

# **CALVARY ACADEMY: SYLLABUS**

**Class name: English I**

**Instructor: Janet Brandenburg**

Voice Mail: 546-9700 x410

Textbooks: Vocabulary, Spelling, and Poetry III

Grammar and Composition III

Themes in Literature

Publisher: A Beka Books (no ISBN numbers)

## **I. COURSE DESCRIPTION**

English I is the third of a three-year basic curriculum of junior high level basic skills in language arts. It continues to reinforce and expand spelling and vocabulary, expands on parts of speech and basic parts of the sentence, including clauses. Reading comprehension and poetry memorization are stressed. One book dissertation per quarter is assigned which covers a classic novel and research about its author. Critical literary analysis is added to separate it from the junior high level book report.

## **II. COURSE OBJECTIVES**

1. To accurately spell basic freshman level spelling and vocabulary words
2. To accurately define freshmen level vocabulary words. Context usage is stressed.
3. To recognize the eight parts of speech within a sentence and the clause
4. To identify all basic parts of the sentence and the clause
5. To write a clear, well-ordered composition adequately covering a high school level novel
6. To successfully read and comprehend on at least a freshman level, 250 wpm at 100%
7. To memorize two designated poems per quarter, eight poems within the four-quarter period
8. To write an at least five-page book dissertation per quarter, covering all basic parts of the literature, and a critical literary analysis

## **III. METHODS OF TEACHING**

1. Bi-weekly reading comprehension assignments with tests in class
2. Daily in-class review/discussion of grammar concepts
3. Daily in-class homework grading
4. Weekly peer tutoring review
5. Question and Answer
6. Daily homework assigned
7. Testing twice a week
8. Weekly discussion of literary elements

## **IV. EVALUATION**

1. Book dissertation: 10%
2. Poetry tests: 10%
3. Grammar tests: 20%
4. Literature: 20%
5. Spelling tests: 20%
6. Homework: 20%

## **V. GRADING SCALE**

- A 100--94%
- B 93--86%
- C 85--78%
- D 77--70%
- F 69—below

## **VI. COURSE OUTLINE**

1. Grammar yearly substance: Capitalization, punctuation, sentence structure (quarter one)  
Verbs, nouns (quarter two)

Nouns, pronouns (quarter three)  
Adjectives, adverbs, prepositions, conjunctions,  
interjections (quarter four)

2. Spelling and vocabulary weekly: Tuesdays, Wednesdays, Fridays
3. Grammar each day
4. Literature testing: Mondays and Wednesdays
5. Poetry review three days per week; testing two times per quarter
6. Book dissertations reviewed one time per week: Thursdays. Reports due twice per quarter

#### VII. BOOK DISSERTATION GUIDELINES

The book dissertation is written on a classic novel to be approved by the instructor. The paper should be at least five typed pages, following a specific format given in class which includes:

1. Introduction
2. Setting
3. Characters: protagonist/antagonist
4. Conflict
5. Plot overview
6. Theme/message
7. Critical literary analysis
8. Author biographical sketch
9. Recommendation/conclusion