

# ELA Writing Strategies

Instructor: Dale DePalatis

(831) 601-4304

[ddepalatis@carmelunified.org](mailto:ddepalatis@carmelunified.org)

## Course Description

ELA Writing Strategies is designed to support students with academic writing for the college preparatory curriculum.

## Outline of Activities

Students will focus on building skills to meet the Common Core anchor standards for literacy, including the following: organizing complex ideas; developing claims and counterclaims; supporting arguments with reasons and evidence from reputable sources; creating flow through the skilled use of formatting, transitions, vocabulary, and grammar; enhancing style and voice to engage the reader. In addition to engaging in daily lessons on writing strategies, students will practice strong organizational and study habits, work on personal responsibility and advocacy, and have ample time to work on English and other academic assignments with the support of a credentialed and experienced English teacher.

## Materials

Class calendars and assignments will be posted on MySchool, and most work will be completed on student computers and submitted online. Some assignments will require that students use the ancient instruments of paper and pencil, so students are responsible for bringing writing materials to class.

## Assessment

All assignments for this course are aligned with both the California Content Standards for Language Arts and the new Common Core Standards, and students will be assessed on their proficiency with those standards. Grading is either pass or fail based on in-class assignments and participation.

## Expectations and Policies

### Classroom Rules

- Behave appropriately and be courteous to everyone.
- No food or drink in the classroom except water.
- Students should use computers only for school work during class
- No phone or music player use during class

### Late Work Policy

- In English 1, 2, and 3, and Honors English 1, 2, and 3, late work will not be accepted for credit. However, each student will receive four 1-day homework extensions to be used at the student's discretion within the semester. Extensions may not be used to postpone tests or presentations. Each unused extension will convert to extra credit points at the end of the semester.
- For every day of excused absence, students will have one day to make up missed assignments.
- If a student misses a test due to excused absence, it must be completed within one week at a time agreed upon by the teacher and student.

- If a student is truant, any work missed or assignments due may not be accepted for credit.

**Exam Retake Policy**

- Exams may not be retaken.

**Plagiarism Prevention**

- All formal writing assignments, excluding in-class timed writes, must be submitted to turnitin.com.
- In accordance with the CHS Code of Conduct, students who have plagiarized will receive no credit for the essay, and the student will be disciplined. A subsequent plagiarism offense will result in a failing grade in the course.

**Writing Response Time**

- Student writing will be scored, returned, and posted to Aeries within two weeks of submission.
- Extended time may be needed in cases when teacher has collected multiple sets of lengthy essays.

**Revision Policy**

- Students will have the option to revise final drafts of formal writing assignments. In order to qualify for a revision, the original paper must have been submitted on time and meet all the original requirements of the assignment, as designated by the teacher. The maximum grade increase on a revision will be one rubric score.
- Whether to allow multiple revisions of the same assignment is up to the discretion of the teacher.

I have read and understood the course expectations.

---

Student's name (please print)

---

Student's signature

Date

---

Parent or guardian's signature

Date