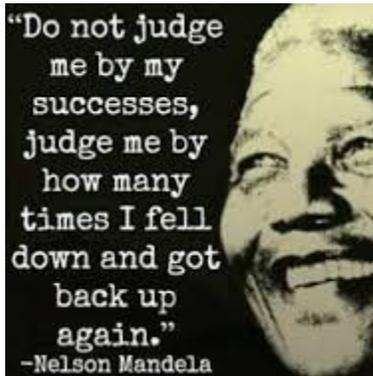


Level 2 English Course Booklet 2017

Endurance

Welcome to Level 2 English

Teacher Ms Tracey Hames
Challenge Level Medium - Low
Possible Credits 17
Style Accessible



“Endurance is one of the most difficult disciplines, but it is to the one who endures that the final victory comes.”

- Buddha -



En-dur-ance (noun) the power to withstand pain or hardships; the ability or strength to continue despite fatigue, stress, or other adverse conditions.

“Hunger, love, pain, fear are some of those inner forces which rule the individual's instinct for self-preservation.”

- Albert Einstein



Course Content

This course will focus on the theme of endurance - how people are resilient and manage to endure difficult situations they come across in the course of their lives.

People endure many challenging situations throughout their lives, some more challenging than others:

- Struggling to survive financially
- Enduring domestic violence
- Relationship breakdown
- Overcoming illness, depression
- Enduring wars
- Living through natural disasters
- Loneliness, bullying, discrimination...

People have different coping mechanisms they may use to endure setbacks:

- Escapism
- Religion/Faith
- Personal improvement
- Focusing on work or study

The aim of focusing on our theme is to understand more about the human condition, and look at how different writers show characters managing to endure and overcome different setbacks and hardships, from domestic situations to the battlefield.

We can relate examples of endurance in stories to our own lives, and consider how a character's ability to endure may then inspire us to endure when situations seem too difficult, too confusing or too scary.

Throughout the year, we will focus on the technical aspects of writing (spelling, punctuation and grammar), as well as the writing and reading processes and the structure of written texts.

We will analyse a variety of written and visual texts, developing your critical thinking, analysis and literacy skills, whilst ensuring that you are engaged by making content accessible and 'keeping it real'.

“Man can live about forty days without food, about three days without water, about eight minutes without air, but only for one second without hope.”

- Charles Darwin

Standards Being Assessed

Code	Standard	Title		Credits
2.1	AS 91098	Analyse specified aspect(s) of studied written text(s), supported by evidence	External	4
2.4	AS 91101	Produce a selection of crafted and controlled writing	Internal	6
2.5	AS 91102	Construct and deliver a crafted and controlled oral text	Internal	3
2.9	AS 91106	Form developed personal response to independently read texts, supported by evidence	Internal	4
	4 standards		25% External Assessment	Total Credits 17

Course Rationale

In this course, we will work closely together to develop your skills such as the interpretation of texts, formal and creative writing, and creating personal responses to help you successfully complete the requirements for Level 2 literacy.

The Level 2 English course at Mt Aspiring College is, for many students, a culmination of over a decade of learning in the areas of language and communication. By this stage, the students will be very sophisticated in their approach to the use of English, and the Level Two NCEA courses are designed to enable them to further develop their critical thinking faculties and to begin to find their own voice.

As eight Level Two NCEA credits in Reading and Writing are a prerequisite for University Entrance, the emphasis in this course is consolidating the students' skills in the mechanics of the language (accuracy in spelling, punctuation and grammar are essential components of a number of the Level 2 Achievement Standards). As well as this, we aim to develop the students' ability to express themselves, their personal responses to texts, and ideas with fluency and persuasiveness.

Each teacher selects novels, plays, stories, poetry, films and other primary material both to suit the interests and needs of the students in their classes, and about which they are personally passionate. We strive to challenge, motivate and inspire our students by exposing them to literature that is original, relevant and of a high standard.

Assessment

The course will be assessed using a range of NCEA assessment tools which will be selected from the table on the following page. In contrast to other NCEA Subjects at Mount Aspiring College, the English Department does not pre-determine the assessments that will be run for each class during any given year.

This decision is made in consultation with parents and students and is guided by the following principles:

- Ample opportunity is given to students to achieve the New Zealand Universities' "Literacy" criteria, both through internal and external assessments
- All areas of learning in English should be assessed throughout the year
- Assessment should happen only once a student has developed the requisite knowledge and skill to tackle the task effectively
- The opportunity to gain enough credits in English to continue to Level 3 at Mount Aspiring College (16 Credits) is guaranteed.

Remember: The literacy requirement for University Entrance is achieved by gaining 10 credits from English (5 reading + 5 writing credits). Tertiary institutions such as Otago University have implemented changes so that students intending to enrol into most university courses will be divided into one of two categories - Preferential Entry or Competitive Entry. If a student has achieved NCEA Level 2 with a Merit or Excellence endorsement they would have gained Preferential Entry. This then guarantees a place at the university *provided* that University Entrance is gained at NCEA Level 3.

English Department Policies

Submission of work

Teachers will only accept hard-copies of students' work. Electronic copies will no longer be accepted. When submitting your work you need to follow the guidelines below:

- In the first instance hand it to your teacher
- If they are unavailable, hand it into the office or another English department member

The work must be signed and dated to verify when it was submitted.

Assessment and Reassessment Opportunities

During assessment teachers can validly make suggestions about areas where further development is needed (this is acceptable in the 'hands on' phase), but constructive feedback should not compromise the authenticity of students' work.

In the final phases of the assessment ('hands off' phase), it is the student's responsibility to polish their work to a publication standard.

The Achievement Standards offered in this course may be resubmitted (this is at the teacher's discretion). However, if a student does not achieve in their resubmission attempt, then a reassessment opportunity may be offered to students. This opportunity will only be offered to students who have shown a reasonable initial effort and who can demonstrate that further learning has occurred since the initial assessment opportunity.

All reassessments are composed of an entirely different assessment task. These will be completed during a time that is organised by the department. The English department has the right to set final dates for submissions and these will be clearly stated by your classroom teacher.

Feedback

This will be given in class, on your work and in Kamar. You can talk about your progress and draft work with your teacher during class time or by organising a one-on-one meeting. Your teacher will respond to your emails during office hours (9am – 5pm, Monday to Friday) so please ensure you don't leave questions about your assessment work until the last minute.

Authenticity Statement

The English Department has an Authenticity Statement, which students are to sign when submitting an assessment. This signifies that the work is the student's own and safe-guards students from the dangers of plagiarism.



ENGLISH DEPARTMENT

ASSESSMENT AUTHENTICITY STATEMENT

Instructions:

This Authenticity Statement is to be confirmed and signed, by all students and their teacher, when submitting an English internal assessment

Name of School: MOUNT ASPIRING COLLEGE, ENGLISH DEPARTMENT

Student Name: _____

Year Level: _____ Year: _____

Assessment title: _____

Student:

- I understand that all the work I submit for assessment must be my own
- I have read and understand the School's assessment requirements and the consequences of submitting material for assessment that is not my own
- I understand that I must not receive undue assistance or the unauthorised help of others in the preparation of my assessment work
- I understand that I must acknowledge in an appropriate manner all information and sources of assistance used in my assessment work
- I will not allow other students to access or copy any of my assessment work.

Student Declaration:

I hereby declare that I have read the above statement and that all the material I submit for assessment is entirely my own and meets all of the School's assessment requirements.

Signed: _____ Date: _____
Student

Signed: _____ Date: _____
Teacher