

English at Atholton

Scott Vennard

English Instructional Team Leader

English at Atholton

- Taking and passing English for all four years is a graduation requirement!

Levels offered for 9th grade:

- Common Core English 9
- Common Core English 9 + Reading
- Common Core English 9 + English 9 Seminar
- Common Core English 9 Honors
- Common Core English 9 GT

Placements

- Follow the recommendation of your child's middle school teacher! Talk to the middle school teacher again if there has been **significant** progress between scheduling and the end of the school year.
- Your child's placement may change; he/she is not “tracked” for four years in high school.

9th Grade Units

Reflections: Past to Present

Focus on literary nonfiction and the memoir

Dramatist as Social Commentator

Focus on drama as a means of social commentary

Coming of Age

Focus on novels which share the coming of age theme

Imaginary Worlds

Focus on short stories and novels in the genre of speculative fiction

A Few Major Works You May See At Home

A Midsummer Night's Dream

To Kill a Mockingbird

Night

Fahrenheit 451

Raisin in the Sun

All Quiet on the Western Front

Black Boy

English 9

- Students read and comprehend at grade level.
- Students should be able to read 5-10 pages of literature each night. 4-6 major works will be covered
- Students should be able to write a multi-paragraph essay with guidance.
- Students should identify and correct errors in grammar, usage, and mechanics.

English 9 Honors

- Students should enjoy reading and writing.
- Students read and comprehend **at least one level above grade level.**
- **Students should be able to read 11-20 pages a night.**
- 5-7 major works will be covered
- **Should independently be able to write a multi-paragraph essay which includes textual analysis**
- Students **should write without errors in subject-verb agreement, pronoun case, and sentence structure (no fragments or run-ons)**
- Students should identify and **correct their own errors** after proofreading or peer editing.
- Students should **compose and comprehend on a figurative level.**

English 9 GT

- **Students should regularly read for pleasure**
- Students read and comprehend **at least two years above grade level.**
- Students should be able to **read 20-40 pages a night.**
- 6-8 major works will be covered
- Students should interpret literature beyond a literal level.
- Students should **independently be able to write a multi-paragraph essay** with an introduction, transitions, supporting details with textual analysis, and a conclusion.
- Students' writing should **demonstrate excellent grammar, usage, sentence structure, and variety.**
- Students should identify and correct their own errors after proofreading or peer editing.
- **Students should be able to read two long works simultaneously for comparison and analysis.**

Strategic Reading 9

- Instruction in decoding and encoding
- Critical reading skills for all subject areas
- Strategies for improving comprehension
 - identifying main idea and details
 - recognizing cause and effect
 - drawing conclusions
 - outlining skills
 - study techniques

English 9 Seminar

- Separate curriculum from English 9 (but does not replace English 9). Geared towards students who are reading and writing below grade level.
- Instruction and strategies in reading, writing and study skills
- Critical reading skills for all subject areas
- This class is not an extension of English 9. It works **in conjunction** with English 9 to improve all English related skills.

English Electives

- *English 9 Seminar*
- *Strategic Reading 9*
- *Journalism I*
 - (Introduction to Journalism/Newspaper)
- *Drama I*

Questions?

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9th Grade Team Leader

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