

# English 4

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2021-2022 School Year

## TEXTS:

*Voices and Values*  
*Macbeth*  
*Daily Oral Language*  
*Night*  
*ACT Coach*  
*OWL Resources*  
*No Red Ink*

*Pearson Literature: The British Tradition*  
*Writers Inc.*  
*Wordbook Vocabulary*  
*Animal Farm*  
*The Mayor of Casterbridge*  
Other selections and approved materials as time permits

## OBJECTIVES:

The student will improve his/her writing (confidence, clarity, and conviction) through regular practice in writing (including argumentative, narrative writing, research writing, reflections/responses, expository, poetry, etc.).

The student will read and analyze a variety of grade-level texts in multiple genres.

The student will build literacy, general academic, and content specific vocabulary through grade level literature and individualized vocabulary texts.

The student will extract and construct meaning using prior knowledge, applying and analyzing text information, and monitoring comprehension while reading text and grade level texts.

The students will apply the writing process to plan, draft, revise, edit, peer review, and publish writing using correct spelling, grammar, punctuation, and other standard conventions.

The student will write for a variety of purposes and audiences in multiple genres.

Students will develop and apply speaking skills to communicate key ideas in a variety of situations.

Students will research, analyze, synthesize, and communicate information in a variety of media and formats (textual, visual, and digital).

The student will demonstrate growth in language arts skills during the school year. This class should be considered as a finishing class. The student will polish and improve language skills because this may be the last English class ever or the last English class before college.

The student will continue to develop problem-solving and thinking skills throughout the school year.

## GRADING POLICY:

Total points grading will be used throughout the semester. Some assignments are given more points than others with the total points the student earned divided by the total points possible to determining the quarter grade.

Daily work, worksheets, class discussion, are given points, etc., in addition to the tests, quizzes, essays, research project, writing assignments, presentations, multimedia projects, etc. A point system will be used and all assignments may be entered without being categorized. The school grading scale will be followed.

**Semester Test Grade** (will count 10% per semester)

The grading will be

Quarter 1 Grades (45%) + Quarter 2 Grades (45%) = 90% of the First Semester Grade + Semester Test = 10%

Quarter 3 Grades (45%) + Quarter 4 Grades (45%) = 90% of the Second Semester Grade + Semester Test = 10%

## CLASS EXPECTATIONS:

As class members at Lexington High School, students are aware of the expected behavior and the learning environment needed in the academic classroom. Students are expected to act as young adults; he/she is respected and accountable as a young adult.

1. Therefore, wasting the class's time or disrupting in any way *to keep another or others from learning* is not acceptable. This is especially critical when the student **visits** with another when he/she is expected to be completing assigned work, reading, working in groups, or studying material during class time. Learning minutes and the use of class time are essential for success in this and all classes. The teacher is the only person who can effectively answer any questions. **Please don't believe any reason for visiting is an acceptable excuse. Detentions will be given for any disruptive behavior.**

2. The interaction of students' ideas and comments cannot be re-enacted or accurately restated nor information only be given through lectures or teacher discussion. Questions and information from class will be on the semester tests. Please have someone in the class give you class notes outside of class if you are absent. Just because you are gone is not an excuse for missing questions on a test. Your grade will stand as is.

3. The student should have the assignment ready **at the beginning of class**. Papers should be printed in advance and turned in at the beginning of the period or submitted by the timed deadline on Google Classroom. Time will not be given in class to print papers on the due date. Make arrangements, as printers may not always be available in the school. FOCUS/Homeroom time is available on many days to print work with your teacher's permission. Students may print in the library or to my classroom before school or a pass will be written the day prior for students to come in **before** school on the due date to print papers. \*All papers are submitted **on paper and digitally** for grading. The teacher may ask for submission to an originality check program.

4. Students should make up work **prior** to any school activity or prearranged absence, like giving blood, a court appearance, doctor or dentist appointment, etc. The student handbook identifies these as "pre-excused" absence work. School activities are encouraged. A blank in the grading program designates a missed assignment. A check shows an assignment has been turned in but not graded yet. A blank grade will also be given allowing the student to make up work according to the absence policy in the student handbook. However, this may be shown as a zero once the student fails to turn in work according to the handbook policies. My classroom Late Work Policy will be used. This policy reads as follows:

Each assignment in English class is important and bears weight for the student to not only be successful in the given class but also to support the success of each student as he or she prepares to become an independent member of society. Thus, the following policy will be employed to serve this purpose:

>\*The due date: **on specified/major assignments** students may earn the maximum credit based on effort and correctness, **OR** students may turn in all assignments before the given due date (this includes excused absences for activities, college visits, or prearranged appointments.)

>One day late: students may earn a maximum of **50%** based on correctness **and dependent on individual choices**

>Two days late: **No work will be accepted. The grade for the assignment will be a “0.”**

\*Simultaneously, the Lexington High School Student Handbook policies will be enforced (**in regards to excused and unexcused absences**) and are as follows:

### **Absences and Homework**

Upon return from every absence or partial-day absence, students shall confer with their teachers about missed classwork:

*\*(a) students who are pre-excused from school should have all of their schoolwork completed and turned in to the teacher **before leaving school** unless special arrangements have been made by the teacher and/or administrator;*

(b) students who miss school due to an illness or other unforeseen circumstance will be allowed two (2) days for each day absent – up to five days total – to turn in missed homework given during the absence; additional days may be allowed by the teacher and/or administrator for special circumstances (Covid-19);

(c) suspended students must have all homework completed within two (2) days after their “return date” to school, assuming all assignments during the suspension have been forwarded in due time to the student by the teacher during the suspension.

**\*\*Also, teacher discretion will be used on specific cases (when necessary)**

**\*Simultaneously, the Lexington High School Student Handbook policies will be enforced (in regards to excused and unexcused absences).** For example, a research paper assigned due Oct. 10<sup>th</sup> (example only) is due on Oct. 10<sup>th</sup> by 8:00 A.M. **Please e-mail work to the above address if an absence occurs other than a school activity. Work may be turned in by another student on the due date or placed in my mailbox prior to leaving for a school activity.**

5. Students should be in the classroom the first ten minutes and last ten minutes of the class period. The student is permitted to leave the room for a call from the office or an emergency. For any other missed class time, the student is to make up **twenty** minutes of time before or after school. **No pass is given to go to the locker—ever. Book bags, backpacks, bags, etc. are to be placed in the hall outside the classroom next to the south lockers. Detentions will be given if a student has to enter the hall during the class period to retrieve materials (binder, pen, pencils, iPad, book, etc.)**

6. Plagiarism—academic theft—will receive a “0.” No opportunity is given to make up the assignment as the student has made a choice to not cite the work of another, copy, or take credit for work that is not his/her own. Plagiarism may also be copying answers during group discussion rather than writing

his/her own answer(s) after thinking about the response, or submitting the work of another. The grade is up to the discretion of the teacher.

7. **Make-up work or late work is NOT to be completed during class time.** Reading time is not time to do makeup or missed work. This work should be done before or after school or during second period after reading time on Tuesday, Wednesday, or Thursday. Work is not to be made up on Mondays while grade checks are done in the FOCUS period second period or when the Academic Teams meet on Fridays.

8. Please let me know if you would like to come in before school to work, as you **MUST** have a pass to be with a teacher before 7:45 A.M. I will try to leave a note on the door if I have a meeting. If I am not in my room but the lights are ON, please have the office call me via the intercom. If arrangements are made and you say you are coming in, a person of integrity gets in and gets the work made up, etc.

9. The rules of the student handbook are to be followed in the classroom (food, drink, discipline, dress code, cell phone, electronic devices, iPads, tardies, etc.). Only **water** in a clear plastic container and no food without permission are permitted in this classroom (“Snacks”). Please drink all water at a place away from your iPad or other technology.

10. Keeping the student safe is the number one priority. Chairs and desks should have all “legs or feet” on the floor at all times.

11. Each student is responsible for all assignments and work by the due dates. The requirements are what are deemed best for our students. If you are struggling, see the teacher for help. This is your grade and responsibility.

12. Should policies change and masks are again to be worn, wearing masks throughout the class period and using the hand sanitizer and desk cleaner are requirements expected of all students in all classrooms. Please follow these guidelines and slide your mask upward for brief moments to take a drink and then replace the mask.

13. Attitude is the greatest factor in learning. Try to keep a positive attitude about our school, community, events, classes, etc. Please do not talk about other students or staff in a derogatory manner.

14. Head phones, ear buds, other electronic devices, etc. and music on student computers are not permitted unless a lesson requiring headphones is used and the teacher gives permission for headphone use (“Electronic Devices”). Then, the student is only to listen to the assigned work and then remove the listening device(s).

15. Please use the door in the 100 Hallway only unless instructed otherwise by the teacher. A detention will be given for students who choose to be disrespectful of this request.

16. Extra credit is not permitted in this class.

**17. The iPad is not to be used until permission is given by the teacher to open the iPad. Notes are to be taken with paper and pencil or pen not on the iPad. The iPad is to be closed until permission is given for its use. The iPad should be charged in advance for classroom use. The student is not to change seats or sit on the floor to use or charge the iPad. The iPad should be brought into the classroom and remain under the desk seat until the teacher gives permission for its use.**

18. The student must be in his/her seat by the time the tardy bell rings or have a pass from the previous teacher to indicate the student has a reason for the tardy. Please have the previous staff member call so the teacher knows you will be late; otherwise a tardy and a thirty-minute detention are given for all tardies except those to first period, which are handled by the office.

19. A detention will be given for students who visit when the teacher is helping another student, called to the phone, helping a visitor, etc. Pull out notes to study or work on your homework for a few minutes or review your word-of-the-day list.

20. No extra credit is given for the class nor the opportunity to redo an assignment for a better grade. Do your best on each assignment or test at the time. Studying ensures success.

21. Other rules may be added as needed throughout the year.
22. Please make sure to sign the "Out of Room" form when leaving and returning to the class during the class period.

**CLASSROOM DISCIPLINE PYRAMID:**

1. The course syllabus is considered a warning.
  2. Disrespectful behavior, like but not limited to lying, blurting out comments or answers in class, disrupting class, not in one's assigned seat, etc. are given a 30-minute detention. A teacher-student conference will be held and a parent contact with the student explaining the problem to the parent during the detention will be assigned.
  3. For the second offense, a 30-minute detention will also be given with the above process continued.
  4. For the third offense a 30-minute detention plus a conference with a counselor is required and a parent contact will be made.
  5. The fourth offense will be a referral to the office. However, if the student continues disruptive behavior in one class period, the student may be sent directly to the SRO, a counselor, or to an administrator so as to allow other students to continue their learning.
- The offense may not be the same for all students as the severity of the action determines the procedure(s) followed. The teacher will determine the disruptive or disrespectful behavior. A parent call, a counselor contact, contact with another teacher or administrator, or other means may occur at any time to help with your progress in this classroom. The utmost concern is for the safety of all students and the rights for all students to learn in this classroom without disruption.

**CLASS WORK:**

English 4 is a college prep class designed as reading and writing-intensive. The students will write, edit, peer review and revise in MLA style the work during the school year. All work is to improve the student in communication skills; therefore, the assignment turned in is graded as the student's work. Ask questions in class to understand the assignment and rubric. This means the teacher does not proofread the work nor give comments about the student's draft before grading the assignment. Please follow the rubrics and class assignments given to improve your reading and writing. Some of the work to be done this year is as follows:

Interview Questions and Answers	Reflections/Responses	Five-page Research Paper
Compare/Contrast Essay	Argumentative Paper	Annotated Bibliography
Questionnaires/Surveys	Graph/Table/Chart	Six-Word Memoir
Narrative Essay	Anglo-Saxon Boast	Works Cited/Consulted
PowerPoint Presentation	Research Outline	Note cards
Other assignments as time permits		

**SUGGESTED SUPPLIES:**

**Two 1-inch binders, one for each semester**

**Notebook paper, NOT spiral** Please cut the rough edge before handing spiral paper in for assignments. These are for notes taken during class time, writing, and assignments

**Notebook Dividers**

**Highlighters (4 different colors)**

**100 Note cards**

**Pens and Pencils**

***Dry Erase Board or Facsimile***

**SOME COURSE WORK AND ACTIVITIES:**

**Complete sentence work will be used for all activities except for note taking and outlines.  
Complete sentence work is part of each assignment's grade for both written and oral responses.**

Work in the class is from bell to bell, so be ready for a fast ride!  
Remember the saying, "Don't do the crime if you can't do the time." Think before you act, speak, or do. Please be conscious of how your actions and words will affect others.



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