

## Ms. West's Grading Policy

**Regarding Parent Communication:** Updated grade reports will be sent home every 2-3 weeks for parents and students to review together. Parents and students will be required to sign these grade reports and return them to Ms. West. Parents and students are invited to communicate with Ms. West about these grade reports at any time.

Your final percentage translates to the following letter grades:

97-100%	A+	87-89.9%	B+	77-79.9%	C+	67-69.9%	D+	
93-96.9%	A	83-86.9%	B	73-76.9%	C	63-66.9%	D	0%-59.9% F
90-92.9%	A-	80-82.9%	B-	70-72.9%	C-	60-62.9%	D-	

There will be no rounding, period. That means that 89.9% is a B+. No exceptions!

Type of assignment	% of your total grade
Outside Reading	10
Public Speaking	10
Work Ethic: Classwork and Homework	20
Tests / Quizzes	30
Writing / Essays	30

### ***Outside Reading:***

You will be required to read 400 pages of your choice each quarter in addition to the reading assigned for the class. You will be given a reading log to keep track of your reading progress.

***Public Speaking:*** You will be asked to give formal oral presentations, as well as to speak in class during group discussions and/or in response to questions related to what we are studying. Always be prepared to share your thoughts, and do not be afraid of making a mistake.

### ***Classwork:***

We will be doing a lot of in-class projects and assignments including note taking, art projects, skits, writing activities, etc. You are expected to fully participate in these activities, so attendance is important!

### ***Homework:***

- Homework will be assigned three to four times a week, and sometimes over the weekend. These assignments will normally be due the following day and will be collected during the period in an IN BOX. Graded assignments will be handed back during class.
- When homework is not assigned, it is assumed that students will be working on their outside reading pages.
- Late work will typically **not** be accepted (unless you are absent - see below).
- If you are absent, work is due the **day after** you return (unless we make other arrangements) and will be graded without penalty. After you have been absent, check in with a friend or Ms. West about getting notes, handouts, etc., for day(s) you missed.

### ***Tests/Quizzes:***

Reading, spelling, grammar, mechanics, and vocabulary tests/quizzes will be given to check for comprehension. However, there will be no pop quizzes in this class because I want everyone to have the opportunity to prepare for success. Tests of some kind will be given at the end of each unit.

Students who are absent on the day of a test should speak with me about when and how they will make it up. Students with special needs regarding test taking will be accommodated according to school policy. Any student caught cheating will earn a double "0" grade for the assignment and his/her parents will be contacted.

### ***Writing / Essays:***

We will be focusing heavily on writing this year and your formal writing assignments will include expository essays, creative pieces, and short paragraphs. These will account for a large percentage of your grade, so give them your best effort. They will need to be typed (12 point font) and double-spaced.