English 10A Testing Out

The curriculum for English 10A is based on the new national Common Core Standards for English Language Arts. A copy of these standards begins on page 34 of the pdf link below. These are the skills that you should be able to demonstrate at the various grade levels and on which the exams are based.

I Common Core Standards English Language Arts <http://www.corestandards.org/assets/CCSSI_ELA%20Standards.pdf>

II Vocabulary – Please see the attached vocabulary list. These words cross the curriculum and knowledge of them will assist you in reading comprehension in many subject areas. You should be able to define the words from units 1-7 and use them correctly in meaningful sentences.

II Dictionary Usage – You should know how to use the guides in on-line and print dictionaries to determine pronunciation, parts of speech, definitions, syllabication, and stress. This will enable you to use these resources to learn new words on your own throughout your life.

<http://wps.ablongman.com/wps/media/objects/805/824728/apx/henry_apx_e.pdf>

IV Parts of Speech – You should recognize that some words can be used as various parts of speech, depending on the context of the sentences they are in. Take advantage of the “Grammar Handbook” beginning on page 1181 of the English 10 literature anthology entitled *The Language of Literature* and the following link. <http://www.writingcentre.uottawa.ca/hypergrammar/partsp.html>

V Sentence Variety – Please see the attached “Tools for Sentence Variety.” You should be able to identify and write your own unique examples of the first eleven phrases. Though some students may use many of these tools automatically without knowing what they are called, many more only write simplistic, elementary sentences. Practicing the use of these tools will increase sentence variety, which will increase the sophistication of an individual’s writing. Also, recognition of these phrases will help when learning rules of proper punctuation, such as the proper use of commas. More information is located in the English 10 literature anthology entitled *The Language of Literature* on pages 1195-1196.

VI Science Fiction Unit – Please refer to the English 10 literature anthology entitled *The Language of Literature*. You should read the “Strategies for Reading” on page 7, followed by the short stories, poems, etc., up through page 103, taking note of the literary terms throughout. These literary terms may be studied in the “Glossary of Literary Terms” on pages 1124 through 1143. You will be expected to demonstrate an understanding of these terms in reference to these stories, as well as the two required novels that follow.

VII To Kill a Mockingbird

Pre-reading links include historical documents that are related to the history and culture of the setting of the novel.

The Emancipation Proclamation <http://www.archives.gov/exhibits/featured_documents/emancipation_proclamation/transcript.html>

Plessy vs. Ferguson <http://hmscivilwarproject.wikispaces.com/Plessy+vs.+Ferguson>

Jim Crow laws <http://www.ferris.edu/jimcrow/what.htm>

Strange Fruit <http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Web007rzSOI&feature=related>

Once again, pay attention to the themes throughout the novel, as well as the literary elements throughout. Be prepared to answer questions and write in-depth about any of these in your exam.

VIII Lord of the Flies

Pre-reading links are listed below.

Do your own Google search on the atrocities of World War II, which may be graphic.

Biography of author, William Golding: <http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/William_Golding>

Freudian psychology <http://allpsych.com/psychology101/ego.html>

Once again, pay attention to the themes throughout the novel, as well as the literary elements throughout. Be prepared to answer questions and write in-depth about any of these in your exam.

IX Informational reading – Students will be reading various informational pieces on various topics. These informational pieces will include various types of graphs and charts similar to those found in textbooks for social studies and science. You should be able to interpret these types of graphs and charts in addition to the text itself. Students taking the class will also write a research paper that is not based on literature but on informational reading. You should know how to cite sources properly.

X Writing - For review on writing skills necessary for the essay portion of the exam, which will also incorporate the sentence variety tools and literary terms, please see the Writing Handbook on pages 1144 through 1170 of *The Language of Literature* anthology.