

Writing Assignments (WA)

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Writing Assignments will be assigned every few weeks. They take on a variety of formats: writing your own autobiography; reflecting on the math that you learned; teaching a lesson in class; reading an article about studying math and writing a reaction; creating an object of art.

Yes, you will be writing in math class. All mathematicians write—explanations of proofs, dissertations, research projects, essays, etc—so you will be no different.

The WA topic and specific instructions to complete it will be given to you in class at the beginning of the two-week period. Do not lose it. Your grade is based on how well you complete the WA and how well you follow instructions. All rules and regulations that are followed in your English class are to be followed here: no plagiarism, proper citations, typical margins and typeface, proper resources (ie no WIKIPEDIA), proper grammar and punctuation, etc.

WA will be graded on a scale from 1 – 10. If the specific instructions are followed, on-time papers will automatically receive a 7 (average). A higher grade (above average) is awarded when you go beyond what is asked, in proper format. A 6 or 7 can be rewritten for an 8 if completed in a specific time period. Below a 6 is unacceptable and you will be required to redo the entire assignment, for a late grade. Grammar, spelling and punctuation errors will decrease your chance at a 9 or 10.

WA are due on a Friday—each specific date will be listed on the assignment sheet. You have two+ weeks to complete it, including weekends free from homework, so no excuses. Plan accordingly; implement time management. It is due on that day, during your class period, or it will be considered late. If you are absent from school that ENTIRE day, turn it in on the next day you are in SCHOOL. If you are absent from class that day (off-campus excused), it is due by the end of the day. Late papers will be graded accordingly.

Materials

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Materials are what you need to bring to class EVERYDAY in order to succeed. If you don't have them, not only will you lose points, you may not be able to participate in the class activity—therefore stifling your learning. (And we don't want that!)

Supplies needed EVERYDAY in class:

- Pencil (and eraser)
- Homework Notebook (HWNB)—with completed homework
- Classwork Notebook (CWNB)
- Binder—with Current Green Sheet, Hall Passes, Partner sheet, course expectations [I suggest a plastic sheet protector for these three—you don't want to lose them], returned/graded papers & graph paper
- Colored pens (@ least 2 different colors)
- Ruler*

Supplies needed PERIODICALLY in class:

(You will be given advanced notice when you need to bring these. And you must have them THAT DAY or you will lose points.)

- Textbook—with YOUR name in it IN INK
- Markers, colored pencils

GEOMETRY: compass*; protractor*; scientific calculator

ALGEBRA 2: graphing calculator

Note: These * items are always in my classroom, so they are available for use when you need it. However, if my materials are broken or stolen, they will not be replaced! Be honest and be careful!

I WILL NOT KEEP YOUR TEXTBOOK IN MY CLASSROOM!

There are certain **supplies in the classroom**. You may use them while you are in class—but treat them as your own. IF IT BREAKS OR DISAPPEARS, I WILL NOT BUY NEW and ALL my students will then go without—because of you. Please be careful and please don't steal.

3-hole punch; staplers; markers; colored pencils; pencil sharpeners

There are also certain **supplies in the classroom** that periodically we all need for some reason or another—or perhaps that another student cannot afford. I would like to be able to give these to you when you need it, but it gets expensive for me too. So for **bonus points** you may bring in any and all of the above, plus anything from the list below. (See my **website**, under **ANNOUNCEMENTS**, for the bonus point requirements.)

Kleenex; Scratch paper (back side and such); binders; pencils; pens; Post-its; Lead (5mm & 7mm); scotch tape refills; plastic holders; colored paper; index cards; rulers; etc.

Daily Points

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DAILY POINTS

Every day you will be awarded three (3) points—just for showing up, you get those points. That's 15 points each week. Easy!

However, those points can easily be deducted and you CANNOT get them back!

POINT DEDUCTIONS:

You will AUTOMATICALLY **LOSE ONE (1) POINT** for:

No Materials: those required daily AND those required for that day—any or all of them missing

No Homework: it must be completed before class starts

Not Working: you must be in your seat working BEFORE the bell AND continue working throughout the class period

You will AUTOMATICALLY **LOSE ALL THREE (3) POINTS** for:

Breaking the rules including: Chewing gum; wearing a head covering (hats, hoods, scarves, etc.); interrupting class; inappropriate language; eating and/or drinking; mouthing off; using (or having visible) unapproved electronics; misusing hall passes; **Being a bad citizen**

"What if I'm absent?" you ask.

An **official, excused absence** will get you the points AS SOON AS you make up the work you missed and show it to me! You are responsible for all this! I will not remind you and I will NOT do it for you.

Any **unexcused absence** will NOT get you the points.

You need to give me the readmit at the beginning of class. No readmit, no readmission—go get it! If the unexcused becomes excused—you need to show me the new readmit outside of class to get the points back!

HOMEROOM

We are lucky enough to be together for an extra 10 minutes this year! From 9:18am to 9:28am is your homeroom time. The Pledge, announcements, voting, ticket buying, and other school related activities happen during this 10 minutes. Some days this is sufficient time, others it is not. We'll adapt and adjust—but we need our 56 Geometry minutes together!

All rules and regulations of the school and classroom apply during Homeroom. You will still be in your seat BEFORE the bell rings; no hats, electronics, gum, food, etc. as usual. AND there is one other rule that I will strictly enforce (meaning the LEAST that will happen is that you automatically lose your Daily Points if I even have to look your way!):

NO TALKING DURING THE ANNOUNCEMENTS—

not during the Pledge, not during the PA announcements, not during MY announcements, not during the Reps announcements, not during any announcements.

I cannot force you to listen, but I demand that you NOT TALK!!

It is ONLY 10+ minutes. There is PLENTY you can do during 10 minutes that does not require you opening your mouth! For example: work on your green sheet; check your HWNB with a friend's (that you borrow BEFORE the bell); DO your HW (if you have a book!); copy notes from yesterday—or compare notes to see if you missed anything; read your English chapter, Chemistry assignment or History lesson; read one of my bulletin board articles or borrow a magazine to browse; grade green sheets/papers for me; sleep. Whatever it is you need to do (that is legal!) so that you don't talk, do it!

And then there's the Pledge of Allegiance. . .