

## ENGLISH I, READ 180, AND ENGLISH I TUTORIAL

**WHAT IS THE GOAL OF EACH COURSE?** Each course is designed to help students develop their reading and writing skills so that students will succeed not only in English courses but in all of their academic courses. The English I course covers the same materials as the regular English I curriculum but with a different approach that stresses individual attention. An English teacher, a Special School District teacher, and a reading / computer specialist will work with students every day. The Tutorial course allows for extra time so that students may receive additional assistance (for instance, before students submit a final draft of an essay, they will have written several corrected rough drafts).

**WHAT STUDENTS CAN EXPECT EVERY DAY:** Each 90 minute class will be divided into two parts. One part will focus on the English I curriculum—analytical reading, paragraph and essay writing, grammar, and spelling. At the end of every full week, students can expect a test. The second part of each class will consist of small group reading, discussion, and work with high interest adolescent literature. For instance, at the beginning of the year, students will read and discuss the novel *Small Steps* and then develop a plan to take the small steps necessary to achieve their educational and vocational goals.

**WHAT STUDENTS SHOULD HAVE FOR CLASS EVERY DAY:** At the minimum, students should have their two-pocket folder, loose leaf paper, a pen, and a pencil, as well as the book they have been assigned. While most of the work will be done in class, students can expect homework every day.

**HOW ARE STUDENTS GRADED:** The grades for both courses will have two major parts: participation and achievement. Participation reflects two factors: active attendance--no sleeping, daydreaming ,or other off-task behaviors), & having the necessary materials (paper, folder, notebook, pen). The grade for achievement will be determined on the following factors: 100 points for major tests and paragraphs, 500 points for major essays, 100-200 points for power point presentations, 10 points for completing a homework assignment.

Students will earn an **A** by achieving 90 % or more of the possible points.

Students will earn a **B** by achieving 80-89 % of the possible points.

(a **C** indicates 70-79 %; a **D** indicates 60-69 %).

**NOTE:** In order to graduate from high school, students must pass four years of English. If a student fails one semester of English, that student should make up the credit in Summer School. If a student fails both semesters of English, that student must repeat the English course the next year. Accordingly, if a student fails both semesters of English I, then that student will have to retake English I in his or her sophomore year and then take two English courses in senior year.

**HOW WILL STUDENTS MAKE-UP WORK IF THEY ARE ABSENT FROM CLASS?** In high school, students are responsible for all work even if they are absent. If students are ill, or otherwise have a legitimate reason for missing class, then those students' parents should call the school to report the absence as excused. Under normal circumstances, students will have three days to make up the work that they have missed. If students need more time to complete make up work, then they must make special arrangements with the teacher. Students with unexcused absences forfeit any make up privileges. Students may meet with me before school, during Academic Lab, and by special arrangement after school.

**HOW CAN PARENTS CONTACT THE TEACHER IF THEY HAVE A QUESTION?** Parents are always welcome to call the school to leave a message for the teachers. Since teachers are generally in class or at meetings, parents may leave a voice message or, preferably, e-mail teachers.

The general school number is 314. 415-7700.

The voice mail number of Dr. Conley is 59738.

The voice mail number of Mrs. Conley is 59753.

The voice mail number of Mrs. Kreinberg is 55793.

The e-mail of Dr. Conley is [PConley@pkwy.k12.mo.us](mailto:PConley@pkwy.k12.mo.us).

**WHAT ARE SOME OF THE BOOKS THAT STUDENTS WILL BE READING?** For English I, students will start the year with *Gym Candy*. They will then read *To Kill a Mockingbird*, *The Pearl*, and *Night* all in the first semester.

For English I Tutorial, students will start the year with *Small Steps* and then read some of the Gateway Award winner adolescent literature.

**NOTE: PARENTS ARE ENCOURAGED TO READ THE BOOKS THAT THEIR CHILDREN ARE READING.**

We have read the description of English I, Read 180, and Tutorial .

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(signature of student and of parent / guardian)

We have the following question(s):

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