

Wachusett Regional High School

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English Department Philosophy on Homework

WRHS English classes are process classes devoted to developing student facility at critical thinking. In their English classes, students must make a concerted effort to become better communicators. This effort can take many forms, but occurs most frequently in discussion – listening and speaking; reading; and writing. English homework, then, aims at giving students practice with these forms, with the goal of gradually improving students' communication, analytical, and reasoning skills.

Regarding homework in English classes, we hold that:

- All students receive English homework in all classes and all levels.
- English homework links directly to class lessons and is an extension of what is taking place in class at that time. This greatly affects whether, or under what conditions, a teacher accepts late homework assignments.
- English homework frequently extends over time – as in chapters from a novel that must be read over a week or two; an essay/critique or research or other project that requires work over several days.
- Students have other classes and other demands on their time; therefore, English homework assignments are reasonable in their time commitments.
- Because students read and write at different speeds, the amount of time it takes students to complete English homework assignments may vary within any given class. Teachers assign homework with an eye on what the average student can complete in a reasonable amount of time.