How Do I Improve My Grade in Mr. Johnson’s Class?

One of the tenants of Mr. Johnson’s classes is all students know how to be successful. In pursuit of this goal, I have created this check list of steps to turn the disappointment of a poor assessment grade to the satisfaction of mastering an academic skill. Follow the steps below to become a more reflective learner and to use assessment as a learning tool.

**Step 1: Where did it all go wrong?**

When you get a “re-submittable” assignment, you will also receive a rubric that will include your attainment (grade/performance against the standard) and comments to help you improve. For World History, you can resubmit any assignment that did not meet the standard, but if you met the standard, resubmissions are not accepted. Please review the comments on your paper and clarify with Mr. Johnson those you do not understand. If you are clear on what you need to do to improve you learning, skip to step 3.

**Step 2: Who can I ask for help?**

Mr. Johnson is always happy to setup 1 on 1 time to conference with students about their assessments. The best way to schedule some time is to send Mr. Johnson an email with a few times before school, during break, either lunch or right after school to meet. Mr. Johnson will then send you a confirmation email of the meeting time. You can also schedule a meeting in person but make sure to write the agreed time on the white board because Mr. Johnson forgets stuff. ☺

Regardless of how you make an appointment, do your very best to keep it. If you know you can’t make an appointment with Mr. Johnson, just send an email with an alternative and he will be happy to reschedule.

You can also ask your peers for suggestions on how to improve and tips they have found helpful. Education is a collective process and we all have a duty to ensure the success of our learning community.

**Step 3: Where do I work on my resubmission?**

For most of the assessments, you can complete them at home/in the library on your own time. There are a few exceptions but Mr. Johnson will let you know about those as they arise. If you need access to a computer and are having trouble finding one, just come in to Mr. Johnson’s room when he is not teaching and you can borrow one of his Chrome Books.

**Step 4: What do I do with my resubmission when it is complete?**

When you are finished, attach your resubmission to your original assessment. Make sure your name is on both and submit them in the silver basket on Mr. Johnson’s desk (nowhere else, unless specifically instructed by Mr. Johnson).

**Step 5: What’s next?**

Mr. Johnson will take a look and grade your resubmission as if it is brand new. The turnaround time will vary depending on what other work has been submitted. Mr. Johnson always prioritizes new work that was submitted on time over late work and/or resubmissions. If you really need an assessment looked at because of impending consequences (activity eligibility, parental panic, etc…), let Mr. Johnson know and he can probably help you out.

When you receive your resubmission back from Mr. Johnson and are content with your new attainment, file it away in case there is a later discrepancy in Synergy. If you are still not satisfied with your performance, return to step 1 and “rinse and repeat.’