

# College Preparatory Or Honors English: Which level is best for you?



Welcome to Pacific Trails! At PTMS, we have two levels of English classes in both seventh and eighth grade: College Preparatory and Honors English. College Preparatory classes provide a rigorous curriculum that meets the needs of the majority of students. Honors classes are designed for students who have a high aptitude for English language arts.

Parents have often asked which placement is best for their student. Please use this guide to help determine if College Preparatory English or Honors English is the best placement. SDUHSD supports open access to all courses of study and this guide is meant to help direct you to make the best choice to support your student. The middle school represents foundational skill building for English Language Arts and appropriate placement is essential. Keep in mind, both levels will prepare students for opportunity to advance to Honors levels at the high school.

Please take the time to review the following descriptions with your student to make an informed decision about placement:

## College Preparatory English

- Reads outside of school with the prompting of a parent.
- Does writing assignments when assigned in class.
- May take notes on a consistent basis in the classroom.
- Has emerging organizational skills.
- Talks casually about literature and stories outside of the classroom.
- Appreciates a moderate pace that allows for review.
- Enjoys teacher-facilitated discussion in the classroom.
- Is directed learners who find joy in exploring inside of the classroom.

## Honors English

- Reads for enjoyment often outside of school.
  - Writes poetry and stories in their free time as a form of recreation.
  - Understands how to take notes and follow directions without prompting.
  - Has well developed organizational skills.
  - Talks analytically about literature and stories outside of the classroom.
  - Appreciates an accelerated pace and workload in and outside of the classroom.
  - Enjoys leading discussions within the classroom.
  - Is a self-directed learner who find joy in exploring more outside of the classroom.
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