

# MR. KAWEL'S CLASSROOM

## STANDARD OPERATING PROCEDURE

YOU KNOW S.O.P. – YEAH, YOU KNOW ME



Honors English 1 and 2 (basically the best English class you'll ever take)

Mr. Kawel

Room 245

### COURSE DESCRIPTION:

Honors English 1 and 2 is an incredible class. While we will, of course, be working together to develop your reading and writing skills, we will spend considerable time working on the development of literary analysis skills. To do this, we will practice discussion techniques within our teams and larger class group. Similarly, we will do our best to develop a culture of respect, creativity, and curiosity. To achieve all of these goals, we will explore the following essential questions this year:

What is a hero?

What is moral courage?

Along with intense literature study, we will develop our grammar and vocabulary skills. Grammar study will occur every Monday, Tuesday, and Wednesday and we will plan to have two small grammar exams per marking period. Vocabulary study will occur on most Mondays with a short quiz every three weeks. I like to keep our Mondays and Fridays as low key as possible. Look, I was in high school once.

Here's the cool part – at the end of this class, you will be able to say that you can:

**SPEAK:** accurately and appropriately convey an extended message and series of ideas to varied audiences; speak with a strong and varied vocabulary that enhances your message.

**LISTEN:** to your peers' ideas and accurately identify important and interesting information; strategically use your observation of media to identify false reasoning and exaggeration; contribute to a discussion by scaffolding on others' ideas and refer back to previously shared ideas.

**WRITE:** extended and meaningful literary analyses, arguments, informative and narrative pieces for varied audiences; craft language in a way that enhances and strengthens your message.

**READ:** challenging literature and informational texts across multiple media; understand what is written at face value and delve deeper to read between the lines; connect multiple texts and consider their purpose from multiple and complex viewpoints.

#### FIRST SEMESTER LITERATURE

Selected short stories from our literature anthology to jump start with the basics. You'll love 'em.

#### Utopia and Dystopia

*Animal Farm* by George Orwell

*Fahrenheit 451* by Ray Bradbury

"The Allegory of the Cave" by Plato

#### Greek Drama

*Oedipus Rex (Oedipus the King)* by Sophocles

*Antigone* by Sophocles

#### Voice and Creative Writing

*The House on Mango Street* by Sandra Cisneros

#### SECOND SEMESTER LITERATURE

#### An Historical Approach

*To Kill a Mockingbird*

#### Epics and Heroes

*The Odyssey* by Homer

#### Drama and Poetry

*Romeo and Juliet* by William Shakespeare

The sonnets of Francesco Petrarch, William Shakespeare, and Edna St. Vincent Millay

Other poems and short stories

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**DAILY MATERIALS:**

Pen (pencils are ok – I prefer pen)

A highlighter will be helpful

Composition notebook (try to aim for at least 100 pages, if you can)

Your literature anthology (textbook) *and* other necessary text (e.g., *Animal Farm*)

1:1 device (see details at end of syllabus)

Binder with folders or sections – I recommend dividing your binder up into several sections:

- Right Now! (current literature study)
- Vocabulary (for your vocabulary work)
- Grammar (take a guess)
- Assessment/Review (to keep your essay and exam preparatory materials organized)

Ok, now onto the nitty gritty.

**CLASSROOM GUIDELINE:**

I don't like rules. Yes, we have to follow the handbook (and for good reason, too! If we didn't, small groups of Junior anarchists would take over the school and we'd take classes in Clash of Clans strategy instead of...whoops...I've said too much...), but in this class there's just one guideline:

**YOU MAY DO ANYTHING SO LONG AS IT DOES NOT DISTRACT YOURSELF,  
YOUR PEERS, OR THE TEACHER FROM OUR LEARNING.**

After all, you have the *right* to a classroom in which you can learn to the best of your ability. Similarly, you also have the *responsibility* to conduct yourself in a way that contributes to the success of your learning experience. We will negotiate a behavior contract this week. In the meantime:

**DON'T BE STUPID.**

**CLASSROOM EXPECTATIONS AND PROCEDURES:**

An expectation is a belief that someone will achieve something. A procedure is an official way of doing something. I believe you all will achieve great things this year. I'm not going to lie – I have very high expectations for all of you. In order to achieve those expectations, we need procedure. This class has procedures and I expect everyone to follow them.

I expect you to be prepared, work hard, act as a team player, and show respect to one another. Listed below are a few things you should do everyday when in our classroom.

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### WHAT DO I DO WHEN I ENTER THE CLASSROOM?

1. I recommend using an agenda planner or a mobile device to record our class work and assignments. Fill that out first thing when you come into the classroom.
2. You should be in your seat, prepared for class, and following the daily directions on the front screen.
3. If there is an assignment due, you should have that out on your desk, ready to be checked in.
4. Need to say something? By all means, please do! Just raise your hand and wait to be called on. If you need to get a tissue or sharpen your pencil, you do not need to raise your hand – just be respectful of the teacher and your classmates (follow the guideline!).

### HOW DO I KNOW WHEN CLASS STARTS?

Class will always begin when Mr. Kawel walks to the center of the room and sits on his white stool or approaches the podium.

When you see this, you should give him your *complete attention*, please.

Please remain in your seat and refrain from getting any last minute materials.

### HOW DO I KNOW WHEN CLASS ENDS?

You may be surprised to hear this, but yes: Mr. Kawel can read a clock and hear bells.

1. Wait for Mr. Kawel to give final directions.
2. Wait for Mr. Kawel to dismiss you.
3. Gather your materials.
4. Get up from your seat.
5. Exit the classroom quietly, please.

### WHAT TO DO WHEN MR. KAWEL RAISES THE 'K'

When Mr. Kawel raises the 'K' (his thumb, pointer, and middle fingers), he wants you to do two things:

1. Raise the 'K' on your own
2. Give him your complete attention.

This procedure applies to any setting, not just inside the classroom.

### I WAS ABSENT. WHAT DO I DO?

Please check the ABSENT FOLDERS located at the WATERING HOLE supply area. There you will find directions from Mr. Kawel and any practice work, handouts, or otherwise important information from the day of your absence. Items are organized by course and weekday in their respective folders. The classroom website and calendar should be update daily, too. Subscribe to the class' Google Calendar as soon as today.

### HANDING IN ASSIGNMENTS

Usually, Mr. Kawel will simply come around to each group and check in homework. However, Mr. K will occasionally request that you hand in assignments to your class tray on the WATERING HOLE supply space at the front of the classroom. Assignments completed online or on your 1:1 device can be submitted through Google Drive.

### PENCIL SHARPENERS AND BORROWING PENS/PENCILS

If your pencil needs to be sharpened, sharpen it! Please wait until work time has begun to do so. If you need to borrow a pen/pencil, you may! All I request is that you give me collateral (trade something for the pencil).

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### CLICK-CLACK BASKET (CLICKCLASKET)

Have something (good/bad) that you would like to share with me but there is not time during class? Drop a note in the basket on my desk. Let me know what is happening in your life (especially if it is interfering with your school work!).

### WHAT DO I DO IF I LEFT MY WORK AT SCHOOL AND I HAVE HOMEWORK?

Go to our classroom website: [mrkawel.weebly.com](http://mrkawel.weebly.com) (don't type in "www.") or email Mr. K at [tkawel@egrps.org](mailto:tkawel@egrps.org).

### CLASSROOM PORTFOLIOS

You will receive your own portfolio courtesy of Mr. K. You may use this folder to store old assignments that we are not currently using and your yearly progress record.

### GRADES

Mr. K typically updates grades daily on Skyward. I will always do my best to ensure grades are updated by Friday afternoon. You're welcome. Your grades in this class will be based on two categories: **Assessment Items** and **Class Work and Homework**. **Assessment Items** will make up 90% of your academic grade (what you *know*) while **Class Work and Homework** will make up the remaining 10% of your grade (effort and attitude grade). We will discuss this in class together.

Your semester marks will be composed of three grades: Q1 40% + Q2 40% + Semester Exam 20%.

All assignments have due dates, by the way. I expect all assignments to be submitted by their respective dates. Credit is given when credit is deserved. Late credit is given when late credit is deserved. Assignments over one week late or papers and projects not submitted by their due date will receive a gooser (0).

N.b., I don't play when it comes to plagiarism. Obviously, I don't expect to have any problems with this issue, but as Mr. T says: don't act a fool. While we will review the EGRHS Honesty Policy (see pg. 16 – 8315), I recommend reviewing it on your own.

### CELL PHONES, IPODS, AND BASICALLY ALL THE FUN STUFF, RIGHT?

Not permitted unless Mr. K says so. Please ensure they are **turned off** and place them in the Tigers bucket when you come in the door. If your phone goes off in your pocket, I reserve the right to confiscate it until the end of the day – School Board policy # 8320 and 8320-R apply beyond this.

Your 1:1 device, by the way, **is an educational tool** inside the classroom and at home. While at school and, specifically, within the classroom, you are expected to follow the EGRPS 1:1 policy you agreed to in writing outlined in your student handbook. We're going to have a lot of fun together as long as we adhere to these expectations. There will be appropriate times for 1:1 use. Please only use your device when Mr. K gives you the go ahead.

Basically, we're going to kick butt together. Let's dig in and have some fun!

Please note: Mr. K does not play. These policies are designed in the interest of common sense and fairness to all students. If you *communicate with me* and act responsibly, there will not be a problem. I respect honesty and I value forgiveness.