

**Ewing High School
English Department
Proficiency Statements
English I**

English I enables students to explore literature spanning from Shakespeare to the modern novel. In addition, the course emphasizes the development of reading comprehension skills as well as higher-level, critical thinking skills. Continued emphasis will be placed on composition, specifically focusing on the development of student skills in the conventions of writing, spelling, and vocabulary. Students will also gain experiences with research, speech, and standardized test preparation.

To be proficient a student must satisfactorily complete the following objectives:

Assessment

1. Participate in large and small group discussions
2. Deliver an oral presentation
3. Respond to objective test items
4. Complete various forms of writing assignments
5. Complete projects as assigned by the teacher
6. Complete a research paper using all aspects of research procedures

Literature

1. Read, analyze, and complete assignments for units on the short story, nonfiction and informational texts, poetry, the epic, drama, and the novel
2. Recognize and analyze various literary elements and devices as they are used in reading selections
3. Respond to open-ended questions about various works of literature
4. Use media to aid comprehension

Writing

1. Create formal pieces of writing following the writing process
2. Respond to writing prompts given in class
3. Complete between 2 and 4 pieces of writing each marking period
4. Use appropriate conventions of mechanics and usage
5. Speculate about a given picture or situation presented in a writing prompt

Vocabulary

1. Use context clues to determine meaning of unfamiliar words
2. Incorporate new words into original writing and speaking
3. Respond to test questions about vocabulary words

Research Skills

1. Use quotations, paraphrasing, citations, and works cited page in the preparation of essays
2. Use works cited cards, note cards, and outlining as aids in research
3. Write stories and/or essays based upon research