American Lit/Essay 1 and 2
Week One/August 31-September 6

Binder sections: Class Notes- The Class notes handout you fill in during class. Turn these in at end of semester for credit.
Novel - Put all journaling and study guides pertaining to current novel we are reading
Essays-Any handouts and your finished essays
Assignment sheets - the weekly assignment sheets with any miscellaneous assignments behind it
History- History study guides such as Era of Change, quizzes, and history credit assignments.
Poetry - we will not use this until the spring semester.

"... in view of Infinite Purity, we are sinners all alike... the holiest among us has but attained so far above his fellows as to discern more clearly the Mercy which looks down, and repudiate the phantom of human merit which would look aspiringly upward."

DAY ONE
Signature needed: Have your parent read and sign the back of this assignment sheet.
Copy the above quote onto the first page of your Journal section of your notebook. Be as neat as possible. Use colored pencil if you'd like and decorate the page.

DAY TWO
Begin The Scarlet Letter. You do NOT have to read The Custom House. Begin with Chapter 1.
Consider listening to an audible version such as one from the library or the free ones on librivox.com
*Journal- As you come across the introduction of the characters listed below, stop reading and write a description of your first impressions of these characters: 1. The Crowd, 2. The Building and it's door, 3. the rosebush.

DAY THREE
Vocabulary for this class-each week you will be responsible to write up 5 vocabulary words on a piece of notebook paper. You should write the word, it's definition, part of speech, and use it in a sentence. You should pick these words from your reading in the current novel for class. You will turn this paper in each week. So...
Do: 5 vocabulary words.
Read chapter 2 of The Scarlet Letter.
*Journal- As you come across the introduction of the characters listed below, stop reading and write a description of your first impressions of the following characters: 1. Hester Prynne, 2. women in crowd, 3. misshapen scholar.

DAY FOUR
Please note: If you would like to be considered for Essay 2 (WAL2), please complete the WAL2 essay assignment in addition to the essay on self.

WAL1
Essay on Self: You will have an essay due week 3 about yourself. Today I want you to write an outline for your essay. Your essay will have three paragraphs, so your outline will have three sections. For each of the following sections, write 5-6 facts you will include in your outline.
I. Myself as a student in general and as a student studying American Literature.
II. Myself as a member of my particular family.
III. Myself as a member of the body of Christ.

WAL2:
Prepare a "Rule of 5" essay about someone you consider to be your hero, not in the super-hero sense, but in the sense of a person you greatly admire and respect. Find two quotes from outside sources to use in your essay. You will write the essay next week.

Organize: your binder. Each week when you receive your graded assignments, organize them into your binder.

Optional Honors:
Read: at tabnet.com/amlit Emerson's Self-Reliance. Read as much as you can in 1 hour.
Take: one page of notes on what you read.
AMERICAN LITERATURE - Note to Parents

My e-mail address: lynndt83@gmail.com.

It is important you e-mail me with questions as they arise so that you are able to complete your assignments on time. If you do not hear back from me within 6 hours of e-mailing me, I most likely did not get your e-mail. Try again or call.

Phone # for last minute/emergency 847-707-1133

Supplies:
1. 2 1/2 - 3" 3-ring binder
2. 5 dividers for the binder
   - Label: Assignment Sheets, Class Notes, Journaling, Essays, History, Poetry (not until Spring semester)
3. Loose-leaf Notebook paper for weekly work. (NOTE: Do not use spiral notebook paper)
4. Pen. All work submitted must be written in pen or typed.
5. Your own copy of the novels to be read. You need to be able to take notes in your novel.

   Semester One you need The Scarlet Letter, Johnny Tremain, and Uncle Tom's Cabin.

Bring to class each week:
- Assignments stapled to assignment sheet.
- current novel we are reading
- Writing About Literature - only when I e-mail you and tell you to bring it.
- pen for writing

Daily Assignments:
1. You will receive an assignment sheet each week.
2. Your Parents MUST sign the assignment sheet each week. This indicates student has completed all work not being turned-in
3. Assignments marked with an "*" are to be brought to class each week. This is essential
4. Assignments labeled "turn-in" are to be stapled behind assignment sheet. (Exception: Essays)
5. Responsibility for submitting assignments is yours. Please leave your package of stapled assignment sheet to assignments on the table each week.
6. Completion of assignments is critical to class time.
7. You are expected to contribute to class time from your completed assignments. Please bring them to class each week.
8. Completion of all assignments is necessary in order for me to grant you a grade at the end of each semester.
9. You are allowed 2 grace weeks per semester. This means in the case of illness or family vacation, I will except assignments one week late. In other cases, work will be given a zero. Grading late work is not only inconvenient for me, but it means you aren't prepared for class and not able to benefit from class time.
10. If you need additional grace weeks due to a family or health crises, please have a parent contact me to discuss.
11. This class has an honors option: Mostly you are allowed 2 grace weeks per semester. This involves additional reading from an anthology and answering 2-5 questions per week.
12. It is critical you have access either personally or through a parent to an e-mail address you check daily. In order to develop writing skills, frequent feedback is necessary. This is achieved via e-mail. Before each essay can be written, you must receive teacher approval on your CI/TS sentences. This is granted via e-mail.
13. CI/TS approval is the student's. This will make more sense to you and your student in a few weeks. :-)

Grading:
- All homework grading will have 2 components. A bottom grade is the total number of possible points; the top grade is the number of points you earned for your work. To equate this with a letter grade, simply divide the top number by the bottom number and you will have your percentage for the assignment. We will have a midterm and a semester final.

Audit Option:
1. This option is for those students who do not need the English High School credit. This will be some 7th or 8th graders (although your student may take the class while in these grades and use it on their high school transcript) or it may be students whose parents prefer to use the class for certain aspects and fill in the rest of the credit requirements through their own homeschool.
2. Audit Option Students are expected to complete assignments in order to participate in class. This will include reading of Assigned Reading Books, Plays, Study questions for reading material (although some of this may be skipped). As the semester gets underway, you and your student will get a feel for what is necessary for class time.
3. I will provide feedback and a grade on any work submitted, but will not keep track of what is or isn't being submitted. I also will not send a final semester grade.
4. This option can be flexible. If there is a way to individualize it for your student, please contact me

All Parents:
 Please, please, please always contact me if your student is getting discouraged, not comprehending the material, or if you have questions of any kind. It is not your job to teach class material to your student. It is only your job to see what work is being completed and let me know when student is not able to complete their material. I welcome questions of any kind, no matter how small they may seem. As a homeschooling mom of six kids (most high school and college graduates now!), I know how hard it is to stay abreast of everything. Rather than you reading through all of the course material to figure out the answer, ask me. I know the material backwards and forwards!

Grace and peace,
Lynn Tabb

Parent signature:

My student will be taking the course as (Check which one(s) applies):

__________________________  _______________________
____ Full Credit Option   ____ Audit Option