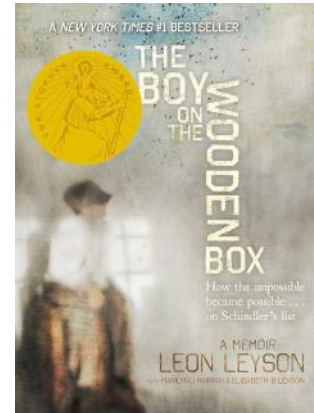


English 9 Course Outline

Tokyo International Progressive School
Grade 9 English Language Arts 2025-2026
Room 32
Teacher: Mr. Maxwell Ebert



Course Description

In this course, students will focus on three key aspects of English Language Arts: literature, grammar and composition. The content is an assortment of world literature from authors who represent a wide range of multicultural and historical backgrounds. Through analyzing literature, students will improve their critical thinking skills and learn to contextualize perspectives according to historical, social, and geographical backgrounds. A particular emphasis will be placed on the development of paragraph and essay-writing skills that should benefit students in their daily lives, with grammar being regarded as a tool to improve communication skills. Students will also aim to improve their research and oral communication skills. This course mirrors UNHS Ninth Grade English 1 & 2.

Student Expectations

Students are required to bring a charged computer, notebook, and pencil/pen.

Students may drink from a water bottle freely. Other food and drinks require permission—ask before you open.

Once students enter the classroom, they are expected to follow the instructions for the day and to participate in class discussions.

Students will be issued a novel later in the year. If a book is not returned in usable condition by the year end, your family will be asked to pay for a replacement.

If an assignment is not submitted by the designated due date, the student will be required to attend WIN to finish the incomplete assignment. If a student requires more time to complete the assignment, the student must take responsibility and inform the teacher with the reasons for needing extra time. If granted, the teacher will set a new due date for the assignment. If a student is unable to complete the assignment by the new due date, the student will earn a zero as their grade for that assignment.

Earning Your Grade

Your grade will be determined by your work in these categories:

Daily Work Any in-class assignment or activity completed in a day or two. This includes participating in class discussions.	20%
Quizzes Short assessments between 5-10 questions, held once a week at the end of the week. Quizzes are formative assessments used to check progress.	30%
Progress Tests Progress Tests are summative assessments given at the end of every unit and cover all the material learned in that unit.	20%
Projects There will be a formal writing project at the end of each unit. These will typically require multiple days to complete. Students are expected to use grade appropriate grammar and vocabulary. Projects may include additional elements such as research, organization, group work, and/or a presentation that could require additional time spent outside of class.	30%

The grading scale for this course will be:

Letter Grade	Mark Range
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A+	98-100
A	93-97
B+	90-92
B	85-89
C+	82-84
C	77-81
D+	74-76
D	70-73
F	69 or below

Important Dates

Please note that dates are tentative and may change according to student needs.

Semester 1 Progress Tests:

Unit 1: Plot & Characters	Late August
Unit 2: Narration	Late September
Unit 3: Setting & Literary Devices	Mid-October
Unit 4: Poetry	Late November
Unit 5: Oral Traditions	Early January

Semester 2 Progress Tests:

Unit 1: Short Stories	Early February
Unit 2: <i>The Boy on the Wooden Box</i>	Early March
Unit 3: Essays	Mid-April
Unit 4: Poetry Mechanics	Mid-May
Unit 5: Drama	Early June

Plagiarism Policy

Students who hand in school work that is not their own are guilty of plagiarism. This includes copy/pasting information or using generative AI to complete assignments. Though technology can be a useful tool in daily life, assignments are designed for students to practice and develop skills for which there are no substitute. Students who break this policy will redo the assignment during WIN, with serious additional consequences for repeat offenders.