

CURRICULUM OVERVIEW

English I Fundamentals



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English I Fundamentals Course Overview

Students will build on the sequential development and integration of communication skills in four major areas: reading, writing, speaking, and listening. Students will strengthen a foundation of understanding of the structure of language and grammar, and use this knowledge to write persuasive essays, professional career documents, focused research projects, literary analyses, and informational/explanatory texts. Students will also engage in speaking and listening activities that incorporate media and technology. In addition, students will read and comprehend a variety of literature, including poetry, drama, and novels. As a result of the reading, writing, speaking, and listening students will do in this course, they will grow their vocabulary and their understanding of how to communicate effectively by making skillful choices when expressing themselves with language.

- **Unit 1: Reading and Writing:** Students will build vocabulary strategies to use when reading and writing, including the use of context clues, denotation, connotation, word parts, and etymology; in addition, students collect strategies for active listening.
- **Unit 2: The Structure of Language:** Students will examine the purpose and use of a variety of parts of speech, including nouns, verbs, adverbs, phrases, and clauses; students will explore the various types of informal and formal letters, including constructing a properly formatted business letter.
- **Unit 3: Language Use and Language History:** Students will explore the nature and history of the English language, in addition to the meaning and purpose of analogies, gerunds, participles, and various verb tenses.
- **Unit 4: Researching a Complex Process:** Students will build a complex understanding of the process and practice of research, including documentation and citation, determining reliable sources, viewing and utilizing visuals and media, and constructing an essay and oral presentation based on this research process.
- **Unit 5: Practical Persuasion:** Students will strengthen their knowledge of persuasive strategies in reading and writing, including writing and delivering an original persuasive speech.
- **Unit 6: Mass Media:** Students will examine and interpret aspects of mass media, including visual elements, bias, fallacies, and reliability.
- **Unit 7: Poetry and Short Stories:** Students will examine the fundamentals of poetry and short stories and write and revise a literary analysis essay based on a short story from the unit.
- **Unit 8: *The Odyssey*:** Students will explore Homer's Greek epic, *The Odyssey*, interpreting characters, events, setting, cultural context, and themes.
- **Unit 9: *Romeo and Juliet*:** Students will read Shakespeare's *Romeo and Juliet*, interpreting characters, events, setting, and themes.
- **Unit 10: Studies in the Novel:** Students will trace the definition and development of the novel genre, specifically reading *Twenty Thousand Leagues Under the Sea*, interpreting characters, events, setting, and themes.

Unit 1: Reading and Writing		
English I Fundamentals	Assignments	
	1. Course Overview	13. Listening
	2. Word Meanings	14. Using Visual Aids
	3. Word Parts	15. Essay: The Value of Visual Aids*
	4. Determining the Author's Message	16. Speaking
	5. Reading Strategies	17. Project: Effective Oral Reading*
	6. Essay: Persuasion	18. Project: Delivering a Speech
	7. Quiz 1: Reading	19. Quiz 3: Speaking
	8. Preparing to Write a Paper	20. Review
	9. Drafting	21. Special Project*
	10. Using Vocabulary	22. Test
	11. Spelling and Pronunciation	23. Alternate Test*
	12. Quiz 2: Writing	24. Glossary and Credits
Unit 2: The Structure of Language		
English I Fundamentals	Assignments	
	1. Parts of Speech and Noun Types	13. Quiz 2: Phrases, Clauses, and Pronouns
	2. Plural Nouns	14. Sentence Parts
	3. Possessive Nouns	15. Letter Writing
	4. Adjectives	16. Essay: Informal Letter*
	5. Verbs: Principal Parts, Tense, Voice, and Mood	17. Essay: Business Letter
	6. Working with Verbs	18. Quiz 3: Sentence Structure and Letter Writing
	7. Adverbs	19. Review
	8. Quiz 1: Nouns, Verbs, and Modifiers	20. Special Project*
	9. Pronouns and Antecedents	21. Test
	10. Prepositions, Conjunctions, and Interjections	22. Alternate Test*
	11. Phrases	23. Glossary and Credits
	12. Clauses	
Unit 3: Language Use and Language History		
English I Fundamentals	Assignments	
	1. Avoiding Common Errors	9. Moving and Morphing
	2. Verb Tense	10. A Brief History of English
	3. Quiz 1: Avoiding Common Errors	11. Quiz 3: Nature of Language; History of English
	4. Comparing with Adjectives and Adverbs	12. Review
	5. Analogies	13. Special Project*
	6. Gerunds and Participles	14. Test
	7. Quiz 2: Comparing Correctly	15. Alternate Test*
	8. Nature of Language	16. Glossary and Credits

Unit 4: Researching a Complex Process		
English I Fundamentals	Assignments	
	1. Modes and Methods	18. Quiz 2: Research and Writing
	2. Structures and Features	19. Essay: Complex Process
	3. Interpreting Visuals	20. Introduction to Conclusion
	4. Complex Processes	21. Language, Voice, and Style
	5. Project: Graphically Organize a Complex Process	22. Revision and Evaluation
	6. Project: Evaluating Knowledge of a Complex Process*	23. Adding Media
	7. Quiz 1: Reading Exposition	24. Presenting
	8. Choosing a Topic	25. Project: Multimedia Presentation
	9. Project: Proposal, Outline, and Works Cited	26. Project: Peer Review and Evaluation*
	10. Finding Sources in the Library	27. Project: Final Draft
	11. Project: Library Hunt*	28. Quiz 3: Write Right
	12. Web Sources	29. Special Project*
	13. Documentation	30. Review
	14. Citation Formats	31. Test
	15. Writing Note cards	32. Alternate Test*
	16. Using Sources	33. Glossary and Credits
	17. Prewriting Strategies	
Unit 5: Practical Persuasion		
English I Fundamentals	Assignments	
	1. What is Persuasion?	11. Project: Revising Your Rough Draft
	2. SOAP and the World of Business	12. Quiz 2: The Persuasive Proposal
	3. Quiz 1: Persuasion and Business	13. The Persuasive Speech
	4. Introducing an Argument and Building an Outline	14. Project: Giving Your Persuasive Speech
	5. Project: Introducing Your Argument	15. Quiz 3: Speaking Persuasively
	6. Researching an Argument	16. Special Project*
	7. Project: Researching Your Argument	17. Review
	8. Project: Conducting an Interview*	18. Test
	9. Writing a Rough Draft	19. Alternate Test*
	10. Report: Writing Your Rough Draft	20. Glossary and Credits
Unit 6: Semester Review and Exam		
English I Fundamentals	Assignments	
	1. Review (1)	3. Alternate Exam - Form A*
	2. Exam	4. Alternate Exam - Form B*
Unit 7: Mass Media		
English I Fundamentals	Assignments	
	1. What is Mass Media?	11. Reliability of a Media Source
	2. Types of Mass Media	12. Project: Evaluating an Advertisement
	3. Project: Mass Media and SOAP	13. Project: Comparing and Contrasting Media Coverage
	4. Interpreting Visual Elements in Mass Media	14. Quiz 2: Aspects of Mass Media
	5. Project: Create, Present, and Evaluate a Poster	15. Review
	6. Quiz 1: Mass Media	16. Special Project*
	7. Agendas in the Media	17. Test
	8. Bias in the Media	18. Alternate Test*
	9. Methods of Appeal in the Media	19. Glossary and Credits
	10. Fallacies in the Media	

Unit 8: Poetry and Short Stories		
English I Fundamentals	Assignments	
	1. Understanding Poetry	11. "The Gift of the Magi"
	2. Essay: "Up-Hill"	12. "The Open Window"
	3. Meter, Form, And Language	13. Essay: Short Story Response
	4. Essay: Poetry	14. Essay: Short Story Rewrite
	5. Essay: Your Poem*	15. Quiz 3: Short Story Comprehension
	6. Quiz 1: Poetry	16. Review
	7. Short Story Fundamentals	17. Special Project*
	8. Action and Plot: "The Most Dangerous Game"	18. Test
	9. Theme, Language, Setting, Symbolism	19. Alternate Test*
	10. Quiz 2: Short Story Fundamentals	20. Glossary and Credits

Unit 9: The Odyssey		
English I Fundamentals	Assignments	
	1. The Trojan War	16. Confronting Sea Monsters
	2. Homer and Epic Poetry	17. Essay: Temptation
	3. Project: Whose Hero?	18. Storyteller's Guide
	4. Telemachus Epic	19. Life on Ithaca
	5. Waiting for Odysseus	20. All Manner of Manners
	6. Xenia!	21. Penelope
	7. Quiz 1: Backgrounds	22. Cleaning House
	8. Heart's-Ease	23. Peace at Last
	9. Odysseus, Finally!	24. Wandering Odysseus
	10. Nausicaa	25. Quiz 3: Home Sweet Home
	11. Egomania!	26. Review
	12. The Blame Game	27. Special Project*
	13. Circe	28. Test
	14. The Dead	29. Alternate Test*
	15. Quiz 2: The Voyage Home	30. Glossary and Credits

Unit 10: Romeo and Juliet		
English I Fundamentals	Assignments	
	1. Elizabethan Drama	14. Quiz 2: Fools Rush In
	2. Shakespeare	15. It's Your World, Baby (Act IV, I-III)
	3. Behind the Scenes	16. And All Things Change Them To The Contrary (Act IV, IV-V)
	4. Boys and Girls (Act I, Scene I)	17. Tragedy or Triumph? (Act V)
	5. Oh, Romeo (Act I, Scenes II-III)	18. Quiz 3: Tragedy or Triumph?
	6. Meant to Be (Act I, Scenes IV-V)	19. Essay: Who's to Blame?
	7. Quiz 1: Setting the Stage	20. Review
	8. Love in the Shadows (Act II, Scenes I-II)	21. Special Project*
	9. Inverted Values (Act II, III-IV)	22. Test
	10. Hints of Tragedy (Act II, V-VI)	23. Alternate Test*
	11. Project: True Love?	24. Glossary and Credits
	12. Shakespeare on Love (Act III, I-II)	
	13. You Be Mine (Act III, III-V)	

Unit 11: Studies in the Novel	
Assignments	
1. The Novel	12. The Critical Essay
2. Subject Matter	13. Essay: Lost Continent
3. Types of Novels	14. Essay: Critique*
4. Modes of Writing the Novel	15. Report: Synthesis*
5. Quiz 1: The Novel	16. Quiz 3: The Critical Essay
6. Twenty Thousand Leagues Under the Sea	17. Review
7. Plot and Perspective	18. Special Project*
8. Episodes	19. Test
9. Plot Function	20. Alternate Test*
10. Essay: Twenty Thousand Leagues Under the Sea	21. Glossary and Credits
11. Quiz 2: Twenty Thousand Leagues Under the Sea	

Unit 12: Semester Review and Exam	
Assignments	
1. Review (1)	3. Alternate Exam - Form A*
2. Exam	4. Alternate Exam - Form B*

Unit 13: Final Exam	
Assignments	
1. Exam	3. Alternate Exam - Form B*
2. Alternate Exam - Form A*	

(*) Indicates alternative assignment