



**STRATEGIES FOR SUCCESS**  
**English 10 — Ms. Cowden**  
[www.wordbistro.org/english10](http://www.wordbistro.org/english10)

**Welcome to English 10**

Familiarizing yourself with the guidelines outlined here will help you have positive and productive experience in English. Please read both sides of this page carefully before signing and returning it to Ms. Cowden. You will receive an additional copy of this information to include in your journal.

**1. Arrive Prepared and on Time**

1. Be seated and ready by the bell.
2. Follow instructions on board carefully without prompting.
3. Materials required daily include: an active, curious mind; reading materials; your journal; supplies (blue/black pen, highlighters, markers or colored pencils, glue stick); completed assignments.
4. Clear all absences BEFORE class begins; if you must go to the office for a readmit slip you will be marked tardy.

**2. Participate Actively in Class**

1. Engage respectfully in discussions/activities.
2. Talkative? Listen up. Quiet? Speak up.
3. Take notes thoughtfully when necessary.
4. Comments? Questions? Ideas? Raise your hand!
5. Maintain focus on class activities (work for other classes/distracting items will be confiscated).

**3. Complete Assignments Thoughtfully and Thoroughly**

1. Read and follow directions carefully.
2. Be prepared to share thoughts/questions/responses in class.
3. Type assignments, or write neatly in blue/black ink.
4. Include name, class period, date, and assignment title on written work.
5. Completed assignments must accompany you to class; late work is **not** accepted.

**4. Respect Others and the Classroom Environment**

1. Work positively with others.
2. Questions? Comments? Disagreement? Always respectfully!
3. Handle others' property with permission only.
4. Enjoy food & beverages (other than water) before entering classroom.
5. Follow class guidelines at all times; any student who receives a negative behavior report from a substitute teacher will attend the next Saturday school session.

**5. Assume Responsibility for Your Learning**

1. Check assignment calendar daily; record new assignments neatly in calendar.
2. Uncertain? Confused? Stuck? Ask for help.
3. Revise and resubmit writing assignments for improved grades.
4. Absent? Check class minutes & web site; complete future assignments on time.
5. Miss a test during excused absence? Complete make-up within one week of original test date.

**Signatures**

I have read and understand the guidelines and coursework as outlined on both sides of this handout.

Student's Name (please print) \_\_\_\_\_

Student's Signature \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_

Parent's/Guardian's Name (please print) \_\_\_\_\_

Parent's/Guardian's Signature \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_



## English 10—Coursework & Grading

**Overview** The following information should give you some idea about the work you will undertake this year, as well as how your grade will be determined.

**Reading** Reading for this course focuses on World Literature. Students will read, interpret, analyze, and evaluate novels, plays, short stories, poems, and non-fiction texts. In addition to plot, character, and thematic development, students will examine texts in light of biographical, historical, and cultural context.

**Writing** Students will develop expository, persuasive, research, and creative writing skills, with emphasis on format, organization, content, and stylistic development. All formal writing assignments may be revised for a new grade.

**Speaking** Students will deliver both impromptu and formal presentations throughout the semester.

**Vocabulary** Students will be responsible for learning a new list of vocabulary words each week. Students may earn bonus points for accurately and appropriately incorporating assigned words into class assignments.

**Grammar** Regular assignments and activities will help students develop fluency of standard English language usage.

**Participation** Students will earn discussion points for meaningful contributions to class discussions and activities. Additionally, students begin the semester with participation points, which can be lost for forgetting materials, disrespecting others, being off task, disrupting class, or being tardy.

**Testing** Students will take tests and quizzes regularly on material covered. Material covered throughout each term will appear on respective final exams.

**Grading** Grades may be discussed before school, at lunch, or by appointment. Grading components include:

Writing Assignments/ Major Projects	25%
Tests and Quizzes	25%
Journals/Class Work/Homework	25%
Class Participation	15%
Final Exam	10%