

# KAP English

West High School paired with Kenyon College  
Columbus, Ohio

**Seniors**  
**2005-2006**

“A man of genius makes no mistakes. His errors are volitional and are the portals of discovery.”

- James Joyce

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## Texts

*Elements of Literature*, Holt Rinehart, & Winston  
*Elements of Language*, Holt Rinehart, & Winston  
*The Norton Anthology of Poetry*, Ferguson, Salter, & Stallworthy  
Achebe, Chinua. *Things Fall Apart*  
Alighieri, Dante. *Inferno*  
Anaya, Rudolpho. *Bless Me, Ultima*  
Austen, Jane. *Pride and Prejudice*  
*Beowulf*  
Conrad, Joseph. *The Heart of Darkness*  
Hosseini, Khaled. *The Kite Runner*  
Joyce, James. *Dubliners*  
Kafka, Frantz. *Metamorphosis*  
Kingston, Maxine Hong. *The Woman Warrior*  
Morrison, Toni. *Beloved*  
Shakespeare, William. *Hamlet, The Taming of the Shrew*  
Sophocles. *Oedipus Rex*  
Wilde, Oscar. *The Importance of Being Ernest*  
Woolf, Virginia. *Mrs. Dalloway*

## Course Description

KAP English has two main purposes: first, to develop accurate, perceptive reading through close study of major texts representing various literary genres from different literary periods, and likewise representing varied gender and cultural perspectives; second, to develop fluent, precise writing through preparation of twelve to sixteen typed essays, most addressing the texts studied.

[http://kap.kenyon.edu/COURSES/English/english\\_home.html](http://kap.kenyon.edu/COURSES/English/english_home.html)

## Course Assignments

### Critical Analysis Participation (20%):

This course is structured in a seminar format; thus, active participation is expected and required about the text, issue, or idea at hand. I assume you will be keeping a journal or taking notes in preparation

for each class period and of each class period. By doing this, you will be prepared to give your critical analysis of the readings in order to share your thoughts with the class. By doing this, you will push your classmates to new areas of thought and enlighten us all. You will also be required to participate in the on-line journal as well. More information will be given to you after the class gets underway.

### **Essays (20%):**

Over the course of the next nine months you will be writing at least 12-16 essays that take the form of literary analysis. You will begin by formulating a compelling question that is at issue in relation to the text at hand. Your thesis will be a response to this critical concern. The focus of your paper should be your original interpretation based on close reading of the text. You will be using outside sources, which will always require documentation. Please consult the *MLA Handbook* when documenting sources, preparing your works cited page, and/or your works consulted page. (An *MLA Handbook* can be purchased at any bookstore: *Barnes and Noble, Waldens, Borders, Books and Music.*)

### **Essays will always be:**

1. Typed
2. Double-spaced
3. New times roman font
4. Twelve point font
5. One-inch margins
6. Page numbers in the upper, right corner
7. Titles

**Essays finding themselves in any other format will not be assigned grades.**

### **Exams (20%):**

Essay exams will be the only type of exam given in KAP English. They will take on an essay format. Questions will be based upon the text, class discussion, and areas of reference for the text. If an absence occurs on the day of an exam, a make-up exam will be taken that may or may not be the same. Make-up exams will be taken in the presence of the instructor only.

### **Enrichment (20%):**

You will be expected to successfully complete reading and other assignments outside of class. You will have day-to-day work that you will be responsible for and you will also have long-term work. Therefore, anything other than essays completed outside of class may fall under this category.

### **Effort and Growth (20%):**

You will get out of this course what you put into it. It is difficult and it will consistently and constantly push you in many facets of your life. Therefore, your own determination and diligent work ethic will be key to your success in this class. Those of you who are prepared for class with your readings, your work, and those of you who are willing to push yourself as far as you can every single day will fair very well in this category.

You must be in class in order to show effort and to prove growth – this is a requirement not an option. Attendance cannot be on a sporadic basis nor can it be on your own free will. You must be on time and prepared. Nothing else will be accepted. If you must be absent, then you must notify me in advance (doctor's appointment, court appointment, etc) or you must call me the night before or the day of regarding your whereabouts. Just as in college, absenteeism will not be respected, but responsibility will and is key to your success. If you are continually late and/or absent from class, you will be dropped.

You will be given opportunities to rate your own effort and growth. I will also rate your effort and growth periodically during the quarter. You will be given the advantage to defend your own viewpoints, but I will have the final say in your grade.

### **Grading Scale**

**A = 100-90:** Work is always perfect; applies critical analysis to all portions of work, research is completed to a higher level, demonstrates a positive work ethic, produces highest quality work on consistent basis

**B = 89-80:** Work is almost always perfect; applies critical analysis to almost all portions of work, research is completed to high level, almost always demonstrates a positive work ethic, produces high quality work on consistent basis

**C = 79-70:** Some work is perfect; applies critical analysis to some portions of work, some research is completed to high level, demonstrates a positive work ethic and produces high quality work some of the time.

**D = 69-60:** Work completed is low quality with errors and omissions; blatant disregard for class standards.

**F = 59 and below:** Work is not completed to any acceptable standard; does not show criteria for determining quality and is seriously flawed.

### **Cheating and/or Plagiarism**

The Modern Language Association defines plagiarism as “using someone else’s ideas or phrasing and representing those ideas or phrasing as our own, either on purpose or through carelessness.” Please note that you must credit *ideas*, not just sentences or phrases. Cheating and/or plagiarism of any kind will not be tolerated in any form. It will result in a failing grade for that assignment, a conference with the principal and your parent/guardian and myself will take place with proper disciplinary action, and a referral will be made to your future college.

### **Late Work and Excuses**

There are none. Late work will only be accepted for minimal absences. If the absence is excused, the days absent are the same days the student has to make up the work: 1 day absent = 1 day to make up the work. **ONLY** in extenuating circumstances will any other type of late work be accepted: death in family, college invited visits, etc. Documentation must be provided for these absences. Anything else will not be tolerated and will be treated as irresponsible. Late papers will be reduced one letter grade. Papers submitted after 24 hours may be further reduced at my discretion.