**St. Boniface Diocesan High School**

**English Language Arts 20F**

**Course Outline and Classroom Expectations**

**Course:** English Language Arts 20F

**School Year:** 2021

**Instructor:** Ms. J. Walker

**Email:** [jwalker@sbdhs.net](mailto:jwalker@sbdhs.net)

Language is a social and uniquely human way of representing, exploring and communicating meaning to and about the world around us. Language is an unmistakable mark of personal identity, and is essential for forming relationships with other people, understanding social situations, communicating our own experiences to others, and reflecting on our, and others, thoughts and actions.

So, let’s get good at English!

**The new Manitoba English Language Arts curriculum focuses on four main practices:**

1. *Sense Making*: connecting with prior knowledge, making connections, asking questions, summarizing, and understanding the effectiveness of a text and its purpose
2. *System:* exploring patterns and conventions important to communication, grammar, punctuation, spelling, vocabulary, forms, and genres
3. *Exploration and Design:* asking questions and creating solutions to problems by analyzing, interpreting, and communicating
4. *Power and Agency*: interrogating inequalities and biases through moral and ethical issues, influences, and perspectives

Students will read, write, listen to, speak, view, and represent various forms within the English Language Arts, which include, but are not limited to: novels, graphic novels, poetry, short stories, persuasive and personal essays, Ted Talks, YouTube, films, etc.

**The units of study this semester will include (subject to change):**

* Grammar, spelling, and MLA-formatting
* Creative writing, focusing on short stories
* Rants and constructive arguments
* Shakespeare’s *Romeo and Juliet*
* Graphic Novels
* Independent novel study

**Your term mark will consist of:**

Assignments 40%

Writing 40%

Tests and Quizzes 20%

**Your final exam mark is worth *30% of your Final Grade.***

**Classroom Rules and Expected Behaviour**

**Entering the Classroom**

Once the second bell rings, you are expected to be in your assigned seat with your books, binders, and all other necessary materials, ready to learn.

Students must wear their masks *at all times* while on school property until further notice.

**During Class Time**

Cell phones and other personal devices will *not* be allowed to be used in class unless otherwise stated. Students must leave their devices in their bag or backpack. You are not allowed to listen to your personal music during class time.

No disrespectful behaviour in the classroom (or anywhere else) will be tolerated.

This is an *open and safe* learning environment for everyone. Ms. Walker will absolutely not tolerate any behaviour or speech deemed to be homophobic, transphobic, racist, sexist, ablest, or otherwise. St. Boniface Diocesan has a zero tolerance policy for any form of abuse, harassment, or intimidation.

**Late Assignments**

It is the student’s responsibility to have all assignments completed to the best of their ability by the specified due date. Extensions may be granted on a case-to-case basis *prior* to the assignment’s due date. Late assignments will be deducted **10% of given grade for each day** it is late. *Do Not* email me the night before an assignment is due asking for an extension.

**If You Are Away or Sick**

If you are planning to be away from class for any amount of time for a vacation, school activity, or otherwise, you **must** speak to me about what you will be missing. I will do my best to provide you with the homework you will be missing.

*YOU* are responsible for:

* Contacting Ms. Walker when you will be away. If you are sick, you may email or speak to me the next time you are in class
* Asking Ms. Walker what you will or have missed and how you can make up any missed assignments, tests, quizzes, etc.
  + You will have up to *one week* to write any missed tests or quizzes
  + Homework due dates will remain unchanged unless otherwise stated
* If we have watched a video in class, you are responsible for renting, finding, Netflix-ing the video yourself
* Any missing or incomplete assignments, tests, and quizzes will receive a zero

Due to the nature of the pandemic, students must submit their work through Microsoft Teams rather than a hardcopy. Most assignments will be posted on Teams. Students may submit their work electronically before or on the specified due date.

**School Cell Phone and Personal Device Policy**

Students may not have their personal devices during class time unless *specifically* stated by Ms. Walker. Students are able to use their phones before 8:30am and after 3:13pm, and during lunch hour, and may send their cat memes during this time, not during class time.

Any student found violating the school’s policy will be subject to the following:

* **First offence:** student loses device for the remainder of the day and may be claimed at the end of the day from the school’s administration
* **Second offence:** student loses device for the remainder of the day and is subject to having their parent or guardian claiming the phone at the end of the day, in addition to a $25.00 fine donated to a designated charity
* **Continued offence:** student is subject to parent or guardian claiming the phone at the end of the day and is not allowed to bring personal device (or anyone else’s) to school for the remainder of the year, in addition to a $25.00 fine donated to a designated charity

**Academic Integrity**

Students are expected to be rigorously honest in the pursuit of their education. A student is academically dishonest when s/he engages in an illegal or improper activity for the purpose of improving a grade or test score. As such, plagiarism and cheating are serious offenses.

Academic dishonesty includes, but is not limited to, cheating and/or plagiarizing the work of others or allowing one’s work to be plagiarized. Academic dishonesty is a serious offence and will be dealt with severely on a case by case basis.

Any student found acting academically dishonest will be subject to the following:

* **First offence:** student receives a grade of zero (0) and is given the opportunity to re-do the assignment; parents/guardians are contacted
* **Second offence:** student receives a grade of zero (0); there is no opportunity to re-do the assignment; parents/guardians must meet with administration
* **Third offence:** student receives a three day out-of-school suspension and/or recommendation to the SBDHS Board of Directors for expulsion

**Additional Notes**

* Students must check their Microsoft Teams ELA 20-2 group for assignments and posting *every day*, regardless of cohort. Important information and assignments will be posted on Teams.
* **Most importantly**: Enjoy learning every day. Come into class with an open mind, ask questions, and be excited!