**Vista Murrieta High School**

**Home of the Broncos**

**English Essentials**

**Mr. Mosiello**

**Course Description**

This course meets UC/CSU (B) and District English requirements. It give students, through experiences in reading, writing, listening and speaking, the skills necessary to become informed and responsible citizens, productive members of the work force and individuals dedicated to lifelong learning. In conjunction with the philosophy of the READ 180 program, this class focuses not only on developing skills in creating composition and analyzing literature, but also offers students who score below proficient on California standardized tests support in reading and writing. Using a technology-based reading inventory assessment students are assigned a level at which their computer lessons and individual novel reading requirements are based. Class activities include silent reading, paragraph and essay composition, whole and small group instruction and interactive computer reading program work. Furthermore, students will demonstrate skills using a variety of genres (poetry, drama, short stories, novels and biographies). Students will be introduced to writing practice through dialectical journals, annotations, essays, creative writing, and a mini-research paper. Assessments include performance-based assessments, conventional assessments and standardized tests. The goal of the course is to raise students’ literacy to grade level and prepare them for CP English the following year.

**English I Intensive/English Support Instructional Model**

During small group instruction, students alternate between direct instruction and lessons provided in the rBook and reading a core novel and completing activities based on the workshop being studied. Another component, the instructional software, allows the students to receive intensive individualized skill practice for comprehension, spelling, and vocabulary. Students take the Scholastic Reading Inventory (SRI) test to determine their Lexile level before beginning the computer-based instruction. The Lexile score also determines what types of books students can read during Reading and Writing Skills Practice (RWSP). Modeled and independent reading or RWSP, the third component of the READ 180 model, helps students build fluency and reading comprehension skills through the use of leveled readers from the READ 180 library, READ 180 audiobooks, core novels, and books of the students’ choice that may not be contained in the READ 180 library but have a Lexile level appropriate for reading. In addition, students get to practice and strengthen their writing skills by writing dialectical journals, annotations or reading logs.

**Materials Needed:**

* Paper
* Pencil or Pen

**The core novels, plays, and short stories we may be reading in class are as follows:**

* *Tangerine* by Edward Bloor
* *To Kill a Mockingbird* by Harper Lee
* *Romeo and Juliet* by William Shakespeare
* “The Most Dangerous Game” by Richard E. Connell
* “The Scarlet Ibis” by James Hurst

**Clips from Discovery Education Streaming shown in class are as follows:**

* The 1961 Freedom Rides
* The Civil Rights Movement
* Jim Crow Laws

**Videos shown in class are as follows:**

* *To Kill a Mockingbird*
* *Of Mice and Men*

**The Goal**

Our primary goal will be to develop skills and habits that will improve reading comprehension, vocabulary enrichment and writing proficiency**.** Assignments will strive to stimulate your productivity as readers, writers, and thinkers.Students will be provided with the opportunity to make progress toward goals and objectives through the use of instruction in:

* Reading comprehension and fluency
* Written expression and the writing process
* Listening and speaking skills
* Grammar, punctuation, and spelling reinforcement
* Vocabulary building
* Reading, writing, and analyzing short stories, novels, and poetry

**Grades**

 Grades will be updated weekly on Aeries.

**Classroom Rules**

All students are expected to behave with C.L.A.S.S. CLASS stands for: Character, Leadership, Attitude, Scholarship, and Service.

1. Respect authority, yourself, and others
2. Make good choices
3. Be honest, responsible, and friendly
4. Help others, work hard, and complete your tasks
5. Use appropriate language at all times
6. All school policies as outlined in your student handbook will be followed

**Classroom Expectations**

As in the real world, attendance, punctuality, and the ability to do your job effectively are critical for success in this class.

1. Arrive to class on time
2. Come to class prepared with all of your materials
3. Prepare for and participate in course related activities
4. Complete assignments on time and turn them in by their due date
5. Follow classroom rules and procedures

**Make-up Work, Late Work, Extra Credit**

It is the student’s responsibility to find out about and make-up missed assignments. Unexcused late work may result in a lower grade. Late Work: To be accepted at teacher’s discretion for partial credit.

**Attendance:** Absences **will affect your progress in this class.**

Any assignments turned in with doodling, graffiti, drawing, etc. that is not a required part of the assignment will result in a zero for that assignment. Anything deemed questionable will be turned into the administration.

If you need to contact me for any reason, my phone number is (951) 894-5750 ext.) 6539. My e-mail address is: mmosiello@murrieta.k12.ca.us.

Best wishes for a great year in English. Thank you in advance for your support.

I have read and understand the requirements of Mrs. Mosiello’s class. Please sign and return the bottom half of this letter by the end of the week. Thank You.

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

Parent Signature \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_