

**VENTURA HIGH EXPECTED CLASSROOM LEARNING RESULTS
(ECLRs)**

COURSE: ENGLISH 116

PROGRAM AREA: LANGUAGE ARTS	TEACHER: MS. BLACKWELL
DEPARTMENT GOAL STATEMENT: The goals of an integrated language arts department are to prepare all students to function as fulfilled individuals, informed and participating citizens in society and the work world.	
Primary ESLR Effective communicators will listen, think, speak, read, write and respond reflectively, creatively and critically.	
<u>COURSE DESCRIPTION</u>	Students will read great American authors, deeply reflect upon and explore the question, “What is the American Literary Experience?” Students will analyze the thoughts and writing styles of great American authors as well as explore their own thinking and writing styles. Emphasis will be placed on creative, generative and critical thinking skills as well as vocabulary building and word analysis. Also, students will be introduced to Council Way, a method of building community in the classroom and a way of sharing writing and speaking in a non-threatening manner.
<u>TEACHER STATEMENT:</u>	All students are talented, original and have something important to say. The goal of the English teacher and department is to help students “ find their own voice ” and encourage them to speak and to write from that voice. To that end, students must feel valued and safe in sharing. The English classroom must be a place where students can learn skills to assist them in functioning as a fulfilled individuals, and informed and creative citizens of both society and the work world of this century.
<u>GOALS OF THE COURSE</u>	Students will develop necessary study skills , will learn to communicate effectively , will learn to work well in groups , and to become a part of a sensitive and supportive classroom ecology . Additionally, they will learn to think clearly and logically , becoming able to explore issues from many differing perspectives . This class is designed to prepare the student who plans to attend college , so please understand that reading and writing assignments will be done not only in class, but also at home . Students holding outside jobs will be challenged to keep up with the homework . I strongly suggest limiting TV time to the weekend, as research indicates this is best for academic success . There will be a lot of reading in this class .
<u>READING WRITING COMPONENTS</u>	Writing is a means of communication that clarifies thinking and provides a way of sharing important ideas and feelings, persuades and influences others, and allows each writer to respond not only to the literature but also to life experiences. Writing is a process and students will be required to follow the process of prewriting, writing, peer revision, editing and publishing on all written assignments. Students will be required to focus on thesis development, organization, content, style and the conventions of grammar, mechanics and spelling in order to pass the proficiency test in writing .
<u>MATERIAL /RESOURCES</u>	The anthology for this class is <u>McDougal Little’s Language of Literature: American Experience</u> . We will also read: <u>Black Elk Speaks</u> , <u>The Scarlet Letter</u> , <u>The Crucible</u> , <u>Huck Finn</u> , <u>The Great Gatsby</u> and <u>A Raisin in the Sun</u> in addition to other works.
<u>CLASS RULES</u>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. The Golden Rule is the rule in this classroom. RESPECT, support and cherish every member of the class and do nothing to negate the importance and preciousness of others. Henry David Thoreau said, “GOODNESS IS THE ONLY INVESTMENT THAT NEVER FAILS.” This is true not only in the classroom but also outside of the classroom. Numerous studies have proven that a positive attitude is the most important ingredient to success in any career field. 2. Be polite and positive in all communications. No profanity, rude or disrespectful remarks allowed. There is a zero tolerance for discriminatory remarks of any kind. 3. The first five to ten minutes of class we free write non-stop. This is sacred, quiet time. Nothing else happens, just writing and you will write until I call, “Time!” When the bell rings, you are to begin writing, having previously assembled on your desk these items: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Your homework, properly headed and dated (I will pass by to check and stamp it) • Five sheets of fresh paper under your free writing sheet • Your agenda open to today’s date so you can write down homework • Your textbook and any recent handouts • A black pen that works • Your backpack under or behind your desk, out of the isle. • If you are tardy, you must sign the tardy log, writing down your last name, your period, the date, the time and one sentence explaining why you are tardy. Additionally, you will be required to turn in a reflective writing assignment due the next day on the “Importance of Being On Time.” Your first tardy will be a 100 words, the second tardy is 200 and so on. <p>(Other materials for class, an extra black pen, pencil, and red pen for editing are to be in your pack. No passes to lockers to get forgotten items. However, you will receive one green pass per semester. Use it wisely!)</p>

	<p>4. Stay after school if the need arises to evaluate behavior and/or academic progress. You may be assigned reflective writing assignments if you violate classroom rules. Failure to complete these assignments will result in Saturday School and you will not be admitted back to class until the assignment is completed.</p> <p>5. Respect school property. NO GUM! NO FOOD! Water in plastic containers is acceptable.</p> <p>7. Please raise your hand after the recognized speaker of the floor has finished. Wait your turn. If there is one ironclad rule in this class, it is DO NOT INTERRUPT AND ALLOW THE SPEAKER TIME TO GATHER HIS OR HER THOUGHTS WHILE SPEAKING. Let the speaker finish and allow a second or two of "wait time" to be sure the speaker is finished. This is simply basic, rudimentary politeness.</p> <p>8. Students are to keep all their work in a classroom folder. Keep all handouts, THROW NOTHING AWAY. Throw nothing away! Throw nothing away from this class! Keep all papers! You will need everything! If your locker is broken into and you lose your work or if you just lose your papers, that will be a difficult problem to deal with. So, please, keep your work safe at home or in the file cabinet in our room. SAVE a copy of all work on your computer or use carbon paper which I can sell you for fifty cents a sheet.</p> <p>9. Do your OWN work! Plagiarizing or having another person do your work is easily spotted and will BE REPORTED IN YOUR PERMANENT ACADEMIC RECORDS. You will also get an "F" grade for the quarter. Parents are strongly encouraged to proof your paper for spelling etc, but not to write any portion of your homework. The ideas, style, structure, and vocabulary are to be yours and no one else's.</p> <p>10. See me if you have any problems. I am here to help and I am delighted to assist you in any way I can.</p>
<p><u>PAPER HEADING</u></p>	<p>All papers must be headed in the upper right hand corner as follows: Smith, Jane (Note: last name is always first) Dec. 1, 2005 Pd. 6</p> <p>Papers must be titled with the page number of the exercise and the number of questions you have done. Example: Pg. 241 Q 1-8 All essays must be properly titled. All free writes and focus writes must be headed. If your name is not on a paper, it will be thrown away. If your work is not properly headed, you will loose points.</p>
<p><u>CLASS ATTENDANCE</u></p>	<p>There is no substitute for being in class. Many experiences cannot be recreated. The school's attendance and tardy policy will be followed. Students who are tardy or are cutting class will be given cumulative writing assignments. All excused absence work must be completed within three days. All students are to have a list of ten "homework buddies" and their phone numbers. Students are to get missed assignments from a buddy, from the class log or from me AFTER school. I DO NOT STOP CLASS TO GIVE MISSED WORK, NOR DO I GIVE MISSED WORK IN THE FIVE MINUTES BEFORE OR AFTER CLASS. STUDENTS INVOLVED IN EXTRACURRICULAR ACTIVITIES WHICH MEAN THAT THEY WILL LEAVE CLASS EARLY OR BE ABSENT ARE STILL RESPONSIBLE TO GET HOMEWORK IN ON TIME. NO EXCEPTIONS. I strongly encourage parents not to take students out of school for trips or to start vacations a day or two early as this often leads to a student missing important experiences. VACTIONS ARE NOT EXCUSED.</p>
<p><u>CLASS HOMEWORK POLICY</u></p>	<p>Stay caught up! Homework is assigned almost daily. It is to be typed or in black ink and checked when the bell rings. NO LATE WORK IS ACCEPTED. ILLEGIBLE WORK IS NOT ACCEPTED AND WILL NOT RECEIVE POINTS. Students are required to have a list of ten other students' names and phone numbers and are to call these students to get the assignments they have missed. ASSIGNMENTS ARE DUE ON THE DAY I SAY, EVEN IF YOUR ABSENCE IS DUE TO A SCHOOL ACTIVITY. Phone your homework buddy to get the assignments if you are ill or have a parent call your buddy so that you can keep current with the class work. IT IS THE STUDENT'S RESPONSIBILITY TO GET THE MISSED ASSIGNMENT FROM A BUDDY OR THE LOG. DISC OR "COMPUTER FAILURE" ARE NOT EXCUSES FOR NOT GETTING THE HOMEWORK DONE. The library and career center have printers if yours fails and is open at 7:30 am, at lunch, and after school until 4pm. I encourage students to purchase a dictionary and a thesaurus.</p>
<p><u>METHODS OF EVALUATION</u></p>	<p>Each assignment or activity is worth a given number of points. At the end of the grading period, all points awarded will be added and grades will be determined as follows: 90-100 % A; 80-89 % B; 70-79% C and 60-69 % D. Points will be averaged for both quarters to determine the semester grade. However, the second and fourth quarters are weighted more heavily in points due to the Final Exam which means that a student who may have done well in the first or third quarter CAN STILL FAIL THE CLASS. FAILURE TO SHOW FOR AND TAKE THE FINAL EXAM WILL MEAN FAILURE IN THE CLASS. Grades are based on student work in the following areas: 1) Being prepared for class (homework, materials etc) 2) Writing assignments 3) Class reading assignments 4) Outside reading 5) Active and attentive listening 6) Note taking 7) Speaking 8) Group participation and projects 9) Tests and all assignments 10) Points are deducted for failure to participate in a positive manner. Disruption of class will lower your points for participation.</p>
<p><u>PARENT SIGNATURE WARNING: Parents, DO NOT SIGN THIS UNLESS YOU HAVE READ ALL.</u></p>	<p>I HAVE READ AND I UNDERSTAND WHAT IS REQUIRED OF MY CHILD IN ORDER TO PASS THIS CLASS. I UNDERSTAND THAT THIS IS A COLLEGE PREPARTATION CLASS AND THAT MY CHILD WILL BE ASKED TO DO READING AND WRITING OUTSIDE OF THE NORMAL CLASS TIME. STUDENTS ARE REQUIRED TO DO ALL ASSIGNMENTS, EVEN IF THEY ARE EMPLOYED OR ARE INVOLVED IN EXTRACURRICULAR ACTIVITIES. EXTRA CREDIT WORK IS AVAILABLE BUT IS NOT A SUBSTITUTE FOR THE REGULAR WORK. NO LATE WORK IS ACCEPTED.</p> <p>X X</p> <hr/> <p>PARENT SIGNATURE STUDENT SIGNATURE</p>

