

English 10 Distance Learning Week 1

Welcome to the first week of our COVID distance learning experience! I know that this is not how any of us planned to end the year, and it is very easy to become discouraged in times of uncertainty like we are in right now. However, we should not let our current situation break our spirits. It is often through difficulty that we learn and grow to become stronger, wiser, and more content with life. Swords are only sharpened when they grind against the stone and diamonds cannot shine until the rough cracks are struck and chipped away by the violent hammer and chisel.

For me, I am excited to use this time to develop a new skill set that will help me to become a better teacher in the future. In light of this, I am dedicated to making this experience positive and productive for all of you! That being said, I will admit that I have never done this before. It is possible that the things I plan now need to change based on your needs. If we work together, however, we can make this time of distance learning fulfilling, interesting, and engaging!

Availability and Scheduling

You will probably have questions or concerns while we are in our distance learning model. If you need to contact me, here is how to do it:

Standard office hours:

Monday-Friday 8:00 am-3:00 pm

I am most readily available during these hours. I will be responding to all forms of communication, including email and Remind101, and will be available to schedule individual Zoom calls.

Off hours:

You can still contact me during off hours through Remind101, but I might not be able to respond quickly. I will not be reading emails or hosting Zoom meetings outside of my scheduled office hours.

Zoom:

I am planning on hosting weekly Zoom sessions. These sessions are optional and will focus on clarification and answering questions. [Please email me if you would like to join the session!](#)

Wednesdays:

5th period: 11:00 am

7th-8th Period: 1:00 pm

Thursdays:

1st-4th Periods: 1:00 pm

Distance Learning Platforms

For most of us, the next few weeks will involve lots of time on a digital device. If you have access to technology, the following is a list of programs I will use for my class.

If you have no access to technology, there will be low-tech packets for printing on my welcome page. You can complete these and return them to Heritage High for grading.

Turnitin.com: Most of your assignments will be turned in to Turnitin.com. You have used this program all year, but if you have any questions about how to use it or sign up for my class, please let me know.

Turnitin.com Discussion Board: We will also use a discussion board through Turnitin.com. I try to make my class collaborative and discussion based, and this should help maintain that atmosphere. I will post instructions on how to access this on my website.

PFD Forms: The work that I give you will come as an interactive PDF form. This means that you will be able to type directly into the worksheet without needing to print it out. Let me know if you have any issues in completing these assignments.

Google Forms: I am not planning on using this much, but it is a quick way for me to get information. All you need to do it will out the form and it will give me the information I need.

Zoom: This is a video conferencing program that will allow us to talk to each other as a group. We can have up to 100 people at a time in a session, but I have more than 200 students! Because of this, I have divided my scheduled Zoom sessions by class period. Please review the schedule and email me if you would like an invitation!

Unit Overview

In this unit, we will be reading the Greek tragedy *Antigone* (pronounced an-TI-go-nee). This is a play that wrestles with the limitations and duties of the government and shows that humans are not meant to wield total power. In discussing this, we will explore how the characters in the play develop through interactions with one another and how these interactions reveal themes in the play.

Because of the limitations of distance learning, we will not be writing a full essay this quarter. Instead, you will be assigned shortened writing assignments at regular intervals over the next nine weeks.

Weekly Learning Targets

By the end of the week of April 6th - 10th, I should:

1. Understand how to receive and submit assignments using the distance learning model. (Assignments 1 and 2)
2. Be able to recognize foils in literature and understand why they are important. (Assignment 3)
3. Recognize the important traits of a tragic hero. (Assignment 4)
4. Understand the context of Antigone's background and the motivation of the major characters in the play. (Assignment 5 and 6)

Assignments

By 10:00 pm Friday April 10th, I should have completed and submitted the following assignments:

1. Mr. Cauley's Form of COVID Preparedness: Let's Get Ready for an Adventure!
 - a. This Google Form will give me valuable information about all of your distance learning situations. Please fill it out at the **beginning of the week** so that I can adjust my plans accordingly. [Here it is!](#)
2. Textbook: You will need access to **pages 267-366** in your textbook. You can find this [here](#), on clever, or on my website.
3. Foils
 - a. We will be talking a great deal about foils in this unit. This concept is explained in a presentation titled COVID foils. You can find this presentation [here](#) or download it directly from my website.
 - b. When you have gone through the entire presentation, you will be ready to participate in your first discussion board! You can find instructions for accessing the discussion board [here](#) or download them directly to my website.
 - c. For this assignment, you need to think about an example of a character foil you have seen in a book, movie, television show, or play. Then, create a post describing this foil and explaining why it is a good example.
4. Losers and Tragic Heroes
 - a. Although the play is named after Antigone, it actually depicts the downfall of a character named Creon. Creon represents a type of character called a Tragic Hero. Watch [this video](#) for an explanation of what this means.
 - b. You can also find information about Tragic Heroes on **page 299** in your textbook.
5. Oedipus Rex Video
 - a. Before you can understand Antigone, you must first become familiar with Oedipus. It was because of him and the consequence of his actions that the story of Antigone begins. Watch [this](#) video to familiarize yourself with this story.
 - b. After watching your video, go back to the discussion board to share your questions and ideas with your peers!
 - i. The first thing you need to do for this assignment is to post a question. Consider what you saw in the video and think of a good discussion question or insightful observation that you have and post it to the appropriate discussion.
 - ii. Once you have done that, you should review what your peers have posted. Find a post that you find interesting and respond to it. A valid response might include:
 1. Agreeing with the post and explaining with what it is you agree.
 2. Clarifying the post and explaining why the post needs clarification.
 3. Disagreeing with the post and explaining with what you disagree.
 - c. **Please be respectful when using the discussion board. Demeaning, off topic, or offensive posts will be deleted and the poster will receive a failing grade for the assignment.**
6. Character Sketches: All of the major characters are briefly described on **page 297**. Read these descriptions and complete the associated worksheet. You can find this worksheet [here](#) or download it from my website.

