

Readiness Profile and Course Expectations for English 7

Guidelines for class placement

In general, English honors students will:

- ❖ Score at the Advanced level on the California Standards Test
- ❖ Possess strong writing skills
- ❖ Be an avid reader of high-level books

In addition, students contemplating placement in an appropriate English class should carefully read the following statements and ask themselves which column best describes them.

College Prep. English Student:

- ❑ May be strong academically in English
- ❑ Is diligent, hard working, self-motivated
- ❑ Appreciates thorough presentation and practice of new concepts
- ❑ May enjoy challenges, but also needs some assistance and practice with complex, critical-thinking and non-routine strategies
- ❑ Needs or prefers guidance to learn, apply, and extend new concepts.
- ❑ Participates in a classroom environment of sharing ideas as a medium for deeper analysis in reading, writing and discussion of literature.

Honors English Student:

- ❑ English is one of his/her gifts or passions
- ❑ Has an exceptional work ethic, highly self-motivated
- ❑ Masters concepts quickly; requires faster-paced, rigorous curriculum
- ❑ Loves the challenges of complex, critical-thinking opportunities; can achieve this without assistance and often takes ideas to a higher level; thrives on non-routine strategies
- ❑ Is inquiry-driven; asks “Why?” and “What if...?” Can recognize the figurative as well as the literal.
- ❑ Seeks out and actively contributes in a competitive classroom environment as a medium for critical reading, intensive writing, and thought-provoking discussion of literature

Course Expectations for English 7:

This year course is an Introduction to Literature organized around the theme “A Quest for Identity.” The curriculum includes study of short stories, novels, drama, poetry, expository texts, and grammar. Students participate in meaningful class discussions, creative projects, speeches and theater arts. With an understanding of the fundamentals of literary analysis, students will be able to construct a multi-paragraph essay as well as experiment with a variety of writing types.

The 7th grade course curriculum is based on the California State Standards for Language Arts available at: <http://www.cde.ca.gov/be/st/ss/documents/elacontentstnds.pdf>

Works typically read in English 7

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|---|--|
| College Prep. English: <ul style="list-style-type: none">➤ Holt Anthology (short stories, poetry, expository selections) Chapters 1,2,4 and 5➤ <i>The Giver</i>, Lowery➤ <i>The Outsiders</i>, Hinton➤ An introduction to Shakespeare through poetry or the play <i>A Midsummer Night’s Dream</i>➤ At least one of the following: <i>Holes</i>, Sachar; <i>Bearstone Hobbs</i>; or <i>Taking Sides</i>, Soto | Honors English: <ul style="list-style-type: none">➤ Holt Anthology (short stories, poetry, expository selections) Chapters 1,2,4 and 5➤ <i>The Giver</i>, Lowry➤ <i>Animal Farm</i>, Orwell➤ <i>A Midsummer Night’s Dream</i>, Shakespeare➤ <i>The Outsiders</i>, Hinton➤ <i>Treasure Island</i>, Stevenson or <i>The Pearl</i>, Steinbeck |
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* In order to achieve the one million words per year reading goal recommended in the California Language Arts Standards students will self-select, and report on, outside reading works as follows:

College Prep English: At least 3 self-selected novels **Honors English:** 4 or more self-selected novels

Writing types covered in English 7:

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|---|---|
| College Prep. English: <ul style="list-style-type: none">➤ Introduction to Research Report (with bibliography)➤ Personal Narrative or Short Story➤ Response to Literature➤ Persuasive Essay➤ Summary | Honors English: <p>The same writing types as Core English with greater depth and complexity and more independence. Written arguments may be longer, more sophisticated and/or better researched.</p> |
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Course Expectations for English 8:

This year course is organized around the theme “The Search for Justice.” The curriculum includes study of short stories, novels drama, poetry, expository texts and grammar. Students participate in meaningful class discussions, creative projects, speeches and theater arts. With an understanding of the fundamentals of literary analysis, students will be able to construct a multi-paragraph essay as well as experiment with a variety of writing types.

The 8th grade course curriculum is based on the California State Standards for Language Arts. Available online at: <http://www.cde.ca.gov/be/st/ss/documents/elacontentstnds.pdf>

Works Covered in English 8

| College Prep English: | Honors English: |
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| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Holt Anthology (<u>Literature and Language Arts</u>) ➤ “Flowers for Algernon,” Keyes ➤ <i>The Diary of Anne Frank</i> (play by Goodrich and Hackett or the original diary by Anne Frank) ➤ <i>Roll of Thunder, Hear my Cry</i>, Taylor ➤ <i>To Kill a Mockingbird</i>, Lee | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Holt Anthology (<u>Literature and Language Arts</u>) ➤ “Flowers for Algernon,” Keyes ➤ <i>The Diary of Anne Frank</i> (play by Goodrich and Hackett or the original diary by Anne Frank) ➤ <i>Roll of Thunder, Hear my Cry</i>, Taylor ➤ <i>To Kill a Mockingbird</i>, Lee <p>One or more of the following (at the discretion of the teacher/department)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ <i>Twelfth Night</i> or <i>The Merchant of Venice</i>, Shakespeare ➤ <i>The Call of the Wild</i>, London ➤ <i>Martian Chronicles</i>, Bradbury |

*Note: In order to achieve the one million words per year reading goal recommended in the California Language Arts Standards, teachers may choose to teach additional novels from the San Dieguito Union High School District approved list of novels for Language Arts.

Writing Types covered in English 8

| College Prep English: | Honors English: |
|---|--|
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Personal Narrative ➤ Response to Literature ➤ Persuasive Essay ➤ Research ➤ Technical Documents ➤ Career Documents | <p>The same writing types are covered in the Honors course as in the College Prep course. However, these types are expected to have greater depth and complexity while being written with more independence. Written arguments may be longer, more sophisticated and/or better researched.</p> |