

English Language Portfolio



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All assignment can be found in English classroom

Introduction and Explanation

During the whole school year, you will be getting English assignments to do at home. These assignments will centre around the four language skills: reading, writing, listening(&watching) and speaking. You will get a variety of assignments all usually focussing on one or two of these skills.

What is the goal of the language portfolio?

The goal of this portfolio is twofold. First, it is aimed at supporting and practicing your English language development and skills on your own outside the classroom. Second, it is aimed at preparing you for the school examinations and the central examination. You will find out for yourself what you're good at and for which skills you need some more practice.

It is also important for me that you are able to choose most of your own material; if I ask you to read an article, pick something that you're interested in! At the end, this portfolio will thus partly reflect your own personality.

Objectives

- ❑ Learners will develop their listening, speaking, reading, and writing skills by exposing themselves to a wide variety of assignments
- ❑ Learners will engage in reading English novels and short stories and write reports on them.
- ❑ Learners will prepare themselves for the school examinations by completing special assignments.
- ❑ Learners will work individually outside the classroom .

How does it work?

In this bundle you'll find detailed explanations of all the different assignments. If you have any questions about an assignment talk to me. You will find everything you need in your English Classroom.

Language

As this is a language portfolio, you will do all of your assignments in **ENGLISH!** I don't want to read a word of Dutch or any other language in there. All the material you need to discuss (books, movies, songs etc) will also have to be made originally in English, so no translations are allowed.

Deadlines

With each assignment, there is a deadline. It is important for you to make your own planning. **USE YOUR WEEKLY PLANNERS.** I know you get these kinds of assignments for many of your other subjects, but if I give you the deadlines at the beginning of the school year, there should be no excuses for delays! You should be able to plan accordingly. If you can't make a deadline for a very good reason come and talk to me.

Padlet Portfolio

You will make your own PADLET PORTFOLIO. Use the programme padlet (<https://nl.padlet.com>). Share all your assignments in the padlet and share the link of your padlet in **SOM**. This is the only way so **DO NOT** use my email. I will not accept any assignment handed in by mail. You can hand in your assignment from the beginning of the term until the deadline.

Choices

With some of the assignments you'll get a choice between writing a text or making a voice recording. However, it is important to vary between them; Do not choose the same skill each time! You also often get to choose your own material (books/movies/songs/...). This to ensure that you choose something you're interested in, making it more fun for yourself.

You will also get one **wildcard**, this means that you can choose to skip one assignment, except for the three book assignments and the culture presentation; everyone has to do those. If you want to skip an assignment, you will have to let me know **before the deadline**. If I haven't heard anything on the day before the deadline, I expect you to hand something in, or face the consequences.

USE YOUR OWN WORDS or sources

Plagiarism is something very attractive to students, especially if they only start on an assignment very late. The definition of plagiarism according to Oxford Dictionary is: "The practice of taking someone else's work or ideas and passing them off as one's own."

Note that if I notice you've copied something from the Internet or from anywhere else, you will get a zero immediately.

You are allowed to use sources. However, if you do this, you are obligated to mention your source and exactly which part comes from the source and which you've thought of yourself. If you have any more questions about this, contact me and I will gladly help you

ANY QUESTIONS ASK YOUR TEACHER!!

Deadlines

ASSIGNMENTS	DEADLINES
1. ARTICLES 2. MUSIC	23 OKTOBER
3. BOOK 1	18 DECEMBER
4. MOVIE/ SERIES 5. VLOG	19 FEBRUARI
6. TED TALK 7. SHORT STORY	15 APRIL
8. BOOK 2	20 MEI
9. CULTURE PRESENTATION	Datum volgt
10. BOOK 3	17 JUNI

Skills for each assignment

ASSIGNMENT	READING	LISTENING/ WATCHING	WRITING	SPEAKING
1: ARTICLE				
2: MUSIC				
3: BOOK 1				
4: MOVIE				
5: VLOG/ SPEAKING				
6: TED TALK				
7: SHORT STORY				
8: BOOK 2				
9: CULTURE PRESENTATION				
10. BOOK 3				

As you can see, you get ample choice (lighter boxes) between either writing or speaking. However, you are not allowed to choose the same skill each time. As there are 4 assignments where you can choose, you have to choose each skill twice!

Assignments

Assignment 1: Articles

Skills: reading and writing/speaking

For this assignment you will look for and read 2 articles of at least 1 page from an English language newspaper or magazine. Your articles have to be either general or about current affairs and can be no older than six months. You can choose it yourself, so choose one you understand and find interesting!

Examples of English newspapers are The Daily Telegraph, The Guardian, The Times and The Independent; examples of American newspapers: The New York Times, The Washington Post. All of these newspapers have a website where you can read articles for free.

Find a text in a newspaper of at least 1 page. You can find the texts online:

USA	UK
Wall Street Journal: online.wsj.com	The Telegraph: www.telegraph.co.uk
USA Today: www.usatoday.com	The Financial Times: www.ft.com/home/uk
New York Times: www.nytimes.com	The Observer: observer.guardian.co.uk
Los Angeles Times: www.latimes.com	The Independent: www.independent.co.uk
Daily News: www.nydailynews.com	The Times: www.thetimes.co.uk/tto/news
New York Post: www.nypost.com	The Guardian: www.guardian.co.uk
Washington Post: www.washingtonpost.com	The Sun: www.thesun.co.uk/sol/homepage

Text from the BBC-website:

Find a text on the BBC-website of at least 500 words. You can find the website here:

<https://www.bbc.com/news>

<https://www.bbc.com/news/topics/cv1v5k4n4p5t/young-people>

What to do after reading:

Go to your English classroom and do the assignment for the 2 articles you have read.

You can choose between two skills:

1) writing:

2) speaking

Use your own words: do not copy whole sentences from the article!

Put your assignment in your padlet and share the link in SOM

Assignment 2 : Music

Skills: listening and writing/speaking

The idea of this music assignment is that you pick an event from current affairs and compose a playlist of 3 songs that would fit your event in one way or another. The event you choose can be a specific occurrence or some kind of trend happening all around the world, but it cannot be older than six months.

The first thing you will have to do is briefly explain the event you have chosen (what happened, where, who is involved etc). Next, pick your songs; you can be creative here. These songs have to be in English, obviously. For each song, briefly sketch what the song is about in general. Then give the reason why it fits your event and quote a few lines of the lyrics to support your argument.

You have two choices here: either write everything down, or make a video/recording of yourself explaining everything. There is no need to hand in the full lyrics, using Google is a valuable skill that I have mastered almost perfectly.

You will find the whole assignment in your English classroom.

Put your assignment in your padlet and share the link in SOM.

Assignment 3: Book 1

Skills: reading, writing and speaking

For this assignment you will read an ENGLISH book, answer some questions about it. You will have to make a book report. You will have to read 3 books in total this year. WHY !?? BECAUSE you need this for your first exams next year.

First step: choose a book. In your English classroom, there is a book list with all kinds of books to choose from. All the books are ranked with a system of stars, the books of one star being the easiest, obviously. You need to read 3 books this school year, and you have to collect at least **4 stars** in total. You are not obligated to choose a book from the list, but if you choose a book that is not on the list, you will need my permission to read it! Your book has to be written in English originally, you can check this somewhere on the first few pages. Based on the impression I get from the book, I will give it a star rating.

IMPORTANT : you cannot read the same book twice (obviously) or two books from the same author. This rule goes over the years; if you've read one Harry Potter book, you cannot read another HP book. SOME GOOD ADVICE: READ your books!!!! It really helps with your exam assignment next year. Do you have problems with reading books , ask my advice !!!I will gladly help you choose a good book.

For those among you thinking of cheating: if you have not read the book, I will quickly find out when checking your book report.

PLAN YOUR BOOK READING CAREFULLY AND KEEP YOUR DEADLINE IN MIND

Next step: analyse the book. You will do this by making a book report which you can find in your English Classroom. The questions are about the themes, time, place, your opinion etc. **Last step: Put your assignment in your padlet and share the link in SOM.**

Assignment 4: Movie/ Series

Skills: watching and writing/speaking

Simply put: pick 1 movie and 1 Netflix series watch it and review it.

You can pick any movie or Netflix series you like. Review your movie or series in around one page or two minutes. So you can choose between writing and speaking for this assignment.

You can find the assignment in your English classroom.

A review mostly tells of your own opinion of the movie, which has to be based on valid arguments. Do not tell too much of the story and definitely do not reveal how it will end! Think of your audience as people who haven't seen the movie; convince them to either watch it or not.

Put your assignment in your padlet and share the link in SOM.

Assignment 5: Vlog

Skills: speaking

Although you probably have a better idea of what a vlog is than I do, I'll explain it anyway. A vlog is a video blog, usually around the same person/subject. You are going to think of something you're passionate about, and make three videos about it, of at least one minute each (with a maximum of three minutes per video). Your videos have to be about the same subject and they have to include you speaking most of the time (as you will get points for speaking). You could, for example, make make-up tutorials if you're passionate about make-up or explain soccer strategy if you're a sports fan.

Put your assignment in your padlet and share the link in SOM.

Assignment 6: Ted Talk

Skills: watching and speaking/writing

The website of TED (www.ted.com) holds over 2500 so-called TED talks and adds more every day. These talks vary in length and are about all kinds of imaginable subjects. In these talks, one person (usually an expert) talks about a specific subject. If this all sounds vague, just visit the page, click around a bit and you'll find out for yourself. Go to "watch" and then "TED talks" to filter the videos on subject/duration/...

First step for the assignment: choose a talk that interests you, that is in English and that is at least 6 minutes long. You can find subtitles and even a full transcript of the spoken text to help you understand it. The next thing you will have to do is summarise your talk in around half a page of text or one minute of video/recording.

Lastly, think about the use of your specific talk: what kind of people would enjoy it or be able to use

it? In what fields of life or study would this talk be most appreciated? Do you think your fellow students would enjoy watching it and why (not)? End by very briefly giving your own opinion on the talk you chose. This part should also be around half a page or one minute.

When writing a text or making a video, make sure all of the necessary information on the talk itself is mentioned (title, speaker, date) so that I can easily find it.

Put your assignment in your padlet and share the link in SOM.

Assignment 7: Short Story

Skills: reading and writing/speaking

For this assignment you will look for 1 short stories and read them. You can choose the stories yourself, so choose one you understand and find interesting! Below some tips where to find short stories.

Short story:

You can find short stories on:

www.eastoftheweb.com	www.americanliterature.com
www.classicshorts.com	www.shortstoryarchive.com

What to do after reading:

Go to your English classroom and do the assignment for the 1 short stories you have read.

You can choose between two skills:

1) writing:

2) speaking

Use your own words: do not copy whole sentences from the article!

Put your assignment in your padlet and share the link in SOM.

Assignment 8: Book 2

Skills: reading, writing and speaking

For all of the information on this assignment, read the explanation under 'Book 1'.

This will be your second book.

Assignment 9: Culture Presentation

Skills: reading, writing, listening, speaking

Your teacher will explain the whole assignment to you and you will get a padlet and a lessonup to help you understand what you have to do.

Assignment 10: Book 3

Skills: reading, writing and speaking

For all of the information on this assignment, read the explanation under 'Book 1'.

This book will be your third book.