

# Reading Focus / English 1

"Literature is no one's private ground, literature is common ground; let us trespass freely and fearlessly and find our own way for ourselves."

- Virginia Woolf

## Class Rules

1. Follow directions quickly.



2. Raise your hand for permission to speak.



3. Raise your hand for permission to leave your seat.



4. Make smart choices.



5. Keep your dear teacher HAPPY.



## Class Expectations

1. Be in seat when tardy bell rings.
2. Put proper heading on all papers.
3. Do not use electronic devices in class without teacher permission.
4. Use restroom during passing breaks.
5. Maintain a clean and orderly work area.
6. Bring all of your supplies to class daily.
7. Complete all of your work and turn it in on time.
8. All CCCHS rules and policies shall be observed within the classroom.

## Course Description

Welcome to my world! Our focus this school year will be learning and developing our skills as critical thinkers, readers, writers, speakers, and listeners. The development and mastery of these important literary skills not only is important to achieving success in the classroom, it is a critical component of achieving success in other school subjects, building strong relationships with others, and attaining a flourishing career as an adult.

Basically, the quality of life you experience now through adulthood will depend a lot on how well you read, write, and communicate with others.



## What do I get if I follow class rules?

Your appropriate behavior in class assures everyone of an environment conducive to learning. Some possible rewards for continuous appropriate behavior are: intrinsic value (satisfaction of learning), improved skills, verbal praise, positive note to parents, tangible trinkets, and special class activities / privileges.

## What are the consequences if I don't follow class rules?

1. Warning: the teacher provides a verbal reprimand/reminder to cadet.
2. Parent Contact: I will either call, text, or e-mail parents and discuss the issue.
3. Referral to Administration: a student will be immediately referred to administration for severe behavior problems.

## Where do I go to find agendas and assignments?

I do have a web page for my classroom. The web address is:

## What happens if I turn in an assignment late?

Late work will be handled on an individual basis. The goal for this class is mastery of the standards; however, responsibility and accountability are important. Students who have assignments that are more than 1 week overdue will have a parent contact and possible referral to lunch detention.

## Grades

Grades will be calculated using total points earned.



## Supplies

- One pair of earbuds or headphones
- 1 composition books NOT SPIRALS
- One bottle of Elmer's white glue
- Notebook paper
- One set of 12 or more colored pencils
- One handheld pencil sharpener
- One set of four or more highlighters
- One pair of scissors
- Colored correcting pens
- Blue or black pens
- Thumb drive

## How will I check my grade in class?

Students and parents can check grades via the student/parent portal on Skyward. If you do not know your login information, please see someone in the front office.

## What do I do if I am absent?

Check the class webpage for information.

Then, check with me when you return to school. We will work together to make sure you get caught up in a timely manner.

## Do I have to read outside of class?

All of my classes have an outside reading requirement. This amounts to around twenty minutes a day of reading. Students will keep a reading record and a reading response journal. The detailed policy will be explained in class.

## What types of writing will I do this year?

We will write frequently this year in order to prepare students for their writing assessment. Final drafts of papers will be submitted through Google Docs. We will write persuasive papers, poetry, expository essays, and narratives.

## What is an Interactive Student Notebook?

The Interactive Student Notebook (ISN) is a portfolio of student work. Students will need at least one composition book for this project.

### What are we studying this year?

Reading Focus students will be working on improving reading skills.

English 1 students will be reading informational texts, poetry, and narrative texts. They will do a lot of writing and analyzing texts. Our focus in English 1 is mastery of the standards for English 1 (a copy will be given out after diagnostic testing).

PLEASE READ THE COURSE INFORMATION, SIGN, AND RETURN THIS SHEET TO MRS. DUGGER

**Students:**

Please sign below to signify that you have read the course sheet for Mrs. Dugger’s class, will keep it in your folder, and will be responsible for the information throughout the year, and **will check Parent Portal at least twice per week at school or at home.**

\_\_\_\_\_  
Student printed name

\_\_\_\_\_  
Student signature

**Parents/Guardians:**

Check all the statements that apply to how you would like to communicate with Mrs. Dugger about your student’s progress. I will, of course, call for major concerns or accomplishments, but with approximately 100 students in my classes all total, I like to know how you’d prefer to communicate.

\_\_\_\_\_ I/We have internet access at home, so we will check Parent Portal at least twice per week to check on my/our student’s progress. I/We will contact Mrs. Dugger about any concerns we have.

\_\_\_\_\_ I/We plan to email Mrs. Dugger weekly or monthly for an update.

\_\_\_\_\_ I/We do not have internet access at home, but I/we would like to have regular contact with Mrs. Dugger. I/we will call for an update on a regular basis.

\_\_\_\_\_ Other: \_\_\_\_\_

Please sign below to indicate that you have read the course sheet for Mrs. Dugger’s class and that you will help your student be accountable for the information. If you have questions about the course, or your student’s work, please do not hesitate to contact me; **email is the best way to reach me quickly.** See the front of this sheet for my email address.

\_\_\_\_\_  
Parent/Guardian printed name

\_\_\_\_\_  
Parent/Guardian signature

\_\_\_\_\_  
Parent/Guardian e-mail (please print)

\_\_\_\_\_  
Parent/Guardian **daytime** phone number

**Parents and guardians, please CIRCLE the best way for me to contact you:**  
e-mail      phone

Depending on the literature we are reading in class, there may be times throughout the school year when we will watch movies or clips of movies in class as a reinforcement or enrichment. You must give your permission for your student to be able to view any movie that is PG-13 rating. Please sign below to indicate your permission. This will cover the entire school year for my class.

I give my permission for my child, \_\_\_\_\_, to view movies or clips of movies up to a PG-13 rating in Mrs. Dugger's class during the 2016-2017 school year.

Signed: \_\_\_\_\_ (Parent / guardian)

---

All of my classes will use classroom computers on a regular basis. We will go over the specific rules for computer usage in class. If a student is using a computer in a way that is outside of the rules, he/she will be subject to classroom discipline possibly including suspension of computer privileges in the classroom for a time. If a student willfully causes damage to a computer, he/she will be responsible for the cost of repair or replacement of the computer.

I understand the computer usage policy.

Signed: \_\_\_\_\_ (student)

Signed: \_\_\_\_\_ (Parent / guardian)

---

### **Electronic Devices in the Classroom**

Cell phone, tablet, and other electronic devices are allowed to be used when I give permission to use these devices for academic purposes. Periodically, I will allow students the privilege of listening to music while working; however, students may only listen to music with permission and with earbuds. No sharing of earbuds is allowed. If a student is using an electronic device without permission, the device will be held in my desk until the end of class at which time I will decide if there will be additional discipline.

I understand the electronic device policy in Mrs. Dugger's classroom.

Signed: \_\_\_\_\_ (student)

Signed: \_\_\_\_\_ (Parent / guardian)

---

### **Class Donations**

If you are able, the suggested class donation for English 1 and Reading Focus is \$30. This donation helps me be able to purchase new books and other supplies for our class. If you would like to donate, please send your donation by Friday, August 12. If you are unable to donate financially, you are always welcome to donate time to help out in the classroom or to donate supplies. A wish-list of classroom supplies will be posted at Open House on Thursday, August 11.

---

### **Grading**

All grades are based on total points and follow the Cheatham County Schools grade scale. Writing assignments will be graded for mastery, so students will have to revise and edit these assignments multiple times. More detail about how assignments are graded in English 1, specifically, will be given after our diagnostic testing.