

THE VARNUM TIMES

Term 3, Winter 2009

Students asked to show respect to all

- Each student should show respect for everyone in the classroom.
- Each student should come to class prepared everyday. This means bringing the appropriate book(s), a notebook and a pen or pencil.
- Each student should raise their hand if they wish to address the class.
- Each student should listen when others are talking.
- **Students may not use personal electronic devices (phones, iPods, etc.) during class time.**
- Students should not play with toys, balls, hackey-sacks, etc. in class.
- Students should not bring food or drink (except water) into the classroom.
- Students will not be allowed out of the classroom if they are not prepared for class that day (books, homework, pen, etc.)
- Students will not be allowed out of the room during the first or last 5 minutes of class (except for emergencies).
- Students must sign in **and** out of Hall Pass Log Book when leaving class.

If these expectations are not met, students can expect the following consequences:

1st Offense of the Day: Verbal warning

2nd Offense of the Day: Demerit

3rd Offense of the Day: Dismissal from class and/or after school detention

Continued failure to meet classroom expectations will result in notification of the Principal's office or the student's parent/guardian.

General writing and grading guidelines

- It is strongly encouraged that all essays be word processed.
- All essays in classes of Level Four or higher must be typewritten or word processed.
- All essays should be double spaced (even hand-written ones) and conform to the Collins format.
- Word processed essays should be printed in a plain font no larger than fourteen points.
- All essays should have a one inch margin on all sides.
- The distance from the tip of your thumb to the first knuckle is approximately one inch.
- Each essay/project not submitted on the due date will be penalized 10 points for every school day it is late.
- After five days, the highest grade you can get is a 50.
- Essays should be proofread by someone other than the author before being submitted.
- If you are absent on the day of a quiz or test, you have five (5) school days to arrange to make up what you have missed.
- After these five days, the quiz or test may be counted as a zero.
- If you are absent the day a writing assignment is due, you must turn it in on the first day you return to school. Prolonged absences will be dealt with on an individual basis.

Grading Policy:

- *Tests, Writing* 70%
- *Participation* 20%
- *Homework* 10%

Retake and Revision Policy

- Any student may retake one (1) test and one (1) quiz during the term.
- The retake must be done within five (5) school days of the return of the original test.
- The retake may or may not be the same test/quiz as the original.
- If the retake has a higher score than the original, the scores will be averaged and the average score entered into the rank book. Average retake score may not exceed 70%
- A student's Individualized Education Plan will always take precedent over this policy.
- Any Type III-V writing may be revised as many times as possible within two weeks of the return of the original until the ninth week of the term.
- The final grade of writing assignments will not exceed the average of the original grade and 100.

What to expect...

- Frequent Type II writing assignments
- One Type III/IV assignment per term (due at the end of week six)
- Vocabulary at least every other week
- Review Program of Studies for more information

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Homework and Class Participation Policies

Homework

Homework must be completed by the beginning of the period it is due. At that time, the teacher will circulate and check to see it is done. If it is done, you will receive a point for that day. If it is not done, you will receive no point. Homework cannot be made up because we review the answers following the check.

If you are absent the day it is assigned, you will be held responsible for the material, but will not have it count against your homework score. If you are absent the day a homework is due, you will be expected to show the completed homework on the day you return to school.

At the end of the term, I will determine how many homework assignments you received, divide it by the number of assignments you completed, and that number will be your homework for the term. For example, if you were assigned 10 homeworks (not including absences) and you did 8, your grade will be an 80. Your homework grade will count 10 percent of your term grade.

Class Participation

Each student begins the term with 100 class participation points. You lose points if you are not prepared for class each day or do not participate adequately for the day. There are approximately 50 days in each term, so each day is worth 2 points.

You will lose points for:

- Not bringing materials (book, pencil, etc.) to class
- Coming late to class (beat the bell or the teacher)
- Non-participation in class activities
- Other things as determined by teacher

You can earn points for:

- Assisting an unprepared classmate
- Outstanding participation during class
- Other things as determined by teacher

Your total points can never exceed 100 for the term. During the term, I will keep track of your points in a log. At the end of the term, your Class Participation and Preparation points will comprise 20 percent of your grade for the term.

“Until you have the power to change the rules, learn how to play the game.”

Mr. Varnum