

# Course Outline for English 12 Virtual

## Summary

The student receives assignments, one at a time, and completes them successfully by meeting assignment criteria. For each assignment, the teacher gives feedback for improvement and a score on a ten-point scale. The teacher may require the student to rewrite an assignment until it meets its basic criteria for clarity, content, and organization. The student will write two tests, a midterm test after Assignment 6 and a final test after Assignment 12. The student's final mark for the course is based on the student's assignment mark and test marks, as described below. There is no text book for this course: Readings and links will be sent by email.

## Getting Started

The student starts by writing to [english.12.online@gmail.com](mailto:english.12.online@gmail.com), asking to join the course. After confirming the student's registration, the teacher will request further information, assess the student's sentence-writing skills, and then send the first assignment for marks.

## Assignments

The first two compositions—*Please Introduce Yourself (PIY)* and *Tell Me a Story (TMS)*—do not receive scores. The purpose of PIY is to help the teacher understand the student's plans and to ensure that the student is able to communicate clearly by email. The purpose of TMS is to allow the teacher to assess the student's sentence-writing skills and to offer advice for improvement. All subsequent assignments are scored on a ten-point scale.

The first four assignments comprise 20% of the work of the course: **A1 Composition** requires an original composition on a set topic; **A1 Nonfiction**, **A2 Fiction**, and **A4 Poetry** require essays on single readings with set topics. The student should not be surprised when asked to rewrite these assignments to satisfy criteria for clarity, content, and organization. In an online course, teaching and learning takes place not only in following the assignment instructions, but also in responding to feedback for improvement.

The next two assignments—**A5 Short Stories** and **A6 Short Poems**—give the student choices of texts and topics for essays, and will prepare the student for the midterm test. Together these assignments comprise 20% of the course work.

The next two assignments—**A7 Novel Study** and **A8 Research Paper**—are exceptions to the rule that assignments must be completed one-at-a-time. The student will receive instructions for these assignments after writing the midterm test, and must successfully complete them before writing the final test. Together these assignments comprise 20% of the course work.

The remaining assignments—**A9 Longer Stories**, **A10 Narrative Poems**, **A11 More Stories**, and **A12 More Poems**—together comprise 40% of the course work. They are done one-at-a-time, offer choices of texts and topics, and prepare the student for the final test.

## Tests

The student will be eligible to write a midterm test after successfully completing all assignments A1 through A6, and a final test after completing all assignments A7 through A12. Each test consists of three parts: two essays on topics and texts previously shown to the student—in A5 and A6 for the midterm; in A11 and A12 for the final—and one paragraph-form response to a poem not previously shown to the student. The maximum score for each test is 50, based on a maximum 20 for each essay, and maximum 10 for the paragraph-form response.

Students will be informed of upcoming test dates as well in advance as possible.

## Final Marks

The student's assignment mark is calculated by adding the scores received for all assignments, to a maximum of 100 points. The student's test mark is calculated by adding the scores of both tests, also to a maximum of 100 points.

The student's final mark for the course is calculated by adding the assignment mark and test mark, after the assignment mark has been adjusted, if necessary, to ensure that it is not more than 10 points higher than the test mark. This adjustment of the assignment mark allows the student to receive help on assignments, and to collaborate on assignments with other students, without distorting their final mark for the course.

To be eligible to write the English 12 provincial examination, the student must write the final test for this course before writing the provincial examination.

## Other Stuff

English 12 does not normally include instruction in basic language conventions—grammar, Standard English usage, syntax, punctuation, spelling, capitalization, etc.—which establish rules for properly formed phrases, clauses, and sentences. However, your teachers are always willing to give individualized advice on what you can do to improve specific aspects of your sentence-writing skills. Just ask.

Plagiarism can have very serious consequences for students at postsecondary institutions. In this course, when plagiarism is detected in any assignment submission, the student will receive a score of zero for the assignment, and will be required to meet the teacher for a personal interview before continuing with the course.

Your teachers are available for face-to-face interviews, to discuss any matter relevant to the course. To request a personal interview, please send an email and suggest some dates and times when you would be available.

Teachers thrive on questions and feedback! Send yours to [english.12.online@gmail.com](mailto:english.12.online@gmail.com).