

English 8th and 9th Grade

Mrs. Thomas

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I. General Information

- Students are required to have a pen or pencil, loose-leaf paper and a notebook daily.
- Grade slips are sent home twice a month.
- It is the student's responsibility to hand in all homework and if they are absent, and it is due within **3 days** upon their return.

II. Course Outline

- Students will be required to write using the following formats; business and friendly letters, narratives, descriptive, creative, expository, persuasive and comparison essays.
- Students will be reading novels, short stories, plays, poetry and non-fiction pieces.
- Writing will include research papers including in-text citation and a works cited page.
- Classes will work on preparation for the NYS ELA Assessment.

III. Grading

- 50% Essays and projects
- 30% Tests
- 20% Participation

IV. Novels to be read (subject to change)

8th Grade

- Down a Dark Hall*
- Bull Run*
- The Devils Arithmetic*
- Everlost*
- Skippping Christmas*

9th Grade

- Speak*
- Of Mice and Men*
- To Kill a Mockingbird*
- The Cage*
- Romeo and Juliet*
- The Odyssey (an excerpt)*
- The House on Mango Street*