

**Material Covered:**

The course is comprised of the following three main themes:

1. Mechanics
  - Spelling Review
  - Parts of Speech Review
  - Fixing Common Grammatical Errors Review
2. Writing
  - Writing Paragraphs
  - Responding to Inquiry
  - The Five Paragraph Essay
3. Novel Study – The Boy in the Striped Pyjamas

**Course Design:**

This course is designed to support British Columbia's New Curriculum, and anchors into strong literacy foundations, with the broad themes of core competencies woven throughout. Students will be encouraged to become educated citizens, by recognizing the social, cultural and historical lens through which texts are interpreted. Through exposure to a broad variety of text, and personalized response style, students will be encouraged to draw connections to themselves as well as the greater world around them. Many of the units within the course do not have unit tests, and the student is marked solely on the worksheet, or a thematic project. These projects are intended to be a demonstration of the student's knowledge, as well as an opportunity to personalize learning, and make further connections between curriculum and self.

**Textbook:**

The course uses the textbooks:

*Writers Express*

ISBN 0 –17 –607458 –9

*iWonder9 –An Inquiry-Based Anthology*

ISBN-10: 1-25-964923-7

**Notebook:**

Your notebook should be neatly organized, as this will help you study for tests. Label the unit and topic headings clearly at the top of the page. Answer questions fully, so that the information makes sense and can be used later for studying. Show what page number in the textbook the information comes from, so you can look it up again easily.

**Grading:**

The Mechanics portion of this course works on a mastery system. You must pass the Mechanics Unit Test to the 80% level before you can go on.

In addition, there are cumulative projects at the end of major units and themes. Those tests or projects can only be submitted once, so be sure to do your best work on them. Your class mark for the course is based 60% on your worksheet material and creative responses and 40% on the cumulative tests and projects.

**Goal:**

The goal of this unit is to increase your skills at avoiding common spelling errors.

**Objectives:**

While completing this unit you will practice properly spelling:

- Abbreviations
- Homophones
- Plurals
- Possessives
- Commonly confused words

**What to do in this Unit:**

- There isn't a textbook for this unit. Your worksheet will act as your textbook.
- Ask your teacher for the Unit 1 Worksheet, read each section carefully, and do the work there. If you wish to check your work, ask your teacher if you may see the worksheet answer key.
- When you are ready, ask your teacher for the Unit 1 Test. Remember, you must get 80% to pass, so studying hard is essential to do well.

**Goal:**

The goal of this unit is to increase your skills at identifying parts of speech.

**Objectives:**

While completing this unit you will practice identifying:

- Nouns and pronouns
- Verbs
- Adjectives, and adverbs
- Objects and subjects
- Compound subjects and verbs
- Compound verbs

**What to do in this Unit:**

- There isn't a textbook for this unit. Your worksheet will act as your textbook.
- Ask your teacher for the Unit 2 Worksheet, read each section carefully, and do the work there. If you wish to check your work, ask your teacher if you may see the worksheet answer key.
- When you are ready, ask your teacher for the Unit 2 Test. Remember, you must get 80% to pass, so studying hard is essential to do well.

**Goal:**

The goal of this unit is to increase your skills at fixing common grammatical and sentence errors.

**Objectives:**

While completing this unit you will practice identifying and fixing problems with:

- sentence fragments
- run-on sentences
- comma splice errors
- combining two simple sentences into a longer simple sentence
- combining two simple sentences into a compound sentence
- combining two simple sentences into a complex sentence

**What to do in this Unit:**

- There isn't a textbook for this unit. Your worksheet will act as your textbook.
- Ask your teacher for the Unit 3 Worksheet, read each section carefully, and do the work there. If you wish to check your work, ask your teacher if you may see the worksheet answer key.
- When you are ready, ask your teacher for the Unit 3 Test. Remember, you must get 80% to pass, so studying hard is essential to do well.
  
- Go over your work from Units 1-3, and when you are ready, ask your teacher for Cumulative Test #1. Remember, this test may only be taken once, so studying hard is essential to do well.

**Goal:**

The goal of this unit is to review your knowledge of the four paragraph types, and increase your skills at planning and developing focused paragraphs.

**Objectives:**

While completing this unit you will review and practice:

- Identifying the form, purpose, and structure of a paragraph.
- The ability to remain focused on your subject or topic, and link all sentences back to your main idea.
- Using a criteria checklist to ensure your paragraph tells a full and complete story.

**What to Do in this Unit:**

- This unit uses the textbook *Writer's Express*.
- Ask your teacher for the Unit 4 Worksheet, and do the work there.
- Hand in your worksheet so your teacher may see what you have done, and give you feedback on your work.
- When you are ready, ask your teacher for the Unit 4 – Writing Paragraphs Test. Remember, you must get 80% to pass, so preparing well is essential in succeeding.

**Goal:**

The goal of this unit is to explore the question, *How is identity formed?*

**Objectives:**

While completing this unit you will:

- Be exposed to a variety of text, including:
  - Short Story
  - Photo Essay
  - Micro-memoir
  - Poetry
  - Memoir
- Develop strategies for reading and comprehending different text forms
- Recognize how different forms of text reflect different purposes, audiences and messages
- Respond in personal, creative and critical ways

**What to Do in this Unit:**

- This unit uses the anthology *iWonder9*, and makes reference to the text *Writer's Express*.
- Ask your teacher for the Unit 5 Worksheet, and do the work there.
- Hand in your worksheet and any creative projects so your teacher may see what you have done, and give you feedback on your work.
  
- This unit will be assessed based on the work completed in your Unit 5 Worksheet, as well as any separately submitted paragraphs or creative projects. Remember to edit your work carefully, and submit high quality material for assessment.

**Goal:**

The goal of this unit is to explore the question, *How can we overcome our fears?*

**Objectives:**

While completing this unit you will:

- Be exposed to a variety of text, including:
  - Illustrated Guide
  - Blog
  - Short Story
- Develop strategies for reading and comprehending different text forms
- Recognize how different forms of text reflect different purposes, audiences and messages
- Respond in personal, creative and critical ways

**What to Do in this Unit:**

- This unit uses the anthology *iWonder9*, and makes reference to the text *Writer's Express*.
- Ask your teacher for the Unit 6 Worksheet, and do the work there.
- Hand in your worksheet and any creative projects so your teacher may see what you have done, and give you feedback on your work.
  
- This unit will be assessed based on the work completed in your Unit 6 Worksheet, as well as any separately submitted paragraphs or creative projects. Remember to edit your work carefully, and submit high quality material for assessment.

**Goal:**

The goal of this unit is to explore the question, *How do power and responsibility relate to each other?*

**Objectives:**

While completing this unit you will:

- Be exposed to a variety of text, including:
  - Rap Lyrics
  - Photo Essay
  - Speech
  - Graffiti
- Develop strategies for reading and comprehending different text forms
- Recognize how different forms of text reflect different purposes, audiences and messages
- Respond in personal, creative and critical ways

**What to Do in this Unit:**

- This unit uses the anthology *iWonder9*, and makes reference to the text *Writer's Express*.
- Ask your teacher for the Unit 7 Worksheet, and do the work there.
- Hand in your worksheet and any creative projects so your teacher may see what you have done, and give you feedback on your work.
  
- This unit will be assessed based on the work completed in your Unit 7 Worksheet, as well as any separately submitted paragraphs or creative projects. Remember to edit your work carefully, and submit high quality material for assessment.



**Goal:**

The goal of this unit is to familiarize yourself with the Five Paragraph Essay, and become comfortable with scaffolding tools to organize your writing.

**Objectives:**

While completing this unit you will practice working with:

- The introduction, body and conclusion paragraphs of an essay
- Organizing your ideas into an Essay Outline to prepare for creating a finished product
- Weaving in previous themes of Self-Expression, Fear and Social Justice to create strong essay outlines

**What to Do in this Unit:**

- Ask your teacher for the Unit 8 Worksheet, and do the work there.
- Use the Essay Outline Checklist to ensure you have included all important details in your outline.
- Hand in your worksheet so your teacher may see what you have done, and give you feedback on your work.
  
- When you are ready, ask your teacher for Cumulative #2 – The Five Paragraph Essay. Remember, you must get 80% to pass, so preparing well is essential in succeeding.

**Goal:**

The goal of this unit is to increase your skills with reading, analysing and understanding a novel, and provide opportunities to practice previously established response styles.

**Objectives:**

While completing this unit you will review and practice:

- Reading a work of fiction.
- Analyzing what you have read.
- Gaining a better understanding of what you have read, and providing evidence of understanding through personalized response styles

**What to Do in this Unit:**

- The novel for this unit is *The Boy in the Striped Pyjamas* by John Boyne.
- Ask your teacher for the Unit 9 Worksheet.
- After you have looked over your work, submit your Unit 9 Worksheet to your teacher for marking.
  
- When you are ready, ask your teacher for Cumulative #3 – Literary Response Essay, and do the work there. Remember, you can only submit this project once, so do your best on it.

**Congratulations, you have finished English 9!**