**English 1—Mrs. Finley**

**Mountain Empire High School**

[**emily.finley@meusd.k12.ca.us**](mailto:emily.finley@meusd.k12.ca.us)

[**http://mrsfinleymehs.weebly.com**](http://mrsfinleymehs.weebly.com)

**619-473-8601 x 2210**

Welcome to English 1/1H! My name is Mrs. Finley. I’m excited to be back at Mountain Empire for another year of learning. In order to make our classroom environment as fun, safe, and successful as possible, there are some expectations all of us will need to abide by. Let’s take a look!

**Required Materials**

* Spiral notebook for English use only (HW assignment—**due Friday 8/26**)
* Pens and pencils
* Folder or binder with a section for English
* Lined, loose-leaf paper
* Chromebook and charger
* HOLT Textbook and other text(s) we are currently reading

**Course Learning Objectives:**

* Students will develop and strengthen their reading skills by analyzing a variety of texts, including short stories, novels, drama, poetry, and non-fiction.
* Students will develop and strengthen their writing skills through a variety of assignments that focus on use of claims, evidence, analysis, grammar, organization, and other conventions.
* Students will become critical thinkers who analyze and challenge the issues and ideas presented in various texts.
* Students will strengthen their academic vocabulary.
* Students will become confident speakers.
* Students will become active listeners.

**Classroom Behavior**

My expectations for classroom behavior are simple: I expect all students to show **RESPECT** and **RESPONSIBILITY** at all times. Thank you in advance for abiding by the following expectations, which all demonstrate respect and responsibility in this classroom:

* Using appropriate language
* Treating others the way you want to be treated
* Listening to others (rather than talking) while they speak
* Using classroom supplies only when given permission
* Working on classwork/homework for this class only
* Keeping electronic devices out of sight & on silent (unless given permission to use)

**Food/Drink**

In order to keep our room tidy and also free of unwanted critters, neither food nor drink is permitted in this room. Water, however, is OK.

**Grades**

Your grade is based on your achievement of the learning goals for the class. **Always do your best!** Grades will be calculated according to the following scale:

30% Classwork

30% Homework

40% Formative Assessments (Essays, Quizzes, Projects, Tests, etc.)

**Late Work**

* Work is due when I collect it; it is late if you turn it in at any point afterward
* Late work will be accepted up to ONE WEEK prior to the end of each progress report. The following are the late work deadlines for each grading period this year:
  + Fall Semester, 1st Progress Report: September 27, 2016
  + Fall Semester, 2nd Progress Report: November 4, 2016
  + Fall Semester, 3rd Progress Report (Semester Grade—Before Finals): December 16, 2016
  + Spring Semester, 1st Progress Report: February 17, 2017
  + Spring Semester, 2nd Progress Report: April 21, 2017
  + Spring Semester, 3rd Progress Report (Semester Grade—Before Finals): June 2, 2017
* Late work will receive a maximum of 70% of the original point value.
* Need more time on an assignment, but don’t want to be penalized for turning it in late? Ask for an extension BEFORE the work is due, and you will likely be given more time. If an extension is granted, and you submit the work on the agreed upon date, there will be no penalty for turning it in late.

**Remind**

Remind is an app that allows teachers to send HW reminders and important announcements to students and parents. To join, send a text message to the number 81010 with the message @finengl1.

**Tardiness**

* When you enter the classroom, go to your seat immediately and begin working on the warm-up activity **before** the bell has finished ringing.
* You are tardy if you are not in your own seat and working when the bell finishes ringing.
* Please refer to the MEHS Student Handbook for consequences for tardiness.

**Absence Make-Up**

* For every day that you had an **excused absence**, you have one day to make-up the work due.
* Refer to both the whiteboard and the absent trays near the door for information regarding what you missed during an absence and where to turn in your absent work.
* If you miss a quiz/test, you must make it up during ME time as soon as possible.



**Restroom**

Please use sign language to ask to use the restroom. If permission is not granted, it only means that I don’t want you to miss out on any crucial learning! ☺

**Video Recordings**

On occasion, students might record themselves during class. Students will watch and discuss these recordings either individually, as a small group, or as a whole class. The sole purpose of recording and viewing student work will be to help students become better speakers; I will never publish these recordings and will discard them immediately after use. If you do not grant permission for your child to be involved in this part of the curriculum, please send me a written notice, and I will arrange for alternate assignments.

**Plagiarism/Academic Dishonesty**

* Assignments not done **entirely** by you will receive a grade of zero with no chance of make-up. Clear incidences of plagiarism (i.e. it was copied from the internet) will also result in a referral.
* As soon as a test/quiz is administered, you must be silent, and you must keep your eyes on your own paper. **If you talk at all, your test will be confiscated, and you will receive a zero without chance for make-up.** Clear incidences of cheating (i.e. word for word copying of an answer) will also result in a referral.

**Student Work**

Unless otherwise requested, all student work left in this classroom will be discarded in September 2017.

Dear Students and Parents,

Please sign in the appropriate spaces below to indicate that you have read the syllabus for English 1. Return this sheet (keep the syllabus in your binder) to Mrs. Finley by September 2, 2016.

**Students:**

STUDENT signature: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_     Date: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

Print Name: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

**Parents/Guardians:**

PARENT/GUARDIAN signature: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_    Date: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

Print Name: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

Email address: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

Phone Number: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

Student Name:

Annual Movie/Video Permission

Dear Parents,   
  
During the course of the 2016-2017 school year, we plan to show PG/PG-13 and occasionally R rated movies in full or as excerpts. In addition, students might view other media as well in order to enhance our class curriculum.  
  
Our school requires parental permission for your student to view movies that are used in our curriculum, or selected by our teachers, which are rated PG-13 or R.   
  
We believe that showing your son or daughter this media enables him or her to benefit from another medium as a resource in his or her study of current events and Language Arts.   
  
Movies, along with our hands-on activities such as reading, in-class discussion groups, and research projects, give students a well-rounded opportunity to discover the world of literature and writing. Movies go beyond dry facts and help bring events “alive.” Be assured that we will use proper discretion when showing these movies.  
  
Thank you for taking the time to read and sign this permission form. Please have this completed and returned by Friday, September 2.  
  
Sincerely,

Emily Finley  
  
\_\_\_\_ Yes, I approve my child’s viewing of curriculum and school appropriate media rated PG-13, or R.

\_\_\_\_ No, I do not approve my child’s viewing of curriculum and school appropriate media for the following rating (check all that apply):

☐ PG-13

☐ R

I understand alternate learning experiences will be provided for my child while the movie is being watched.   
    
  
Parent/Guardian signature: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_