

English I

Syllabus 2026-27

Teacher Name: Leatha Bates

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My Daily Schedule (First Semester)

8:00 - 9:20	English I - Regular
9:25 - 10:05	ACT Prep
10:10 - 11:30	English I - Regular
11:35 - 1:25	English I - Honors
1: 25 - 2:45	Planning

My Daily Schedule (Second Semester)

8:00 - 9:20	English I - Regular
9:25 - 10:05	ACT Prep
10:10 - 11:30	English I - Regular
11:35 - 1:25	English I - Honors
1: 25 - 2:45	Planning

I am so very glad to have you in my classroom. My school phone number and email are both listed above and I encourage you and your parents to contact me with questions or problems. I can also be contacted via School Status. My planning period is during fifth block, which runs from 1:25-2:45. I will be available for phone calls or meetings during that time.

As stated on the Tennessee Department of Education's website, "The ELA standards are designed to prepare students with the most important knowledge and 21st century literacy skills necessary to succeed in the post-secondary and workforce arenas. The standards emphasize critical and divergent thinking, problem solving, active listening, recognition of patterns and anomalies, and evaluation and questioning of source material." These are the overall

requirements for you to complete English I. Again, I will help you in any manner possible to be successful. But for you to be successful, you must do your part!

GOALS:

- 1) We will learn to read actively as we analyze novels, complex informational texts, and short stories.
- 2) We will focus tremendously on finding and citing textual evidence from any and all passages.
- 3) While reading, we will thoroughly discuss and review: elements of structure; characterization and point of view; setting, mood, and imagery; theme and symbol; and author's purpose.
- 4) We will write in a variety of styles, based on the standards listed on the Tennessee State High School English Language Arts Blueprint. Those styles include, but are not limited to the following: argumentative, informational, and narrative.

GRADES:

You will receive grades for tests, class/daily work, and homework. All assignments are graded as test grades. A test over a novel that we have read or an assignment from our text book carries the same "weight" as a simple vocabulary test, or an ordinary homework assignment. In simple terms, ***all work is important and all work counts the same toward your grade.***

BEHAVIOR EXPECTATIONS:

Respect my classroom and my class time. Treat everyone with kindness. In addition, a portion of my behavior expectations for you is to come to class prepared every day, which includes bringing your Chromebook, assigned books, assigned/completed work, writing utensils, and any other materials. If your behavior or your work falls short of what has been outlined, ***I will contact your parents or guardians immediately.***

PHONE POLICY:

Phones are not allowed in my classroom, or in the hallways. All phones will be placed in the pouch on the wall when you enter my classroom. This is not optional! If any sound comes from your phone or you are caught using your phone, it will be confiscated and will remain in my possession for the remainder of the day. You will be able to retrieve it in the office at the end of the school day. The administration will assign your consequence for this offense accordingly.

DRESS CODE:

The dress code adopted by the Giles County School Board will be thoroughly enforced in this classroom. If you have questions regarding what is and is not allowed, I suggest that you ask, prior to wearing something inappropriate. Failure to comply will involve a visit with an administrator and the resulting action.

ABSENCES AND MAKE-UP WORK:

I certainly understand that everyone is going to be absent at some point. However, it is your responsibility to find out what you missed and make it up in a timely manner. **If you miss a test, you have two days for every day that you missed in which to make it up.** I am available most days by 7:15 AM for make-up tests. I can also stay after school on Monday, Tuesday, and Thursday.

EXTRA CREDIT:

I do not provide extra credit opportunities. Come to school. Do your work, and you will not need them.

ACADEMIC HONESTY:

A brief word about PLAGIARISM: DON'T DO IT! Plagiarism involves willfully claiming work that was done by someone other than you, whether from an internet site or from one of your friends. There are serious consequences for plagiarism, and they begin with receiving a failing grade, as well as a call to your parents or guardians.

INSTRUCTIONAL MATERIALS:

Our textbook is *My Perspectives English Language Arts*, 9th grade edition. These are fairly new textbooks, and we only have a class set. However, you will have on-line access to the entire student version of the book, which can be downloaded onto your ChromeBook.

Each student will be assigned a ChromeBook. Bring it to class, along with your charger, everyday. It is not my responsibility to provide you with either, if you do not bring it to class.

I will be using Google Classroom to post specific assignments; however, these assignments are not to be submitted via Google Classroom; they are posted, so if you miss class or have a question about an assignment you will have the necessary materials. You will be provided the code for your particular classroom during our first day of class.

We will begin by reading novels in my regular-level classes and my honors-level class. I will provide that novel to you and it will need to be returned when we finish.

I also require the following items:

- Notebook paper (kept in some kind of binder)

- Pencils (absolutely no pens of any kind or color)

I understand that everyone forgets a pencil, or runs out of paper from time to time; but again, it is not my responsibility to provide you either or both every day. Bring your supplies to class!

Everything we do in this class is to prepare you to be successful in all areas of the TNReady, which counts as 15% of your final grade. You will take this exam toward the end of the semester. You will be thoroughly prepared to do well on your TNReady, if you attend class regularly and complete your assigned work.

Again, as a student at Giles County High School, you have the responsibility of completing your assignments on time, or you will not succeed in my class. If something is not working for you, please contact me immediately, or have your parents do so. I am very glad that you are in my classroom and that we have the opportunity to work and learn together.

Standards/Topics Covered & Course Calendar:

 9th Grade ELA Pacing Guide