

# Reading Strategies and Skills 2019/20

Schoolwide theme “We Rise by Lifting Others”

**Mrs. Kessler - Room H-13**

**English II, Reading and Advanced Placement Literature**

**Key Club, Fandoms Club and Literature Club**

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Dear Students, Parents and/or Legal Guardians;

Welcome to Ponderosa High School Reading Strategies and Skills! I am honored to work with your student this year. It is important to communicate daily with your student about what is happening in class and what is posted on Google calendar. Google calendar is on our class website and it outlines what we are doing in class and most homework assignments. Our class website is **ponderosaenglishkessler.weebly.com**. Our class site can also be found on the school website: **phsbruins.com**

Reading Strategies and Skills -is described in the El Dorado Union High School District Course Directory as an “Elective -Grades 10 -12. A semester or year long course. This course will offer a class to those students whose grades indicate that they are not progressing towards a successful completion of competencies/high school exit exams, or to those students who wish to learn successful reading techniques. Focus will be on reading in all content areas. This class may meet the 4th year English graduation requirement.”

I encourage you to read and discuss all texts with your student. Contact me if you have any questions regarding the course. My email is **tkessler@eduhd.edu.ca.us**

## Reading Strategies and Skill Course Components:

- ❖ Read180 Commonlit. - online programs (Described Below \*)
- ❖ Choice reading / Assigned Reading
- ❖ Vocabulary
- ❖ Work Ethic / Self- Monitoring
- ❖ Reading outside of class on a regular basis
- ❖ Close Reading (Described Below\*\*)
- ❖ Common Core Guidelines: Reading Standards for Literature and Informational Texts: Reading harder texts, “close reading” texts rigorously and intentionally, reading more nonfiction more effectively and to write more effectively in direct response to texts.

\* Read180 and CommonLit- are comprehensive digital and blended print literacy program that help to engage readers and accelerate literacy skills and language development. We use these programs for ELA intervention, supplemental instruction, or English language development. Both provide extensive digital and print libraries, lessons with personalized support and progress tracking. They also provide reading the text aloud, vocabulary and definitions, changeable languages, grade level tracking, multiple choice and short response questions. CommonLit additionally provides parent participation in reading at home, if desired

\*\* Close Reading- is the methodical breaking down of the language and structure of a complex passage to establish and analyze its meaning. Teaching students to do it requires layed reading and asking sequenced, text dependent questions.

**Reading Expectations:** Students are expected to rise to a new reading grade level every quarter. Students will be assessed to evaluate their individual progress, as well as, their reading levels at the beginning of the year and at the end of each semester.

**Make-up work and Office Hours for support or to ask questions about grades are held every Weds and Thurs during lunch.**

**ALL Absent work** (homework, essays or projects) will be accepted as specified in the PHS student handbook: **Homework Make-up Conditions** –*Absence -A total of 2 school days will be allowed to make up each day of excused absence. Students absent due to school-sponsored activities [will be] required by a teacher to make up work before the absence. A student is absent on the day of a test [will be] required to take the test on the day of his/her return. If the absence falls on the day of an assignment due date that was known in advance by the student, the student [will be] required to submit the assignment on that date of the first day they return (taken from page 8 of PHS Student Handbook).*

**Late Work** that is not due to absence or are beyond the number of accepted days for an absence will be accepted for 60% of assigned value regardless of excuses [computer issues etc.] for two weeks beyond the due date. **After two weeks have passed, I will no longer accept late work.**

**No work will be accepted by email or teacher mailbox – all work due at the beginning of class to your teacher.**

**\*All Late Work MUST be turned in directly to the instructor and must have instructor's signature and date on the paper to be accepted. There is no late work box or area for late work to be turned in to. Without instructor's signature and date a paper will not be accepted regardless of excuses.**

**Plagiarization:**

Plagiarization is an act of dishonesty and will be reported.

**Support and Make-ups** - I am available on Wednesdays and Thursdays for make-up work and extra support during lunch.

**Grading Scale:**

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

**Grades will not be rounded and extra credit work will not be provided to raise grades**

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**Reading Strategies and Skills 2019/20**

**Student Name Printed** \_\_\_\_\_

**Student Signature** \_\_\_\_\_

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

*Please cut along dotted line and return the bottom of the signature page by Friday 8/16 for credit.*