|  | **Sophomore**  **English 2 Prep**  **2024 - 2025** | **Phone**  281-920-8000 ext. 036222  **Website**  <https://www.houstonisd.org/westsidehs> |
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**Instructor**: Ms. Lety Stokes

**Email**: Latisha.Stokes@houstonisd.org

**Tutorials**: Lunchtime. Mon. and Tues. (1st ½), or by appointment

**Conference:** Third Period - 9:30 -10:15 Mon and Tues

**Course Content**

English 2 is a chance to dramatically improve your reading and writing skills, and students are required to pass the STAAR End of Course exam. In this course, students will perform written responses to various forms of literature, read and analyze both literary and informational texts, and participate in vigorous discussion, which translates into success in every school subject and every career in life.

**Course Objectives**

* Students will master the reading, writing, speaking, and listening skills outlined in the Texas Essential Knowledge and Skills for English 2.
* Students will practice writing through a variety of essays, quick writes, and group work.
* Students will read a wide variety of literature to enhance their knowledge and level of comprehension. Emphasis will be placed on texts similar to those that will be on the STAAR English 2 test.

**About Ms. Lety Stokes**

I am a graduate of the State University of New York with a Bachelors of Liberal Arts and Masters in English Education. I’m a sister, an aunt, a lifelong learner, a mentor, political enthusiast, and avid reader. I became a teacher because I love helping students and fostering competent literacies, allowing access to academic, socio-political, and legal discourses.

I want to instill a love for English and to have students walk out of my room feeling empowered, challenged and capable. I look forward to getting to know each of you very much.

**STAAR EOC Information**

Students must pass all EOC tests to graduate. Tenth graders who need to retake the English 1 STAAR will do that during the first two weeks of December, between December 3-13, 2024. Sophomores will take the English 2 End of Course test in April of their sophomore year. This year the English 2 test will be during the following window: April 8-18, 2025

**Daily Materials**

* Laptop (charged nightly, please)
* Writing tools: pen or pencil and highlighters
* Notebook paper or spiral
* Pocket folder of your choice

**Grades and Grading Scale**

Grades will be based on assignment completion, following instructions, meeting deadlines, teamwork, class participation, comprehension, and mastery of course material.

**Major Grades**: 70% (includes: tests, projects, essays, Socratic Seminar)

**Minor Grades**: 30% (homework, class work, participation, quizzes)

**Final Exam Grade**: 10% of semester grade

**Makeup Work and Late Work**

**Daily/Minor** assignments are not accepted late. If you have an excused absence, **you must come to tutorials to make up minor grades** to discuss make-up work or reschedule missed tests/quizzes. A student will be exempt from any minor assignment that cannot be completed in tutorials on a later day.

**Major** assignments:

The lowest grade you can receive on a major assignment is 40. (You turn in nothing.) The reason you don’t receive a zero is that the single error of a missed major assignment could then cause you to fail the cycle. If you receive a 40, you still have the opportunity to improve and pass for the cycle.

If you attempt a major, the lowest grade you can receive is a 50.

**Major** assignments that are late will result in a letter grade deduction of ten points immediately at the end of the class period in which the assignment is due. You will have until Friday of the next week, at the end of school, to turn the assignment in without further penalty. Example: Major 1 is due Thursday August 22nd. You have until the following Friday, August 30th to turn it in late and lose only ten points.

After that you have until the end of the cycle to turn in major assignments, but you will lose 20 points.

**No Plagiarism allowed!**

**Retake Policy (From WHS Student Handbook)**

* Only major grades are eligible for retake.
* The retake must be completed within one week of the original grade being posted.
* Retakes are provided for original grades that are 70 or below.
* Retaking or rewriting a test or essay doesn’t guarantee a 70.
* Replacement grades are capped at 70.
* The full policy can be seen in the student handbook on our school website.

**Class Expectations**

1. **Be courteous and respectful.** Respect others’ opinions. No bullying.
2. Raise your hand if you have a question or contribution.
3. Please do not deface furniture or materials.
4. Do your work (with a proper header) and submit it on time.
5. DO NOT PLAGIARIZE!
6. Politely ask for help if you need it.

6. Water is allowed. Snacks may be allowed at teacher’s discretion.

7. **Be on time.** If you are late, follow WHS procedures and get a tardy pass before entering.

8. You may not leave the classroom in the **first 15 minutes** and **last 15 minutes**. If you do leave

during class, return as quickly as possible. If your trip to the restroom takes an unreasonable amount of time, I will follow up with you and may also follow up with your dean and your parents. Only one hall pass will be allowed at a time.

9. **Phone use and laptop use for entertainment are not allowed during class. Phones**

**should be out of sight.**

**Discipline Information**

It is my responsibility to ensure that all students feel welcome and can learn in my classroom. You learn best when you feel comfortable and safe. Inappropriate behavior (disrespect toward peers, foul language, off-task behavior, phone use) will not be tolerated.

STEP 1: Verbal Warning

STEP 2: Verbal Warning and Seat Change if appropriate

STEP 3: Parent Contact and Email to Dean

STEP 4: Parent Contact and Formal Referral to Dean

**Important Dates**

Open House - Monday, August 26th, 5:30-8:00

STAAR English 1, English 2, Biology, and Algebra 1 Retake Window: December 3-13, 2024

STAAR English 2 End of Course Test\* Window - April 8-18, 2025

*English 2 is the only STAAR test added during the sophomore year.*

**Contacting Ms. Lety Stokes:**

**For parents**, my preferred method of communication is email: Latisha.Stokes@houstonisd.org. Parents are also welcome to contact me by phone at 281-920-8000, extension 036222

**Students** may contact me via Teams or email. I’m also available daily during lunch, at the listed times above, in room E137 .

**Information & Signature Sheet - Stokes**

Student Name\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ Class Period \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

Parent Name\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

Parent Phone\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

Parent Email\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

***Parent and Student:***

**Please sign the bottom of this sheet indicating that you’ve read the information about class.**

***Parent:***

***The questions below are optional.* Please answer any that you think would help me know your student better. I will keep your answers confidential.**

1. What are some of your teen’s strengths?
2. What are your teen’s interests, hobbies, and activities outside of school?
3. What would you like to see your teen focus on this year in English 2?

I confirm that I have read the syllabus and understand what is expected in this class.

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 Student signature/*Tu firma* Date/*Fecha*

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Parent’s signature/Firma de tus padres Date/Fecha

*RETURN THIS SHEET ONLY WITH SIGNATURES BY FRIDAY FOR A GRADE. KEEP THE SYLLABUS PAGES IN YOUR CLASS FOLDER.* **Thank you!**