

# EnglishZone

## ★ Student Planners

- All students will be given a planner. Two life skills you need to learn are organization and responsibility. These are essential for becoming a productive, responsible adult. You are responsible for bringing YOUR planner to class every day and writing in the daily assignments/tests. Someone will be checking these at the end of the hour. If you do not bring in YOUR planner, you owe 20 minutes after school that day or 20 minutes before school the next day. If you skip out on this, your name will be sent to administration and detention will ensue. If you lose your planner, you will have to purchase another one from the office.

## ★ Laptops

- You must bring your computer to class. Plan to use it everyday.
- You will be using the same username and passwords that you did last year. If you don't remember, please see me.
- We will go through each site and discuss (and practice) how they will be used in class.
- You may use your smartphones in class for an assignment or activity (let me know at the beginning of class). If you are caught using your phone or other technology for alternative uses, it will be confiscated and consequences will follow. Ipads, Kindles, Nooks, etc. are still allowed for AR.
- We are learning to use a number of different applications and technology so **please** be sure to ask questions if you don't understand.
- As always, students who do not follow the laptop/technology policy will be held accountable for their actions. Please remember that administration and teachers may access your computer at any time. Please use your technology responsibly.

## ★ Vocabulary

- Students will have a new vocabulary lesson each week.
- **Mondays:** "Audacity" for the unit will be due at the BEGINNING OF CLASS - it must be submitted correctly (Grade-First Name-Last Name-Unit Number).
- Grading for Audacity
  - Total: 50 points
    - -10 unit labeled incorrectly (Ex: 12StaceyStrengUnit1)
    - -10 per word missing
    - -5 per word pronounced incorrectly
    - -5 no eye contact
    - Redo for partial credit (volume or other distractions)
- **Wednesdays:** The assignment will be due. It must be printed off and highlighted BEFORE the bell rings. Be sure to bring a red pen and your vocabulary book. After the first test, those who earn 95% or better will NOT be assigned the homework for the next unit. Free homework coupons may be used for unit assignments.
  - An example will be provided so that students have a format to follow. Be sure to use this!! Points will be deducted for things like punctuation, capitalization, and spacing.

- If students are caught copying the assignment (this includes the first part of the sentences of Exercises I and IV), they lose the 95% or better homework perk and will have to write out (in cursive) the rest of the lessons for the remainder of the year.
- **Fridays:** The test for the lesson will be given. Part A will require the students to write the words and their parts of speech correctly. Words may be given out of order. Part B will be multiple choice. If a schedule conflict arises (no school, school activity, etc.), the test will be on Thursday.
- Students who maintain an average of 95% or better on tests throughout the year will be exempt from the final (vocabulary portion). You will keep track of your weekly tests. At the end of the year, your tracker will be collected and graded (100 points). Be sure that you use PENCIL and write neatly.
- **MORNING MADNESS** will take place again this year. For those who want to potentially earn bonus points on their vocabulary tests, we will meet at 8:00 (sharp) on the morning of the test. It's an easy way to earn up to two bonus points! Just bring paper, a pencil, and your vocabulary book.

## ★ Reading Program

- We will be using the Accelerated Reading Program this year. Each of you will have an individual reading plan.
- If you start reading a book and realize that it is NOT FOR YOU, you may choose another. Please let me know ASAP.
- Be aware of upcoming due dates! These will be posted in my classroom, and you will also document them in your planners.
- For high school students, you have a predetermined list of AR books. You will have to choose one book per quarter that has not been selected by another classmate. We will do a random drawing to see who gets to pick first, second, and so forth. There is a handout which details the requirements for that book, and I will go through that with you to explain the expectations. You will also be required to read a nonfiction book as well (unless your required selection is nonfiction - that would take care of both requirements).
- The books on the list have a variety of ranges. You may select ANY of them regardless of the ZPD range or points. This applies only for my list. The other books you choose must be within your ZPD range. Other classes may be requiring students to read non-fictional books as well. As long as the books are in the appropriate ZPD range, I have no problem with students reading one book for two classes.
- High school students will also be assigned a Digital Book Trailer to complete for each List Book. The requirements will be discussed in class on a later date.
- After you have checked Google Classroom, you may start working on your AR. If you forget your book or are late to class, you will be required to make up that time before or after school (there will be a grade deduction). However, if you have an excused absence, you will be allowed to make up the time and earn full credit. You don't need to make up in class reading for school sanctioned absences; the 20 minutes of outside reading is still required.
- You will have your own reading folder and that will be filled out at the beginning and at the end AR.
- You are required to read outside of class for at least 20 minutes. This can be during your study hall, after lunch, before you go to bed, etc. Making a choice to not read outside of class will result in a deduction of points and before or after school tutoring.
- You will also need to design a mnemonic cartoon for each book, and I will explain how these are done as well.
- Students who earn an 85% or better on the AR test will NOT have to write a book report. Some students have never written a book report because they thoroughly read their books. I will explain the process for this. There is also a sample online available.
- There are websites that provide quizzes and extra summaries over certain AR books. This is not to be used in place of actually reading the book (you won't pass the test if you don't read the book), but it might help you understand the book better.

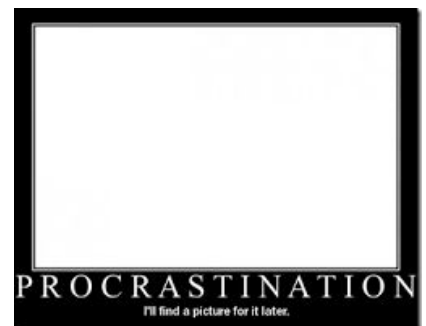
- <http://www.sparknotes.com>
- <http://www.shmoop.com>
- <http://www.cliffsnotes.com>
- <http://www.barnesandnoble.com>
- Everything must be handed in BEFORE you can take an AR test, including the graded book report sheet (if you were required to complete one).
- You may only be signed up for one book at a time, and I must sign you up for that. Be sure to check that your book has an AR test for it. I checked the publishing codes from ODIN and on our library website to make sure that correct version is available. If you a book from a different location, be sure to check this information. I will demonstrate how to use this in class.
- A faculty member must monitor you while you are testing or the test will be considered invalid. You will not be able to take that test again.
- You are responsible for making sure the book you are reading is within your ZPD Range. If you are not sure, please see me. Tests that are below your ZPD Range will not be counted toward your grade and other consequences may follow.
  - Exceptions:
    - The book is on the Book List.
    - The book is in a series where at least one of the books is in your ZPD Range (again, your responsibility to check).
    - The book is on Mrs. Manstrom's Top 10 List.

## ★ Other Areas

- Literary Terms
- Grammar
- Literature
- Writing
- Test Prepping (ACT, etc.)

## ★ Questions & Concerns

- My job is to help you excel in your education. Please see me if you have any questions or concerns. I am usually here by 7:30, and on most days, I don't leave until 5:00.
- Please do not ask for help right before the assignment is due. I need time to explain the answer. Coming for help five minutes before an assignment is due is not being responsible.
- You may also email me questions at the following: [stacey.streng@k12.nd.us](mailto:stacey.streng@k12.nd.us).



# Homework Procedures

- When you come to class, make sure you have all the required materials (computer, planner, homework, supplies). Don't forget to bring your reading book (the one you checked out) to class every day! Being prepared for class is part of your participation grade. Once the bell rings, you will not be allowed to leave the classroom.
- Assignments that are due must be printed off BEFORE the bell rings. Plan accordingly. Technology glitches (first world problem) so don't wait for the last minute to get this done.
- When the bell rings, you are in your assigned seat with your assigned computer WORKING.
- First, check out Google Classroom. After that, you may begin working on AR. Remember to fill out the information from the previous day. On Fridays (unless the schedule changes), you will complete the vocabulary test and then follow the daily routine.
- All assignments must be written (cursive), not printed. Printed assignments will not be accepted. Typed assignments are fine. The standard font and size are Comic Sans MS and Size 12.
- Assignment Headings - The following needs to be included on every assignment:

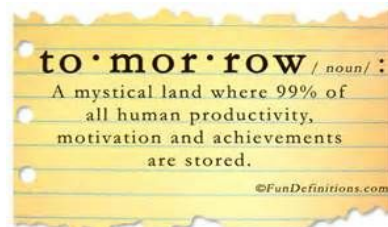
First and Last Name  
Class  
Date

Name of the Assignment & Page Number

- You are allowed one late assignment per quarter. There is a coupon that you will fill out and attach to your late assignment that will be due the next day of class. After that, work will be graded as is - meaning you will only get credit for what you have completed. This year you will have to complete a **HOMework SLIP** before work is turned in. This includes work assigned on Google Classroom. You will have to finish the assignment either during Flex Hour or before/after school. Extra credit is accepted only if the original assignment is done on time.

- Areas that are graded:

Homework	35%
Reading Program	30%
Tests/Quizzes	35%



- Please see me if you have any questions about the above information. My job is to prepare you for your future life. Think of it as poverty insurance. The more education you have now, the less likely you will suffer in poverty as an adult. "Education is the great enabler and equalizer, the force that allows individuals to reach their potential, to dream bigger dreams, and to be more fully engaged with a much bigger world."