

## 9TH GRADE ENGLISH - HONORS OR ON-LEVEL?

Next year you have a choice to make between the on-level English 1 class or the Honors English 1 class. In order to find the best fit for you, here are a few questions you can ask yourself:

- Do I enjoy English language arts classes?
- Do I enjoy reading?
- Do I enjoy writing?
- Did I achieve a strong “A” in previous English classes, or did I maintain an “A” or “B” in Honors English 8?
- Am I considering taking an AP or IB English Class in the future?
- Am I comfortable speaking and presenting in a classroom setting?
- Does learning new vocabulary come easily to me?
- Am I willing to devote 1-2 hours to English homework each night?
- Do I have good time management skills?
- Have I factored into my decision the workload requirements for other rigorous/Honors courses I plan to take?
- Have I factored into my decision my extracurricular activities and other obligations outside of school?

**If you answered YES to ALL of these questions, Honors English 1 may be a good fit for you.**

### A COMPARISON OF CLASSES

ON-LEVEL ENGLISH 1	HONORS ENGLISH 1
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● <b>Summer reading assignment:</b> No</li> <li>● <b>Writing assignments:</b> 3 formal compositions, including 1 in-class timed writing and 1 research-based paragraph essay</li> <li>● <b>Presentations:</b> 2 major individual presentations and several informal group or individual presentations</li> <li>● <b>Class discussions:</b> 2 formal Socratic seminars and several informal small-group and whole-class discussions.</li> <li>● <b>Homework:</b> set aside <u>1-2 hours a week</u> for reading class texts and/or working on formal essays and presentations; most work is completed in class.</li> <li>● <b>Class texts:</b> <i>Night</i> by Elie Wiesel, <i>Romeo and Juliet</i> by Shakespeare, <i>Odyssey</i> by Homer (adapted by Gareth Hinds), choice book for in-class free reading, and various shorter works: shorts stories, essays, articles, and poems</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● <b>Summer reading assignment:</b> Yes - <i>The Book Thief</i> by Markus Zusak</li> <li>● <b>Writing assignments:</b> 6 formal compositions, including 1 in-class timed writing and 1 research-based, 5-paragraph essay</li> <li>● <b>Presentations:</b> 4 major individual presentations and several informal group or individual presentations</li> <li>● <b>Class discussions:</b> 6 formal Socratic seminars and several informal small-group and whole-class discussions.</li> <li>● <b>Homework:</b> set aside <u>1-2 hours a night</u> for reading class texts and/or working on formal essays and presentations; most work is completed outside of class, and class time is spent discussing the literature and essays</li> <li>● <b>Class texts:</b> <i>To Kill a Mockingbird</i> by Harper Lee, <i>Night</i> by Elie Wiesel, <i>Animal Farm</i> by George Orwell, <i>Romeo and Juliet</i> by Shakespeare, <i>Odyssey</i> by Homer (adapted by Gareth Hinds), outside reading books from a prepared list, and various shorter works: shorts stories, essays, articles, and poems</li> </ul>

