s past. There they are taken in by an eccentric trio of black beekeeping sisters who introduce Lily to a mesmerizing world of bees, honey, and the Black Madonna who presides over their household.

**To Kill a Mockingbird by Harper Lee.** Scout Finch and her older brother, Jem live in sleepy Maycomb, Ala., spending much of their time with their friend Dill and spying on their reclusive and mysterious neighbor, Boo Radley. When Atticus, their widowed father and a respected lawyer, defends a black man named Tom Robinson against fabricated rape charges, the trial and tangent events expose the children to evils of racism and stereotyping.

**A Step From Heaven by An Na.** When four-year-old Young Ju Park first hears the words Mi Gook -- Korean for "America" -- she is sure that they mean "Heaven." But when her family moves to Southern California the following year, she finds the transition from life in Korea far from easy. The countless unexpected challenges -- from learning English, to finding work, to attending school -- put more and more pressure on the Park family until its fragile construction begins to splinter.