



GT English 8/English 8 Expectations 2009-2010

John T. Baker Middle School
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UNITS OF STUDY

Unit	Title	Enduring Understandings	Formative Assessments/End of Unit Assessment Dates
1	Journeys	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> People learn about themselves through journeys. 	Formative Assessment: October 6th, 2009
2	Communities	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> All individuals have roles in their communities. 	Formative Assessment:
	Mid-Term Exams	End of Unit 2 Assessment: January 15th-January 22nd, 2010	
3	Responsibility	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> With rights and privileges comes responsibility. 	Formative Assessment:
	MSAs	March 10th-March 11th, 2010 (Reading) March 16th-March 17th, 2010 (Math)	
4	Discoveries	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> People grow from the discoveries they make during a journey. 	Formative Assessment:
	Final Exams	End of Unit 4 Assessment: June 11th-June 15th, 2010	

Edline:

- Edline is a great tool to keep up with what we are doing in class. Parents and students can access the following important things on Edline:
 - Student gradesheets
 - Homework assignments
 - Project assignment sheets
 - Class and School Calendars
 - Classroom presentations and handouts (not all handouts are available online)

Class Tardiness (Eighth Grade Policy):

- A student is considered late if he/she is not in his/her seat when the bell rings. Often, students will be expected to work on warm-ups at the beginning of the class period and tardiness interferes with success on these activities. The expectation is that students arrive prior to the bell every class period.

Students will not be able to go back to their lockers after class has started!!!

Absences:

- If a student is absent, it is his/her responsibility to approach the teacher for make-up work.
- Make-up work can be obtained from teachers during Bulldog Time, in the morning before school, during lunch, or after school. The teacher will not discuss make-up work during regular class time.
- It is the student's responsibility to see the teacher for missing assignments if he/she is absent.
- Students should also check Edline for missed assignments.
- Students should have a "study buddy" to find out what work was missed, but should **also** meet with the teacher upon returning to school.
- If a student is absent, a different due date or deadline may be set for that particular student.
- Work that was due on the date of the absence will be due immediately upon the student's return.

Being Prepared:

Students should bring the following items to class every day:

- binder with a section for English work
- a blue or black pen and pencil
- completed homework
- student planner
- classroom novel

Homework:

- Often, homework assignments can be accessed through Edline.
- Homework must be copied in the student planner daily. Parents can check the student planner for the most up-to-date assignment, as assignments may change due to class pace.
- Not all homework will be given a grade, but it will be discussed in class and is necessary in order to master curriculum objectives.
- 10% of the final grade is for homework completion.

Portfolio Folders:

- Each student will develop a portfolio folder of his/her writing this year. It will include all writing assignments completed in class. This portfolio will be kept in the classroom at all times.
- Some time will be given for writing assignments to be completed in class. Students will be given equal access to support and resources to complete the assignments. Frequently, the teacher will be available to students during Bulldog Time and after school if they need more guidance or support to complete assignments. It is the student's responsibility to make these arrangements with the teacher.
- The portfolio will include three "data point" assignments or assessments per quarter. The grades of these assignments will be put into a school database in order to analyze student progress.
- If parents or students would like to look at the portfolio, make an appointment with the teacher to see the materials in the folder. Some items in the portfolio are considered "secure" items; therefore, the folders cannot leave the classroom without teacher approval.

**We look forward to a very exciting and successful year with you!
-Ms. Weinberg, Mrs. Friedman, & Mrs. Murphy*