

Westlake High School

Mt. Pleasant Central School District

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Dear Students,

Welcome to English 9 Honors! I am extremely pleased that you have elected to take the course; this tells me that you want to be challenged, stretched, and taught well, and I will do my best to do just that. **I strongly urge you to buy all of the books for your summer reading and for this course!** You will have them forever and will be able to mark them up.

To introduce you all to the first focus of the course, the hero's journey, I am asking you to do some reading work over the summer. First, I am asking you to read some background information on the hero's journey in literature. Then, I am asking you to read two books: *The Adventures of Huckleberry Finn*, a novel by Mark Twain, and *Of Mice and Men*, a novella by John Steinbeck, which will be used to frame discussions, perspectives, and writing assignments over the first quarter. See the next page for a detailed breakdown of the assignment.

The completed assignments are **due on the first day of class** and are a **prerequisite** for the course. ***Students may be asked to consider English 9 Regents as an alternative placement if the assignment is missing, incomplete, plagiarized, or poorly done on the first day of class.*** All directions on the next several pages should be self-explanatory. If, for some reason, you have any questions over the summer, feel free to contact me at cdippolito@mtpclsd.org. Because of vacations and/or other commitments, I may not respond right away.

Have a great summer! I look forward to working with you in the upcoming school year.

Sincerely,

Mr. D'Ippolito

Assignment (I would complete the work in the following order):

- 1) Read and annotate Ch. 1 (“Every Trip Is A Quest...”) of Thomas C. Foster’s *How to Read Literature Like a Professor*.
- 2) Read “The Heroic Journey” notes.
- 3) Read the background information for *The Adventures of Huckleberry Finn*, then read the book and complete the assignment. Submit to Google Classroom.
- 4) Research and annotate a scholarly article for *Of Mice and Men*, then read the novella and use post-its to mark significant passages.
- 5) Complete the Summer Reading Word Journal (100 words) as you read the texts.
- 6) Review the grammar handouts (below). You will be responsible for these terms as you enter 9H.
- 7) Turn in all digital assignments to Google Classroom by the first day of class. Place the handwritten work in a two-pocket folder and bring it to the first class. **All assignments are due on the first day of class.** No excuses.

2-Pocket Folder

<i>Left Side</i>	<i>Right Side</i>
<ul style="list-style-type: none">● Word Journal (handwritten)● Annotated <i>Of Mice and Men</i> Article	<ul style="list-style-type: none">● Annotated Ch. 1 (“Every Trip Is A Quest...”) of Thomas C. Foster’s <i>How to Read Literature Like a Professor</i>

The Top 24 Grammatical Terms – Please know this information!

There are many websites that you can utilize to practice your understanding of these concepts.

Basic Grammatical Terms That We Should Have Learned in School

By Richard Nordquist , About.com Guide

1. Active Voice

The verb form in which the subject of the sentence performs or causes the action expressed by the verb. Contrast with Passive Voice.

Example:

"A census taker once **tried** to test me. I **ate** his liver..."
(Hannibal Lecter in *The Silence of the Lambs*, 1991)

2. Adjective

The part of speech (or word class) that modifies a noun or a pronoun. See also: Adding Adjectives and Adverbs to the Basic Sentence Unit.

Example:

"Send this **pestilent, traitorous, cow-hearted, yeasty** codpiece to the brig."
(Jack Sparrow in *Pirates of the Caribbean: At World's End*, 2007)

3. Adverb

The part of speech that modifies a verb, adjective, or other adverb. *Example:*

"There I was, standing there in the church, and for the first time in my whole life I realized I **totally** and **utterly** loved one person."
(Charles to Carrie in *Four Weddings and a Funeral*, 1994)

4. Clause

A group of words that contains a subject and a predicate. A clause may be either a sentence (independent clause) or a sentence-like construction included within another sentence (dependent clause).

Example: "**Don't ever argue with the big dog** [*independent clause*], **because the big dog is always right** [*dependent clause*]."
(Deputy Marshal Samuel Gerard in *The Fugitive*, 1993)

5. Complex Sentence

A sentence that contains at least one independent clause and one dependent clause.

Example:

"**Don't ever argue with the big dog** [*independent clause*], **because the big dog is always right** [*dependent clause*]."
(Deputy Marshal Samuel Gerard in *The Fugitive*, 1993)

6. Compound Sentence

A sentence that contains at least two independent clauses, often joined by a conjunction.

Example:

"**I can't compete with you physically** [*independent clause*], **and you're no match for my brains** [*independent clause*]."
(Vizzini in *The Princess Bride*, 1987)

7. Conjunction

The part of speech that serves to connect words, phrases, clauses, or sentences. See also: coordinating conjunction, subordinating conjunction, correlative conjunction, and conjunctive adverb.

Example:

"I can't compete with you physically, **and** you're no match for my brains." (Vizzini in *The Princess Bride*, 1987)

8. Declarative Sentence

A sentence that makes a statement.

Example:

"**A census taker once tried to test me. I ate his liver...**"
(Hannibal Lecter in *The Silence of the Lambs*, 1991)

9. Dependent Clause

A group of words that begins with a relative pronoun or a subordinating conjunction. A dependent clause has both a subject and a verb but (unlike an independent clause) cannot stand alone as a sentence. Also known as a subordinate clause.

Example:

"Don't ever argue with the big dog [*independent clause*], **because the big dog is always right** [*dependent clause*]."
(Deputy Marshal Samuel Gerard in *The Fugitive*, 1993)

10. Direct Object

A noun or pronoun that receives the action of a transitive verb.

Example:

"All my life I had to fight. I had to fight my **daddy**. I had to fight my **uncles**. I had to fight my **brothers**."
(Sophia in *The Color Purple*, 1985)

11. Exclamatory Sentence

A sentence that expresses strong feelings by making an exclamation.

Example:

"**God! Look at that thing! You would've gone straight to the bottom!**"
(Jack Dawson looking at Rose's ring in *Titanic*, 1997)

12. Imperative Sentence

A sentence that gives advice or instructions or that expresses a request or a command.

Example:

"**Send this pestilent, traitorous, cow-hearted, yeasty codpiece to the brig.**"
(Jack Sparrow in *Pirates of the Caribbean: At World's End*, 2007)

13. Independent Clause

A group of words made up of a subject and a predicate. An independent clause (unlike a dependent clause) can stand alone as a sentence. Also known as a main clause.

Example:

"**Don't ever argue with the big dog** [*independent clause*], because the big dog is always right [*dependent clause*]."
(Deputy Marshal Samuel Gerard in *The Fugitive*, 1993)

14. Indirect Object

A noun or pronoun that indicates to whom or for whom the action of a verb in a sentence is performed.

Example:

"It's a family motto. Are you ready, Jerry? I want to make sure you're ready, brother. Here it is: *Show me the money.*"
(Rod Tidwell to Jerry McGuire in *Jerry McGuire*, 1996)

15. Interrogative Sentence

A sentence that asks a question.

Example:

"**What is the name of the Lone Ranger's nephew's horse?**"
(Mr. Parker in *A Christmas Story*, 1983)

16. Noun

The part of speech that is used to name a person, place, thing, quality, or action and can function as the subject or object of a verb, the object of a preposition, or an appositive.

Example:

"**Waiter**, there is too much **pepper** on my **paprikash**." (Harry Burns in *When Harry Met Sally*, 1989)

17. Passive Voice

A verb form in which the grammatical subject receives the verb's action. Contrast with active voice.

Example:

"Any attempt by you to create a climate of fear and panic among the populace **must be deemed by us** an act of insurrection." (First Elder to Jor-El in *Superman*, 1978)

18. Predicate

One of the two main parts of a sentence or clause, modifying the subject and including the verb, objects, or phrases governed by the verb.

Example:

"**I don't ever remember feeling this awake.**" (Thelma Dickinson in *Thelma and Louise*, 1991)

19. Prepositional Phrase

A group of words made up of a preposition, its object, and any of the object's modifiers.

Example:

"A long time ago, my ancestor Paikea came **to this place on the back of a whale**. Since then, **in every generation of my family**, the first born son has carried his name and become the leader **of our tribe**." (Paikea, in *The Whale Rider*)

20. Pronoun

A word that takes the place of a noun.

Example:

"A census taker once tried to test **me**. I ate **his** liver..."
(Hannibal Lecter in *The Silence of the Lambs*, 1991)

21. Sentence

A word or (more commonly) a group of words that expresses a complete idea. Conventionally, a sentence includes a subject and a verb. It begins with a capital letter and concludes with a mark of end punctuation. Example:

"I don't ever remember feeling this awake."
(Thelma Dickinson in *Thelma and Louise*, 1991)

22. Subject

The part of a sentence that indicates what it is about.

Example:

"I don't ever remember feeling this awake." (Thelma Dickinson in *Thelma and Louise*, 1991)

23. Tense

The time of a verb's action or state of being, such as past, present, and future.

Example:

"Years ago, you **served** [*past tense*] my father in the Clone Wars; now he **begs** [*present tense*] you to help him in his struggle against the Empire." (Princess Leia to General Kenobi in *Star Wars*, 1977)

24. Verb

The part of speech that describes an action or occurrence or indicates a state of being.

Example:

"**Send** this pestilent, traitorous, cow-hearted, yeasty codpiece to the brig."

(Jack Sparrow in *Pirates of the Caribbean: At World's End*, 2007)

Parts of Speech

PART OF SPEECH	BASIC FUNCTION	EXAMPLES
<u>noun</u>	names a person, place, or thing	<i>pirate, Caribbean, ship</i>
<u>pronoun</u>	takes the place of a noun	<i>I, you, he, she, it, ours, them, who</i>
<u>verb</u>	identifies action or state of being	<i>sing, dance, believe, be</i>
<u>adjective</u>	modifies a noun	<i>hot, lazy, funny</i>
<u>adverb</u>	modifies a verb, adjective, or other adverb	<i>softly, lazily, often</i>
<u>preposition</u>	shows a relationship between a noun (or pronoun) and other words in a sentence	<i>up, over, against, by, for</i>
<u>conjunction</u>	joins words, phrases, and clauses	<i>and, but, or, yet</i>
<u>interjection</u>	expresses emotion	<i>ah, whoops, ouch</i>
<u>article</u>	identifies and specifies a noun	<i>a, an, the</i>

