

8th Grade Accelerated English

Mrs. Virginia Page Jeter
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8th grade Accelerated English is a preparatory class for high school honors, AP English, and dual enrollment classes.

1. 8th grade Accelerated English begins with a quarter of grammar: parts of speech, parts of a sentence, phrases, clauses, agreement, pronoun and verb usage, capital letters, and punctuation. We use Holt's *Elements of Language* textbook, third course.
2. Following the grammar review, we will begin a study of literature. Short stories, poetry, nonfiction, and fiction will be studied.
 - a. 2nd quarter: *The Outsiders* by S. E. Hinton (summer reading), *The Miracle Worker* by William Gibson, and *A Christmas Carol* by Charles Dickens
 - b. 3rd quarter: short story unit and *Night* by Elie Wiesel
 - c. 4th quarter: poetry unit and *Wuthering Heights* by Emily Brontë
3. As we study these works, we will learn literary terms appropriate for each. We will also learn to do a literary analysis which includes discussing the techniques that make a literary work effective, identifying these techniques in the works we read, and writing an essay explaining what we have identified.
4. We also have a vocabulary book - Sadlier-Oxford's *Vocabulary Workshop*, Level C. This book includes vocabulary for comprehension, grammar in context, and sentence completions. We will have and matching quizzes on some of the lessons as well as comprehensive tests over three lessons.
5. Students must be prepared for class each day. This includes laptop, tablet, or cell phone for Google Classroom; notebook and paper; pencils and red pens; and other materials as instructed. **Each student must know his or her password for Google classroom.**
6. When assigned, homework must be done, or students must accept the consequences. Reading assignments must be done when assigned. A large portion of understanding comes from class discussion, and a student cannot discuss what he or she has not read.
7. Homework, tests, and projects will be posted on the school's website per week by Monday at noon. **Remember that all assignments are subject to change.**
8. Students are responsible for all assignments whether they are present or absent. According to the Southland Handbook, if a student is absent for one day, one day is allotted to make up the work missed. If absent for more than one day, the student will need to see me so that we can make arrangements.
9. Grade calculations: I have three categories: daily (1/3), quizzes – both announced and unannounced (1/3), and tests/essays (1/3).
10. All school policies as outlined in the Student Handbook will be followed in class.

**Final grades in 8th grade Accelerated English, 8th grade composition, and 8th grade reading are used to determine a student's recommendation for 9th grade Honors English. A student's attitude, maturity level, and overall work ethic may also figure in to the recommendation.

**** Parents, please initial here _____ that you have read, do understand, and will support this policy.**

Student: Please sign below.

I have read the classroom policies for 8th grade Accelerated English, and I understand them and will follow them while in Mrs. Jeter's class.

Signature

Date

Parents: Please sign below and return **the full page** to school as soon as possible. If you have any questions, please feel free to contact me.

My child has discussed the 8th grade Accelerated English classroom policies with me (us). I understand them and will support them.

Signature

Date