

## *PRE-AP ENGLISH LANGUAGE ARTS 9*

Teacher Name: Mrs. Walker

Teacher E-mail: cmwalker@madisoncity.k12.al.us

---

### ***Course Description:***

This accelerated-paced course focuses on literature (pre-1599) from outside of the United States and the British Isles; however, not all American Literature or British Literature will be excluded. Students will leave this course with a continued preparation level to move into PreAP 10 and then Advanced Placement English Language and Advanced Placement English Literature. English 9 PreAP will continue to build a student's critical, digital, language, and research literacies. Summer reading is required. The summer reading list is provided in the Spring Semester.

---

### ***Course Objectives:***

1. Read, analyze, and evaluate complex literary and informational texts written from various cultural perspectives, with an emphasis on works originating outside the United States and the British Isles through 1599.
  2. Analyze how an author's cultural perspective influences style, language, and themes.
  3. Analyze how authors use characterization, connotation, denotation, figurative language, literary elements, and point of view to create and convey meaning in a variety of texts.
  4. Compose both short and extended narrative, informative/explanatory, and argumentative writings that are clear and coherent, use an appropriate command of the language, and demonstrate development, organization, style, and tone that are relevant to the task, purpose, and audience.
  5. Create and edit digital texts that are suitable in purpose and tone for their intended audience and occasion.
  6. Compose clear, coherent writing that incorporates information from at least one scholarly source and demonstrates a clear position on a topic, answers a research question or presents a solution to a problem.
- 

### ***Classroom Expectations:***

You are expected to conduct yourself in a respectful and productive manner. In addition to all the rules and expectations listed in the student handbook, I expect you to have a positive attitude, treat others with respect, practice self-discipline, and demonstrate responsibility. If these conditions are not met, you can expect one-on-one meetings with me, parent/instructor conferencing, and administrative action, if necessary.

#### **Concerning the use of cell phones and other electronic devices:**

Devices should be on silent and kept in your purse, backpack, or pocket during class unless otherwise instructed. You may not place it on your desk. Parents, guardians, and other family members should call the front office in case of emergency.

If you violate this rule, you can expect the following consequences:

- *First offense* – The phone or device will be placed in the phone pocket. You may pick it up at the end of class.



## *PRE-AP ENGLISH LANGUAGE ARTS 9*

Teacher Name: Mrs. Walker

Teacher E-mail: cmwalker@madisoncity.k12.al.us

---

- *Second offense* – The phone or device will again be placed in the phone pocket until the end of class and a parent/guardian will be notified.
  - *Third offense* – This is defiance and I will notify an administrator.
- 

### ***Grading Policy:***

Major assessments will count for 70 percent of your grade. Homework and classwork will account for 30 percent of your grade. Grades will be updated weekly in PowerSchools. Each grading period will consist of nine weeks.

Point Breakdown:

*High Stakes: Tests and Projects* (Think: This is the championship game): 100-200 points

*Quizzes and Smaller Projects*: 40-80 points

*Practice: Classwork* (Think: This is your daily workout and practice): 5-30 points

---

### ***Make-up Work Policy:***

**Make-up tests will only** be given to a student who has an **excused absence**. **The student must make arrangements with the teacher to take a make-up test. Tests may be taken during Patriot Path with prior arrangement from each teacher.** A student only has two chances (the next two Patriot Paths after the absence) to make up a test. All make-up tests will be administered in the designated classroom on the Patriot Path session roster.

**Homework/Classwork:** Students who are absent for **excused reasons** will be permitted to make up missed work. **It is the student's responsibility to get their work assignments the day upon return to school and complete the assignments according to a time frame determined by the teacher within two weeks of the date of the last absence.** Grades of zero will be assigned for assignments missed because of unexcused absences.

### ***Unexcused Late Work Policy (Walker)***

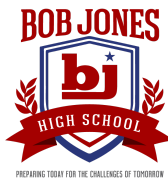
Late work is not accepted except if a student submits an "Oh Snap" pass instead of their assignment, giving the student an extra day to complete and submit the assignment. Students will receive **4 "Oh Snap" passes** per semester. These passes may be submitted for bonus points in the last two weeks of school prior to their final exam (5 points each). To promote a collegiate atmosphere, students may ask for an extension on major projects only if they email the teacher a minimum of 24 hours in advance. Verbal requests alone will not count as an extension. The request may not be accepted if the student did not use class time wisely. The student may request one additional school day (24 hours from the start of the next class) to complete the major assignment.

Students will be required to complete an accountability form explaining why they do not have their assignment if they do not turn in an assignment. **This policy does not apply to excused absences. See the Make-Up Work policy above.**

---

### ***Text and Other Required Reading:***

*Study Sync Reading and Writing Companion - Grade 9*  
*College Board English 1 Companion*



## *PRE-AP ENGLISH LANGUAGE ARTS 9*

Teacher Name: Mrs. Walker

Teacher E-mail: cmwalker@madisoncity.k12.al.us

---

*The Hobbit* (Please obtain your own copy for summer reading)

*Romeo and Juliet*

*The Odyssey*

*To Kill a Mockingbird* (Please obtain your own copy by November 1)

**Disclaimer:** Literature in high school classes covers the philosophies, authors, and major works of each grade's focus. For 9th grade, students are exposed to a mix of early world and American literature. Parents and guardians, please note that text selections (print or multimedia) may contain controversial language, behavior, and situations. Please review the texts listed below and contact Mrs. Walker as soon as possible if you have concerns about the text selections listed so that alternative assignments can be created. The classic texts we may cover will include Homer's *The Odyssey*, Shakespeare's *Romeo and Juliet*, and Harper Lee's *To Kill a Mockingbird*.

---

### ***Materials and Supplies Needed:***

#### ***Class Materials:***

1. 1" Binder with Tabs (4 minimum)
2. College-Ruled Spiral Bound Notebook (Single Subject)
3. College Ruled Paper
4. Charged Chromebook
5. Schoology
6. Pencil/Black or Blue Pen

---

### ***Laptop and Technology***

**Concerning laptop utilization:** 1. Student laptops should not be hard-wired to the network or have print capabilities. 2. Use of discs, flash drives, jump drives, or other USB devices will not be allowed on Madison City computers. 3. Neither the teacher, nor the school is responsible for broken, stolen, or lost laptops. 4. Laptops and other electronic devices will be used at the individual discretion of the teacher.

Unless students are using AirPods, earbuds, or headphones for a specific class assignment, they are not to be used in class as they disrupt the learning environment and can be used to read aloud text messages, endangering the academic integrity of the classroom.

---

### ***Turnitin Notice and Academic Dishonesty***

The majority of writing assignments in this course will be submitted to Turnitin via the Schoology learning platform. Turnitin generates a report on the originality of student writing by comparing it with a database of periodicals, books, online content, student papers, and other published work. This program will help students discern when they are using sources fairly, citing properly, and paraphrasing effectively - skills essential to all academic work.

Students will have the opportunity to review their Turnitin originality report and will have the opportunity to make revisions before submitting their work for grading. Once their work is submitted, teachers have the opportunity to view the student/s originality report and grade accordingly.

BJHS has a zero-tolerance policy for dishonest work and especially plagiarism. There are many different types of cheating: sharing test answers or information/homework with classmates,



## PRE-AP ENGLISH LANGUAGE ARTS 9

Teacher Name: Mrs. Walker

Teacher E-mail: cmwalker@madisoncity.k12.al.us

using visuals or text found on the internet, or paraphrasing ideas without giving the original author credit. Plagiarism is a specific form of cheating and is most prevalent when doing research papers, but all of these forms of cheating will be dealt with seriously and will include a meeting with the teacher, the student, and school administration. *Submitting AI-generated writing as one's own will be considered plagiarism.* Please review the Madison City School's AI policy.

### Accommodations

Requests for accommodations for this course or any school event are welcomed by students and parents.

Walker PreAP English 1 - 18 Week Plan*	
Weeks 1-3	Unit 1 Journeys That Shape Us - <i>The Hobbit</i>
Weeks 4-6	Unit 2 Telling Details: Short Stories and Visual Texts
Weeks 7-9	Unit 3 Pivotal Words and Phrases: Poetry and <i>Romeo and Juliet</i>
Weeks 10-14	Unit 4 Compelling Evidence and the Epic: Essays, Arguments, and <i>The Odyssey</i>
Weeks 15-18	Unit 5 Powerful Openings and Impactful Endings: <i>To Kill a Mockingbird</i>
Week 19	Review for Final

*\*This is a tentative plan and may change at the discretion of the teacher.*

Please sign below to acknowledge that you have received, read, and understood the syllabus.

Student name: \_\_\_\_\_

Student signature: \_\_\_\_\_

Parent/guardian name: \_\_\_\_\_

Parent/Guardian signature: \_\_\_\_\_



## *PRE-AP ENGLISH LANGUAGE ARTS 9*

Teacher Name: Mrs. Walker

Teacher E-mail: cmwalker@madisoncity.k12.al.us

---

**Parent/guardian, please provide two ways for me to contact you (email address, phone numbers):**

Parent/Guardian Email:

---

Parent/Guardian Phone number:

---

Parent/Guardian Comments (optional):