

**English II  
Syllabus****Instructor: Mr. Mooney****e-mail: [mismooney@capousd.org](mailto:mismooney@capousd.org)****Website: [www.mrmooney.com](http://www.mrmooney.com)****Tesoro High School  
949-234-5310****Course Description**

English II is a course nearly all sophomores will take at Tesoro High School, and it is a very important one. I want every one of you to be successful in this class and in all of your future English classes as a result of your experience in my class. The reading, writing, listening and speaking you will practice and refine in this class will provide a solid foundation for your entire high school career and beyond. Specifically, the work you do in this class will prepare you for English III (as juniors) and the Scholastic Aptitude Test (SAT) if you so chose to take it (and I would).

Together, we will read both fictional and non-fictional works of literature, essays and articles, and we will dive into the history, background and significance of this variety of works and discuss your responses. Listening and sharing our views, as well as the views of others, about the works will lead to trying ideas out in written essays. We will often work in pairs or small groups, as well as individually in order to improve our English skills. You will work on the skills that contribute to successful writing, such as organization, mechanics, vocabulary development, analysis, and the understanding of rhetorical devices. You will strengthen your power to communicate in both the oral and written word as you contemplate what we read, discuss and write about, and how it influences the way you view yourself and the world around you.

**Textbooks**

- *Collections* Anthology (textbook)
- *Collections* (workbook)
- *Lord of the Flies*
- *Macbeth*
- *Catcher in the Rye*
- \*\*\**All Quiet on the Western Front*

**General Guidelines**

**Reading:** Please complete all of the assigned reading; this is a must in order to be successful in this *literature* course. You cannot expect to do well in this course, nor can you expect to derive much value from it without reading.

**Writing:** Only work in blue or black ink will be accepted for homework assignments, and the final papers other major assignments must be typed, so if you do not have the equipment at home to do this, be prepared to use the school facilities on your own time or make arrangements with a peer. For handwritten work, please try and be neat. If it is sloppy or difficult to read, I reserve the right to mark it down one or more grades. Computer-generated work must conform to MLA guidelines unless otherwise specified. Also, because you will be submitting a culminating portfolio of your work, keep ever piece of writing you complete in the course in a notebook .

**Homework:** Homework will usually involve reading, writing, research, observation or an exercise in critical thinking or analysis. Homework will be due at the **beginning** of class. Late homework will receive only partial credit. *If you have an excused absence the day homework is due, I suggest you or someone you trust deliver the homework to my classroom or to my mailbox on the next day, whether class meets or not.*

**Plagiarism:** Plagiarism is defined as “using words or ideas of another as if they were your own.” Copying or paraphrasing words or ideas from another text *with citation* is all part of good **research**. Copying or paraphrasing words or ideas from another text *without citation* is **cheating**. If you submit work that is not your own, or if you give your work to another student to copy, you will receive an ‘F’ on the assignment and your parents will be contacted.

**Assessment:** Grades are based on the thoughtful quality of your written work (including journal assignments), objective and essay quizzes and tests, and on the positive quality of your participation in class activities. Every assignment is weighted based on its point value and therefore every assignment affects your grade. Your grade will be determined by your percentage of total accumulated points. Hence, the best strategy is to do your best on ALL assignments in order to ensure success in the class. I use standard grade percentages (90 – 100% = A, etc.) and do not curve.

- Generally speaking, your grade will be based on the following rough guideline:

<i>GRADE WEIGHTING</i>	
Composition	30%
Tests/Quizzes/Project	30%
Assignments	20%
Class Participation	10%
Semester Final	10%

**Behavioral Expectations:**

- Bring all needed materials to class. This includes paper, pens, pencils, notebook, student I.D. and books. Please do not ask me whether you can go to your locker after the bell rings.
- Be in your seat and ready to work when the tardy bell rings. Most employers will reprimand at the least, dock the pay of, or fire employees who are habitually late to work, so do not start now.
- Respect and be polite to all people. I ask that you demonstrate a positive, mature and supportive attitude toward everyone in the class. This includes respecting others when they are talking by not talking.
- Raise your hand if you have something to say or need assistance. This will help facilitate our discussions.
- Respect other people’s property. This includes the classroom and any school property in it as well as leaving the room in the same or better shape than you found it. Pick up any trash or paper scraps around your desk; replace desks in their assigned rows – class will not be dismissed until the room is returned to its original condition.
- Please use the restroom before you come to class. There is a reward.

- Obey all school rules and procedures. Violation of these rules will equate to one or more of the following, not necessarily in this order: verbal warning, removal from the classroom, contacting your parents, detention and/or office referral.
- If anything prevents you from completing an assignment (software or hardware failure or personal grievance/emergency), please contact me immediately – I have provided my e-mail (the best way to reach me) for this reason. Please see me or e-mail me **before** an assignment is due if you have any problems.

\*\*\*\* One final note on behavioral expectations: In the “real world,” people who are late, unprepared, or unable to work as a team, produce shoddy work (regardless of their talent or intellect) lose jobs and money. Because 100 % of the students who do poorly in my class are late, unprepared, produce shoddy work or no work at all, I believe I am doing you a favor by treating you like an adult will soon be joining the “real world.”

**My Commitment**

More than anything, I want to create a classroom environment that is safe, nurturing, intellectually challenging, relevant and fun. I will strive to help you better understand the foundations of literature and writing that will enable you to be extremely successful throughout high school and in your post-high school writing endeavors. Fairness and objectivity are paramount, and I will be accessible in and outside of the classroom for assistance.

**Your Commitment**

To accomplish this, I will need you to consider the following suggestions:

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|--|---|
| ● Treat others as you would like to be treated.                                  | ● Tell the truth.                           |
| ● Be considerate of the feelings and opinions of others.                         | ● Take responsibility for your own actions. |
| ● Learn to listen.   |   |
| ● Real life requires participation. Get out of the bleachers and onto the field. |   |

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**Students and Parents:** Outlined here is an expansion and detailed explanation, with examples, of the CAPISTRANO UNIFIED ACADEMIC INTEGRITY POLICY that is in the *Tesoro Student Handbook*. The purpose is to provide specifics and further details regarding the current policy. Not all consequences are listed here but are in the handbook. I urge students and parents to ask about the policy if they have questions and to contact me if further clarification is needed. Depending on the incident, I may speak to the student first or notify the parent first. This protocol is tailored to the circumstances, which may include the number of students involved, timing, assignment, and type of infraction.

**Student Academic Integrity Contract**

**Cheating, plagiarism, or helping another person to cheat** violates Tesoro High School’s *Academic Integrity Policy*. A first offense will be referred to the assistant principal for disciplinary action. Such actions also result in a zero for the assignment, parent notification, and

other possible classroom consequences. Students will not be able to make-up or redo the assignment. All parties involved are subject to the same consequences. In order to deter plagiarism, students will be required to submit their work to **Turnitin.com** for review.

**PLAGIARISM**, which is copying work or ideas from another source and submitting it as original work **or** aiding another person to plagiarize, includes but is not limited to the following actions:

- turning in someone else's work as your own (including college students, former students, tutors, or other adults)
- copying words or ideas from someone else without giving credit (including a peer's homework or sources similar to Spark Notes – which a student may choose to consult to aid in comprehension but homework answers and essay content must be generated from the text, not online summaries or analysis)
- failing to put a quotation in quotation marks (example: to fulfill a paraphrase requirement)
- giving incorrect information about the source of your information or misrepresenting your work
- changing words but copying the sentence structure of a source without giving credit
- copying so many words or ideas from a source that it makes up the majority of your work, whether you give credit or not
- allowing a student to copy your work or access it through Google docs or Canvas
- engaging in negligent acts or poor decisions that result in cheating or plagiarism:
  - leaving work out and visible for someone to copy
  - **sending work electronically to someone or sharing work through technology**
  - loaning a notebook or flash drive that contains previously written work
  - handing work to someone who copies it despite assurances that they won't
  - giving passwords to another student who then accesses your work through Google docs or Canvas
  - misuse of technology that leads to cheating or plagiarism (when using Illuminate you must log in through the secure browser- other programs/websites are not to be opened simultaneously.
  - using and not reporting websites/study sites that have clearly uploaded tests/quizzes for a particular class.
  - submitting work that was produced by **unauthorized collaboration or sharing** on assignments/research designed to be completed independent (\*see note below). In class, we will go over this section twice!!

\*Students are encouraged to discuss their opinions of assigned works with peers. Meaningful discussion often leads to deeper insight and helps students make personal connections with literature. **HOWEVER**, all written work produced as a result of these discussions, shared inquiries, or research must be produced independently. **Students must not write assignments together** (including research notes/outlines/quotes) or share work written by one unless it is an authorized group project requiring that only one paper be submitted for the group. Doing homework together can lead to plagiarism as one student ends up dictating answers to the other or using the same quotes/commentary. Please do not collaborate when looking for answers to questions or when writing your responses.

Please be aware that self-plagiarism (recycling your own previously written work) is not acceptable.

Please be aware that any homework copying, no matter how routine the assignment may seem to you, is cheating and will result in the full consequences of an academic integrity violation.

**A NOTE ABOUT GOOGLE DOCS AND PASSWORDS:** Sharing one document for an assignment that is meant to be completed independently is not allowed. This may lead to one or both students turning in plagiarized work. Similarly, giving your **password** to another student may also result in your work being used by another student. Both students share the same consequence. **(remember – if you *share* a password or document you will also *share* the consequences of the violation regardless of who copied from whom)**

Today's technology allows easy access to previously published material or to another student's work, so it may be tempting to cut and paste - especially if you wait until the last minute. You may be approached to provide your work **or your password** to another student. If you do, you are engaging in behavior that may help another student cheat, which is also a violation of the academic integrity policy. *When there is a time gap between the production of an original document that is later used to help a student cheat, a grade can be changed retroactively.* There are consequences for such actions and your signature confirming receipt and understanding of this contract will be kept on file. Please ask questions about plagiarism and this contract at any time.

**Student Signature** \_\_\_\_\_ **Date** \_\_\_\_\_

***\*talking and cell phone use during or immediately following tests will be considered cheating***