Honors English II/English II  
 Mrs. Smith smithc@hasdk12.org (570) 459-3221 ext. 82332

2017-2018

**Course Description:** English II includes reading a variety of literary genres: short stories, novels, poetry, drama, and nonfiction. This course focuses on oral and written communication skills as well as speaking and listening. Resource skills will be utilized in the completion of a research paper. Literature activities concentrate on critical reading, analysis, and interpretation of diversified literary forms and devices. The course consists of four thematic units:

* Unit 1: *Making Adjustments: Facing Adversity*
* Unit 2: *Making Choices: Instinct and Regret*
* Unit 3: *Facing Our Fears: Accepting Life’s Truths*
* Unit 4: *Making Connections: Relationships in Life*

**Course Goals:**

Students will be able to:

* Read, analyze, discuss, and critique literature in various forms
* Develop critical analysis and thoughtful responses to reading, writing, listening, and speaking
* Write evaluative and responsive essays
* Formulate opinions on specific topics and support his/her opinion in detail
* Practice vocabulary, grammar, and usage skills in speaking and writing
* Work individually and in cooperative groups
* Develop speaking and listening skills
* Complete textbook assignments, worksheets, quizzes, papers, and tests
* Complete Study Island assignments and quizzes

# Required Materials: Students are responsible for any and all materials provided to them. All students will be issued our older textbook within the first few days of class. This textbook is to remain at home with each student. I will assign selections for them to read at home, and we will discuss it in class. Failure to return the book will result in paying for it. Our new textbooks will stay in the classroom. We will use these textbooks to work on vocabulary, exemplars, and questions. Students are required to have a one subject binder or notebook for the course. The binder/notebook must only contain English course work in it. Each student will split their notebook in half. The first half of the notebook will contain notes and classwork assignments. The second half will be reserved for all their PDNs. This may be checked periodically throughout the course.

**Classroom Rules:**

* All policies written within the student handbook will be strictly enforced including the dress code.
* All students will respect each other, the teacher, and any substitute or person who enters the classroom.
* Crude and offensive language will not be tolerated.
* No electronic devices will be allowed in class.
* Students must come prepared to class everyday with current work, folder, journal, notebook, text, and pen/pencil.
* Students are to arrive to class on time and immediately go to their seats to begin working on their Please Do Now (PDN) for the day.
* One person will speak at a time. Please remember to raise your hand!
* Respect all equipment. Laptops will be used at times. If a student damages the equipment or does not follow the Hazleton Area School District's Computer and Internet policy, then he/she will lose the privilege of working on the computer and face possible disciplinary action.

**Consequences:**

* First violation will result in the student receiving a VERBAL WARNING.
* Second violation will result in a WRITTEN WARNING.
* Third violation will result in a PARENT/GUARDIAN CONTACT.
* Fourth violation will result in the student being REFERRED TO THE OFFICE FOR DISCIPLINE.

Any verbal/physical abuse or disruption, which impedes the learning process, will not be tolerated. Students will be immediately sent to the office.

**Grading Criteria:** Grades will be based on the evaluation of class assignments, homework, writing assignments, tests, quizzes, class participation, Study Island work, individual/group projects, and a thematic performance task. Students and parents are able to keep track of grades by logging on to Skyward, so there should not be any surprises at the end of each quarter.

The grading breakdown is as follows:

* 25% Class participation
* 25% Mid/final exams
* 15% Tests, quizzes, and smaller essays
* 15% Homework, class work, Study Island, and projects
* 20% Performance Tasks

**Class Participation Policy:** Everyday your participation in class will be monitored. It is expected that you will **pay attention,** **actively participate**, and **complete any and all tasks**, which are given to you. You will start each day with 4 points. These points are there for you to keep or lose. You can easily **lose** your daily points by **sleeping in class**, **not paying attention**, **becoming disrespectful**, or **failing to make up necessary work after an absence**.

Make up work must be submitted within the same number of days you were absent. For example, if you were absent for two days, you will have two days to submit the work. Failure to complete your work within the allotted time frame will result in a deduction in your participation grade. At the end of each week, you will have a class participation grade, which can be seen in Skyward. The weekly grade will be based on the total number of points you earn. Participating means you are involved in some aspect of the class. If you merely just sit there, do not expect to earn 100% each week.

**Attendance**: If students want to be successful, then they need to be in class. Students who are excessively late and/or tardy to class will struggle more than those students who are present. If a student knows s/he will be out of school for an extended period of time, then s/he should contact the school to get any missed work.

**CDT Test:** English II students are required to take a Classroom Diagnostic Test (CDT). This will count as a test grade for the students. It will be administered at the beginning and end of the course. Attendance is extremely important during the CDT because students can only take this test while they are in school. Each student should have growth from the first test to the second test. The goal of the CDT is to focus instruction time on what the students struggle with or do not know instead of what they are already know. The data from this test will provide me with class and individual strengths and weaknesses. Students will receive Study Island lessons to focus on their areas of weakness.

**Study Island Lessons:** We will be using Study Island throughout the course of this class. This is a web-based instructional program designed to help each student master the state standards. Students will have individual lessons and class assignments. Class assignments will be issued to every student to reinforce the skills we are focusing on. Individual assignments are assigned to students to focus on their individual weaknesses. This allows each student to focus on what they need extra practice on for the Keystone Exams. The program will help students who are struggling with certain skills. It recognizes areas of weakness and gives the student more practice in those areas. Students are expected to select twenty questions for each lesson. If I notice a student is only selecting a few questions or only completing a few questions and then logging in and out, the student will not receive credit for the lesson. It is extremely important for the students to work on the lessons as instructed. They will be given some class time to work on Study Island if they do not have computer access, but they are expected to complete any other classwork for homework. If the student does not complete the work during class, s/he may access this at home via [www.studyisland.com](http://www.studyisland.com). As assignments are created, students will have one week to complete the lessons. Failure to do so in the time frame will result in a zero. Students may also receive a zero for the assignment if they do not earn a 70% **and** complete 10 questions.   
  
**Performance Tasks:** At the end of each theme, students will be responsible for completing a performance task. This assignment will demonstrate an understanding of the skills focused on in the theme as well as an analysis of the literature within the unit. There are several different types of performance tasks which will be assessed. Some of the tasks require research papers whereas others are projects and presentations. Students will be aware of the performance task at the start of the unit which will enable students to gather ideas as they work through the literature. There should be **NO REASON** why students cannot complete the performance task on time because they will have plenty of notice regarding the deadline.

**Assignments/Make Up Work:**

* ALL assignments must be submitted on the DUE DATE! There are no excuses for not meeting deadlines as students are aware of these in advance!
* Assignments will be accepted one day after the due date but will result in a 10% deduction of points each day it is late. This **does not include** homework. If students do not have their homework on the day it is due, it will result in a **zero**! These zeros will add up quickly so it is important to remember your homework!
* All formal writing assignments must be typed, double spaced, and in Times New Roman font size 12. We will be utilizing the MLA format for papers. Students will be provided with an MLA packet. It is their responsibility to keep it. I will not provide an extra copy if it is lost. Students may access the MLA packet on the district website if they lose theirs. I will not accept any formal writing assignment that does not follow this. You will have a limited amount of class time to type your assignments. Students who waste time will be dismissed from using the computers. Deadlines must be reached or assignments will be late!
* Students are responsible for all handouts given in class. They are to be kept in their folders. DO NOT THROW THEM AWAY UNLESS INSTRUCTED TO DO SO!
* During the first few days of class, you will be responsible for finding another peer in class who can tell you what you missed. If you are absent, you should first go to your classmate for any/all materials. If your classmate cannot help you, then you will need to see the teacher. ***It is your responsibility to find out what was missed and make it up. I will not come to you.***

**Laptop Use:** Students will use laptops throughout each course. A computer use policy form must be returned before the student is allowed access to the laptop. It is the responsibility of each student to sign out his/her laptop. If a student notices any damage to a laptop, the student must report this to the teacher or s/he may be charged for the damage. Students are also responsible for signing out a laptop every single time. Failure to do this will result in loss of laptop usage.

**Plagiarism:** Plagiarism is an academic dishonesty and will not be tolerated in this classroom. Students who plagiarize are taking someone else’s work and presenting it as their own. This is a serious offense and will result in an automatic zero for the assignment. Students may also face disciplinary action for this offense. Plagiarism is a form of cheating and can be easily avoided. Most students tend to plagiarize because they wait until the last minute. It is important for students to remember to follow the rules for citations in order to avoid being accused of plagiarism. When in doubt, students can always ask the teacher.

**Cheating:** This will NEVER be acceptable in any class. Students are expected to work on their assignments by themselves unless they are instructed to work together. Sharing answers with a classmate is considered cheating. If students are caught sharing answers, both students will receive zeros for the assignment. Anyone who cheats during a test and/or quiz will automatically receive a ZERO and a parent/guardian will be notified.  
  
**Success:** I do not want to hear “I can’t do it” when you are in my class. I can’t means I won’t. Some of the material and skills will be easy whereas others may be more difficult for you. In order to be successful in my class, you must give it your all. If you show up and try your best, you will be successful. If you do not understand something, please bring it to my attention. In the past, I have stayed after school to work with students and will also work through my lunch. Communication is important, so please do not be afraid to let me know if you are struggling.

“The price of success is hard work, dedication to the job at hand, and the determination that whether we win or lose, we have applied the best of ourselves to the task at hand.”

-Vince Lombardi

***Acknowledgment of Syllabus & Contact Information***

By signing this form, you are acknowledging that Mrs. Smith has given you a syllabus. You are also admitting that you have read and understand the information presented to you including the rules of the class, consequences, and expectations. Any and all questions you may have regarding your grade or the course should be presented to Mrs. Smith.

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 Name of Student Signature of Student Date*

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 Name of Parent/Guardian Signature of Parent/Guardian Date*

*Parent/Guardian Phone Number: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_*

*When is the best time to call?: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_*

*Parent Email Address: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_*

*I prefer to be contacted via:\_\_\_\_\_\_\_Email \_\_\_\_\_\_\_Phone \_\_\_\_\_\_\_Letter Sent Home*

*Language(s) Spoken at Home:\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_*

**Student Survey**

**Name:\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ Student ID #:\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ Period:\_\_\_\_\_\_**

**Grade Level:\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ CTC Program:\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ Homeroom Teacher:\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_**

**Are you planning on going to college, into the workforce, or into the armed services after high school? \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_**

**Which college, work environment, or branch?\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_**

**What grade do you expect to earn this year, and what is your plan to earn that grade?\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_**

**What was your English grade last year?\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_Who was your English teacher?\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_**

**What did your English teacher do last year that you enjoyed?\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_**

**What did your English teacher do last year that you DID NOT enjoy?\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_**

**What is your favorite part of English class? Why?\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_  
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**What is your least favorite part of English class? Why?\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_**

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**Describe the way you like to learn things (e.g. reading, listening, working in groups, taking notes, stations, etc):\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_**

**Do you enjoy: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_Group Work \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_Projects \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_Individual Assignments**

**Name three students you would like to work with:\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_**

**Do you think you are smart? Why or why not? \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_  
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What is something I should know about you that can potentially affect your participation in this class?\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_  
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What is the most important thing I need to do as a teacher to help you succeed in my class?\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_**

**Is there anything else you would like me to know about you?\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_  
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