

**Ms. Raquel Carr**  
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**2009-2010**

## **English Language Development 4**

### **Course Description**

ELD 4 is a course designed to develop a deeper understanding and usage of the English language. Students will evaluate various selections of literature through reading, classroom discussions, vocabulary study, and writing assignments to expand their knowledge and skills, moving them towards full fluency in the English language. Students will be expected to participate in discussions and *make connections* using acquired *knowledge, critical thinking*, and *communication* skills developed through their writer's notebook, on-demand writing, reading and speaking. Students will prepare for the English language assessments (CELDT and SLEP) and state exams (CST and CAHSEE) by learning and practicing reading, writing and thinking strategies.

### **Major Units**

In addition to reading various short stories, periodicals, non-fiction, and poetry, students will participate in exploring the following:

#### **Fall Semester:**

*The Odyssey* by Homer & Greek mythology

(Reading 3.1-3.12, LS 1.1, 1.3, 1.4, 1.7, 1.9, 1.11, 1.12, 2.1-2.3)

*To Kill a Mockingbird* by Harper Lee

(Reading 3.1-3.12, LS 1.1, 1.3, 1.4, 1.7, 1.9, 1.11, 1.12, 2.1-2.3)

#### **Spring Semester:**

*Bless Me, Ultima* by Rudolfo Anaya

(Reading 3.1-3.12, LS 1.1, 1.3, 1.4, 1.7, 1.9, 1.11, 1.12, 2.1-2.3)

*Romeo and Juliet* by William Shakespeare

(Reading 3.1-3.12, LS 1.1, 1.3, 1.4, 1.7, 1.9, 1.11, 1.12, 2.1-2.3)

### **Writing** (Writing 1.1-1.4, 1.6, 1.7, 1.9, 2.1-2.3)

Response to literature and reflection of student character will be developed through weekly informal quick writes, paragraph construction using the AXES model, and construction and revision of the multi-paragraph essay (including auto/biography, descriptive writing, persuasive essay, character analysis and business letters); all of which will contribute to the compilation of the writing portfolio.

### **Grammar** (Written and Oral Language Conventions 1.1-1.5)

A weekly routine will include basic parts of speech, sentence construction, usage and mechanics, as well as error identification and revision techniques.

### **Academic Honesty Policy**

This policy (policy is printed in student handbook) will be enforced in this class. It is important to understand its consequences.

### **Class Materials**

Students MUST bring a spiral notebook used ONLY for our class **daily**. In addition, students are responsible for supplying standard lined paper, a blue or black pen that writes clearly and a three-ring binder with a section dedicated to English.

**\*All work must be written in blue or black ink, or typed. No name means no credit. Every paper must have a header (name: first and last, date, period)**

### **Attendance**

Students will be expected to be in class and on time daily. The tardy policy is as follows:

- First Tardy = Warning
- Second Tardy = Call home
- Third Tardy = After school detention
- Fourth Tardy and beyond = referral to counseling, administration, and/or Saturday school

### **Make-Up Work**

Responsibility for making up work and tests rests with the student, not the teacher. Students should check the "Assignment Calendar" for the class activities and homework for the days missed. Talk to Ms. Carr to arrange for a make-up time for tests. Students must turn in make-up work within three days of returning to school.

### **Late Work**

Work will be accepted *one* day late for *half* credit.

### **Character Statement**

Students of Rancho Buena Vista High School will demonstrate **Good Character** on and off campus. Each student will show qualities of character: He or she will be **Trustworthy** and consistently show **Respect** and **Responsibility** to him/herself and others. Students will also show qualities of being **Fair** and **Caring** in all their actions and model appropriate **Citizenship**. These Good Character behaviors will be expected of students in our class; we will explore them in the characters in English literature, as well.

### **Grades and Points**

Students receive points and grades each day, some of which will be credit/no credit, all of which will contribute toward their semester grades. Points are earned for the following categories:

- 40% Essays, Tests, and Quizzes (writing projects, unit exams, and vocabulary)
- 30% Classwork, Groupwork, Homework (writer's notebook, grammar, handouts, projects)
- 20% Final Exam-cumulative
- 10% Character and Attendance (participation, effort, tardies)

### **Student and Parent Signature**

(This copy stays in student notebook, please sign attached as well)

**Student Name (Print)** \_\_\_\_\_ **Signature** \_\_\_\_\_

**Parent Signature** \_\_\_\_\_ **Date** \_\_\_\_\_

Last Name, First Name \_\_\_\_\_

Class Period \_\_\_\_\_

**Student Contact Information**

**Main Contact Person**

First & Last Name \_\_\_\_\_

Home # \_\_\_\_\_ Cell # \_\_\_\_\_

Work # \_\_\_\_\_ Email \_\_\_\_\_

**Secondary Contact Person**

First & Last Name \_\_\_\_\_

Home # \_\_\_\_\_ Cell # \_\_\_\_\_

Work # \_\_\_\_\_ Email \_\_\_\_\_

**Student Contact Information**

(Will be used for school business only)

Cell # (optional) \_\_\_\_\_ Email \_\_\_\_\_

**Additional Information**

Do you have a computer at home? \_\_\_\_\_ Do you have Microsoft Word? \_\_\_\_\_

Do you have after school commitments? \_\_\_\_\_  
(sports, clubs, work, etc.)

**Strengths and Needs**

What are your strengths in school? \_\_\_\_\_  
(organization, being on time, doing homework, study skills, etc.)

What area do you need some help? \_\_\_\_\_  
(organization, tardiness, absences, homework, study skills, etc.)

**Student / Parent Signatures**

(By signing below you are stating you have read and agree with the syllabus attached)

Student Signature \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_

Parent Signature \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_



Name \_\_\_\_\_

Date \_\_\_\_\_ Period \_\_\_\_\_

First Week Check off List

It is important to start off the year right and get organized early! The following are a list of supplies and assignments that you earn you easy points this first week. I will initial them when they are completed so that you can keep a record of what you have done or still need to do.

**All supplies are due by Friday, August 28, 2009**

- 3-ring notebook with 4-5 dividers \_\_\_\_\_
- lined paper \_\_\_\_\_
- a 1-subject notebook (5 cents at WalMart; available everywhere)
- 4-5 blue or black pens \_\_\_\_\_
- 2 different colored highlighters \_\_\_\_\_

SIGNED SYLLABUS (+ \_\_\_\_\_/10)

STUDENT CONTACT INFORMATION (+ \_\_\_\_\_/10)

SYLLABUS QUIZ (+ \_\_\_\_\_/10)

EDUCATIONAL AUTOBIOGRAPHY (+ \_\_\_\_\_/25)

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Reflection: What does the following quote mean to you? How can you apply it in what you do this year?

“A man’s rise or fall, success or failure, happiness or unhappiness depends on his attitude...a man’s attitude will create the situation he imagines.”

--James Lane Allen

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