

Ms. Gibson
English I
Room 1026
(931) 381-2222 Ext. 1028
kgibson1@mauryk12.org

Welcome to English I

2023-2024

This class is dedicated to improving your skills in critical thinking, writing, and reading. English I is a course intended to expose students to a variety of literature types and genres. Additional emphasis is placed on increasing the complexity of works studied, critical thinking, and mastery of literary devices. Studies will be guided, trained, and practiced in producing various examples of written and graphic pieces of work, including but not limited to, essays, letters and constructed responses. The work expected will be rigorous and under time constraint. Each day you will have a bellwork assignment in the form of a writing prompt or grammar exercise. We will read and study great works of literature such as *The Odyssey*, *Romeo and Juliet*, *The Hunger Games* (*etc.*), and short stories from our literature book. It is the intent of this course to prepare students for continued and more sophisticated classwork, time and task management, organization, as well as preparing them for high-stakes assessments.

Course Goals

- Develop and craft communication skills - written and verbal
- Gain exposure to significant pieces of literature
- Engage in discussion and analysis relative to the relationship between literature and historical events
- Expanded variety/complexity of vocabulary in written and verbal communications
- Prepare students for next-level instruction
- Improve test taking strategies and management of high stakes testing scenarios
- Improve validating statements and assertions with textual evidence, including appropriate documentation and citation

This course follows the English Language Arts (Grade 9) Tennessee State Standards. If you would like to access the standards, use the link. <https://www.tn.gov/education/districts/academic-standards.html>

Grading Scale

Class work	25%
Quizzes	25%
Tests/ Essays/ Projects	35%
Exam/TN Ready (EOC)	15%

Supplies Needed for Class

- Pencils
- Notebook paper
- A binder or folder to keep notes in (If you need me to provide you one, let me know)
- MCPS device (provided by school)

Absences

Make-up work should be completed within **three days** of the absence. If work is not completed and turned in by the end of the 3rd day following the absence, a zero will be given for each assignment missed.

Tardies

You will be considered tardy if you are not in your seat when the bell rings—**no exceptions!** Going to the restroom/vending machine should be taken care of before class. Leaving the classroom will be kept to a minimum unless it is an emergency.

**** Drinks/snacks are allowed in my classroom. However, you will not be permitted to use the vending machine during class time. You must go during class change.**

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Cell Phones/ Other Devices

All cell phones and other devices should be put away and out of sight upon entering the classroom and during class time unless told otherwise by the teacher. Charging your phone in the classroom will not be permitted—refer to the student handbook. Cell phones will be used for **educational purposes only**. Air Pods, earbuds, etc. will not be permitted unless used for educational purposes only. Once you are issued your MCPS laptop, make sure to bring it charged to class every day. You will be allowed to charge it in class if needed.

Expectations

- Be respectful to everyone in this classroom at ALL times
- Phones & Earbuds are in your backpack BEFORE you enter this classroom. If either devices are in sight during class time, I have authority to confiscate the device. If you have your personal device confiscated, you will be given it back at the END of class.
- Do not leave your seat without permission
- Profanity will NOT be tolerated. No exceptions!
- Arrive to class on time and be prepared everyday
- Do NOT speak during instruction - raise your hand
- You are expected to have integrity in this classroom everyday

Integrity: the quality of being honest and having strong moral principles

- Complete every assignment that you are given to the best of your ability
- Assignments turned in past the due date will not be tolerated or accepted
- Be kind - profanity, teasing, talking back, and bullying will NOT be tolerated. Respect yourself, your classmates, your teacher, and your classroom. Keep your hands, feet, and objects to yourself. If you don't own it, don't write, draw, or carve on it. Absolutely no talking while I am talking or someone else is talking
- Enter the classroom quietly, turn in homework, check the board for bell work, and immediately begin working in your assigned seat

Freshman Class, you are the future

The choices you make today are very important!

1st offense	Verbal warning
2nd offense	Verbal warning and parent/ guardian phone call
3rd offense	Referral to administration

**** I reserve the right to send very disruptive students to the office at any time.**

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Parent Contact

Parents,

Please do not hesitate to contact me at any time. I want your child to flourish this year, and I am fully open to working together to ensure success! I am available via email, phone call, or remind! If you have any questions, do not hesitate to ask!

By signing below I agree to the terms and expectations provided above by the Maury County School Board and Columbia Central High School while in Ms. Gibson's classroom.

_____ **Student Signature** **Date:** _____

_____ **Parent Signature** **Date:** _____

You are expected to return this signed document by Thursday, August 10 for a grade