

Welcome back to another productive school year! Let's make it a great one!

**Supplies:** A 1 ½ inch binder, loose leaf, blue or black pens, a highlighter, and one box of tissues (tissues will count as extra credit)

**Grading:** You will be graded on a point scale. Each assignment, test, Benchmark Assessment, and project is worth points. The total number of points you earn will be divided by the total number of points that can be earned (it changes each marking period). Your grades will be broken into the following categories: **Tests and Quizzes**, **Homework and Classwork**, and **Silent Reading**. We will always accept late work. It won't be worth full credit, but it needs to be within the current unit we are working on in order to receive some credit. There is a basket on the shelf by the door. Plagiarism and/or cheating results in a zero on any assignment and possible discipline issues.

**Units:** We will be covering the following units this year; however, we may add or take away units depending on time-

- ✓ *Of Mice and Men* by John Steinbeck
- ✓ *Maus* by Art Spiegelman
- ✓ *Night* by Elie Wiesel
- ✓ *Julius Caesar* by William Shakespeare
- ✓ *Anthem* by Ayn Rand
- ✓ Selected Short Stories and Poetry from *Elements of Literature* (Fourth Course)
- ✓ Informational Text from the New York State CCLS
- ✓ Vocabulary and Independent Reading

**Silent Reading:** You will be required to read at least TWO books, outside of the classroom selections, on your own. Most Fridays will be dedicated to silent reading. You need to select a grade level appropriate NOVEL that will be read independently. The first novel will need to be completed before the end of the first semester (end of the second marking period). The second novel will need to be completed before the end of second semester (end of the fourth marking period). There will be a culminating activity (written response) for each novel that you will need to complete.

Independent Reading Project 1 Due: \_\_\_\_\_

Independent Reading Project 2 Due: \_\_\_\_\_

**Participation/Absence from Class:** It is imperative that you are here every day and that you are actively participating. If you are absent, you need to make sure that you see us as soon as possible so you can get the work that you missed. If you are absent from school, a note needs to be provided to the attendance office. ***If you are unexcused absent on a test or project day, you will not get a chance to make it up.*** If you skip class or act inappropriately, expect a write up and a zero for the day's work.

**Progress Reports/Report Cards:** We update the portal every week, sometimes daily. This is our most common and effective method of communication between the classroom and home. Every five weeks, progress reports/report cards will be on eSchool (Student and Parent Portal). However, in order to keep students actively involved in their grades, you will also be creating your own progress reports that will need to be signed by your parent/guardian and returned. These are done around the fourth week of each marking period. These count as a grade.

You can access the **Student Portal** through the NT website-  
<https://studentportal.wnyric.org/Login.aspx?ReturnUrl=%2fnorthtonawanda>

**Rules and Regulations:** Please know that we are following the school's policies and consequences. If you break these rules, expect a write up.

Students, please sign on the line below indicating that you have read through and understand the course expectations and policies.

**Student Signature:** \_\_\_\_\_

Parents/Guardians: Please review the previous information. If you have any questions, please don't hesitate to contact us. Email is the best method of communication for us.

You can access the **Parent Portal** through the NT website-  
<https://parentportal.wnyric.org/Login.aspx?ReturnUrl=%2f>

If you do not have access to the Parent Portal, please indicate below and make the necessary arrangements to stay connected and know how your child is doing in class.

Please mark one response:

- \_\_\_\_\_ - I do have access to the Parent Portal  
\_\_\_\_\_ - I do **NOT** have access to the Parent Portal

If you do not have access to the Parent Portal, please contact Mr. Clester at 807-3605 to set up your account. The Portal is our main method of communication between the classroom and home. It is really important that you check this regularly for all of your child(ren)'s classes, not just English class. Progress reports and report cards are uploaded to the Portal, not mailed home.

Parents/guardians, please sign on the line below to indicate that you have read through and understand the course expectations and policies.

**Parent/Guardian Signature:** \_\_\_\_\_

**If you have one, please also feel free to leave an email address where you can be reached if questions/comments arise!**

**Parent Email:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Best number to reach you during the day:** \_\_\_\_\_