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| TRADITIONAL ENGLISH 7  **Miss Johansen**  Email: ljohansen@bfcsaz.com  Website: www.bfhsjohansen.weebly.com |

**Course Description**

Seventh-grade traditional English will introduce students to some of the greatest works of Western literature. Students will be enthralled by such moral tales and specimens of superb writing as the epic English poem *Beowulf*, plays by William Shakespeare, and Charles Dickens masterpiece *Oliver Twist*.

Exposure to these great works of literary art will not only steep students in stories where virtue is triumphant, but will meantime teach them to write like the greatest of history’s authors. Writing experiences will include narrative writing, expository writing, note taking, and poetry writing.

We will embark on critical discussions of the literature, making connections, and gaining skills that will be easily applicable across the subjects and into our daily lives. The course also includes the study of grammar conventions, vocabulary development, and oral speaking.

\*Throughout the course of the year, changes to the syllabus will be updated on Weebly and students will be notified in class.

**Materials Needed:**

* Blue/black pens
* Red pens
* 1 college-ruled composition book exclusively for English (journal)
* Loose leaf, college-ruled notebook paper (may carry in combined binder)
* Dividers or folders (or other organization)
* Highlighters

\*If your child has ever blown their nose throughout the course of a school year, I ask you to consider donating a box or two of tissues so that all student noses may be well taken care of throughout the course of our class. Thank you!

**Required Text in order used:**

*\*Students are encouraged to purchase hard copies for annotating.*

Evslin, Bernard – *Heroes, Gods and Monsters of the Greek Myths* (978-0812415810)

Marshall, Henrietta Elizabeth - *The Story of Beowulf* (978-0486454498)

Lamb, Charles and Mary - *Tales from Shakespeare* (978-1492152286)

William Shakespeare, *Romeo and Juliet*, full text (ISBN-13: 978-0743477116 or ISBN-10: 0743477111)

Dickens, Charles *- Oliver Twist* (978-0486424538)

Lewis, C.S. - *Out of the Silent Planet* (978-0743234900)

**Homework:**

Expect homework most nights, including weekends and holidays. Typically, homework will consist of grammar or reading from the current novel. Additional assignments may consist of writing or longer term projects.

Students are responsible for keeping track of assigned work in an organized binder or other. Homework for the week will be listed on the classroom whiteboard. All students are encouraged to use a planner for writing down assignments. Homework and extra copies of handouts may also be found on the class weebly under “Classic.”

The teacher reserves the right to make changes to these assignments at any time.

ASSIGNMENTS are due at the beginning of class unless otherwise instructed. Assignments turned in after this time will be counted as late and may not be accepted.

LATE WORK will not be accepted with the exception of grammar homework which is graded based on completion. If you have a conflict inhibiting your ability to turn your work in on time, please speak with Miss Johansen at least 1 full day in advance to discuss possible solutions.

ABSENCES must be excused the day you return to receive 2 days for makeup work or 1 school week for in-class assignments. If you do not speak with Miss Johansen about your missed work the day you return you may receive a zero.

**Grading Percentages:** Grade Weights:

A 90-100% 30% Participation

B 80-89% 20% Homework

C 70-79% 20% Quizzes

D 60-69% 30% Essays & Long-term

F 59% and below assignments

An A in Participation Looks Like:

-Prepared with materials, including; homework, books, paper, & pens

-Follow instructions as given

-Encourage fellow classmates’ success and refrain from verbal hinderance

-Contribute to discussions meaningfully

-Maintain attentive and respectful posture

-Arrive in your seat on time with materials already at your desk

**Writing Center:**

Students may be eligible for extra credit when they visit the BFHS Writing center. You must bring a signed confirmation of attendance from a Writing Center teacher/tutor to your teacher to receive extra credit on essays and other writing assignments.

**Office Hours:**

Miss Johansen will be available in her classroom from 2:45-3:15, Monday-Thursday, unless otherwise specified. If this does not fit your schedule you may speak with Miss Johansen to make other arrangements for tutoring or questions.

**Parent Contract**

Dear Parents,

In order to ensure our school year runs smoothly, I rely on open and clear communication with both my students and their parents. Everything is laid out in detail on my syllabus. Additionally, I want to give you a quick reference list of the top 5 most helpful tips I give parents and students:

1. The weekly class schedule, homework, course handouts, syllabi, and contact information is available on my class website, **bfhsjohansen.weebly.com**, which will be updated weekly.
2. In order to keep track of your student’s current grade, please utilize **FamilyLink**. First time login should be the student’s first initial combined with the last name using the password: Changeme1. Contact the office for further assistance.
3. Students are responsible for keeping track of due dates. I highly encourage each student to use a planner to keep track. Binders, folders, and **good organization** are key in making sure that work actually makes it way to the teacher when it’s due.
4. Parents and students are responsible for purchasing their own copies of class novels **prior** to their use in class; please do postpone purchasing until the day we need them in class. Students will be given a grade for preparedness and this includes having their book with them in class. Miss Johansen recommends purchasing hard copies for annotating.
5. Tutoring hours are 2:45-3:15 Monday-Thursday. However, I am frequently in my classroom at other times. Please don’t hesitate to stop by for help on an assignment or clarification of instructions.

Consistently visiting my website and FamilyLink will help your student become successful in every class at Benjamin Franklin High School. I encourage you to start ahead of the game by making the most of these resources, and information I’ve provided, right from the beginning of the year.

Keep this Statement of Support somewhere safe and easily accessible, and reference it when you have questions. Feel free to contact me with any questions at any time.

So that I know you have read and understood these procedures, please sign and return the following signature page. This signature is worth a grade to your student! Thank you for doing your best to give them an easy A.

Kind Regards,

Miss Johansen

**ljohansen@bfcsaz.com**

**English 7**

**Miss Johansen**

ljohansen@bfcsmail.com

www.bfhsjohansen.weebly.com

I, (parent name) \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_, have read and understand the rules and resources for Miss Johansen’s Honors Classic Literature class and will do my best to support my child in his/her participation in class.

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

Child’s name \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

Parent email \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

Phone (\_\_\_\_)\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

(Remove and return this signed sheet for a grade!)