



Mr Bevard's 9th Grade English Updates

16 October
2020

Dear Students and Families,

Here is another update on the comings and goings of English 9!

The end of Quarter 1 is fast approaching. In order to prepare, you will notice a few things we're emphasising in class recently:

- Grammar Fundamentals
 - In accordance with our resolutions from Week 5, after the debacle of the Simple Predicate, we've been focusing on the Parts of Speech. This will form the very next assessment opportunity and serve as the second of three assessment grades planned for Quarter 1. Given our current rate of progress, you should anticipate ***the quiz on parts of speech to cover nouns, pronouns, and adjectives.***
- Literary Analysis
 - Ever wondered why English class even has conversations? Well it's because a decent classroom discussion is actually a form of pre-writing. You may have heard me say this before, and this is why some students continue to struggle with the inference-based discussion or analysis questions related to our new text, *The Pearl*. Essentially, if you're not participating in these conversations - whether using the voice or text chat, you're not growing to your maximal potential during class time. (It's like our understanding is a plant; it will only grow with enough water and sunshine. Well in class, the readings are the water and the discussion is the sunshine. Let your thinking radiate!)
- The Quarter Final
 - I've decided that the format of the quarter final will be a blend of select response and constructed response. You will be required to demonstrate additional knowledge of the parts of speech mentioned above by composing them, distinguishing them, and converting them from one to another. (For instance, what is the noun form of hasty? ***Haste*** is the correct answer! What is the adjective form of exhaustion? ***Exhausted*** is the correct answer!) Additionally, you will be asked to compose a CERT paragraph in response to two to three of the Writing Fora from our analysis of *The Pearl*. We have not yet engaged the Writing Fora in class, but we have alluded to how they complete the sequence of Comprehension, Discussion, and Analysis tasks. Essentially, the Writing Fora are questions which can be developed in a multi-paragraph writing response. (That's code for "essay!") However, you will ***NOT*** be asked to compose an essay; rather you'll be asked to write two or three CERT paragraphs in response to separate prompts. (Wait! What's the T from CERT stand for in a single-paragraph response? First student to answer this question correctly will get to drop any non-assessment grade from Quarter 1.)