

CURRICULUM OVERVIEW

English II



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English II Course Overview

Students will gain valuable cultural insight as they read and write about works depicting the social, personal, religious, and political struggles and triumphs faced by people all over the world and all through history. Students will continue to build their literacy skills by engaging in active reading, composition, speaking and listening activities, vocabulary study, and focused research projects. To become critical consumers of text, students will be exposed to increasingly more complex texts to which they apply those skills. As a result of the reading, writing, speaking, and listening students will do in this course, they will continue to develop their understanding of effective communication, as well as gain a broader perspective of literature.

- **Unit 1: Coming of Age:** Students will examine works that reflect the universal theme of crossing the threshold into maturity, analyzing literary elements such as theme, motif, rhetoric, and archetypes, as well as the impact of author background and culture.
- **Unit 2: The Struggle Against Injustice:** Students will complete an analytical reading of *Animal Farm*, evaluating the powerful political message of the text, and the way the author utilizes methods such as characterization and allegory to communicate his purpose.
- **Unit 3: Fighting for Freedom:** Students will read works that have been selected because they represent the struggle for freedom, covering different countries, cultures, centuries and genders, and will be introduced to the power of literary, religious, and philosophical traditions that influenced writer from other cultures.
- **Unit 5: Perspectives in World Literature:** Students will examine literature that offers a wide world perspective, including *Nectar in a Sieve*, varied poetry, and work by Gandhi; students will apply their analysis skills to explore elements such as themes, narrative structure, symbolism, and context, utilizing writing skills to compose well-structured arguments.
- **Unit 6: Cultural Context of Writing:** Using culture as a context, students will focus on utilizing inference skills to analyze theme and author purpose, composing several written works that require reading comprehension, well-developed literary analysis, and strong research skills.
- **Unit 7: Things Fall Apart:** Students will incorporate research and historical/cultural context in their exploration of the post-colonial South African novel, *Things Fall Apart*, progressing into an analysis of the rhetoric and logical of politically-charged literature and speeches of South Africa.
- **Unit 8: Tradition vs. Change:** Students will encounter works that illuminate the theme of the conflict between tradition and change, focusing heavily on project-based work, including a speaking and listening project and an advanced research project that requires students to employ such skills as paraphrasing, proper citations, and determining credible research sources.

Unit 1: Coming of Age		
English II	Assignments	
	1. Course Overview	21. Quiz: Words and Structure
	2. "Through the Tunnel": Cultural Traditions and Prereading	22. Alternate Quiz: Words and Structure - Form A*
	3. "Through the Tunnel": Setting, Point of View, Conflict	23. Alternate Quiz: Words and Structure - Form B*
	4. "Through the Tunnel": Denotative and Connotative Meaning	24. A Midsummer Night's Dream, Act I: Literary Devices
	5. Quiz: "Through the Tunnel"	25. A Midsummer Night's Dream, Act I: Word Relationships and Irony
	6. Alternate Quiz: "Through the Tunnel" - Form A*	26. A Midsummer Night's Dream, Act II: Motif and Imagery
	7. Alternate Quiz: "Through the Tunnel" - Form B*	27. A Midsummer Night's Dream, Act III: Verbals, Archetypes, Subjunctive
	8. "The Carp": Ancient and Modern Chinese Poetry	28. A Midsummer Night's Dream, Act IV: Evidence and Perspective
	9. "Sixteen": Elements of a Short Story	29. A Midsummer Night's Dream, Act V: Write an Expository Text
	10. "A Decade": Culture and Theme	30. Quiz 4: A Midsummer Night's Dream
	11. Project: Compare and Contrast Literary Analysis -- "Sixteen" and "Through the Tunnel"	31. Alternate Quiz: A Midsummer Night's Dream - Form A*
	12. Quiz: Poetry and Short Story	32. Alternate Quiz: A Midsummer Night's Dream - Form B*
	13. Alternate Quiz: Poetry and Short Story - Form A*	33. Special Project*
	14. Alternate Quiz: Poetry and Short Story - Form B*	34. Review
	15. Using Clauses and Phrases	35. Test: Coming of Age
	16. "A Wedding Gift": Character and Theme	36. Alternate Test: Coming of Age - Form A*
	17. The Story of My Experiments with Truth: Literary Nonfiction	37. Alternate Test: Coming of Age - Form B*
	18. The Story of My Experiments with Truth: Word Parts and Connotation	38. Glossary and Credits
	19. "There Was a Child Went Forth": Form and Structure	
	20. Rhetoric and Tone in Speeches	
Unit 2: The Struggle against Injustice		
English II	Assignments	
	1. Animal Farm: Web Search and Context	15. Alternate Quiz: Animal Farm: Chapters 6-10 - Form A*
	2. Animal Farm: Implicit and Explicit Characterization	16. Alternate Quiz: Animal Farm: Chapters 6-10 - Form B*
	3. Animal Farm: Structure and Sequence	17. Animal Farm: Allegory
	4. Animal Farm: Nuances of Word Meaning	18. Special Project*
	5. Quiz: Animal Farm: Chapters 1-5	19. Review
	6. Alternate Quiz: Animal Farm: Chapters 1-5- Form A*	20. Test: The Struggle Against Injustice
	7. Alternate Quiz: Animal Farm: Chapters 1-5- Form B*	21. Alternate Test: The Struggle Against Injustice - Form A*
	8. Animal Farm: Theme and Character	22. Alternate Test: The Struggle Against Injustice - Form B*
	9. Animal Farm: Cultural Significance	23. Glossary and Credits
	10. Animal Farm: Bias and Media	
	11. Animal Farm: Synonyms and Analogies	
	12. Animal Farm: Tone and Metaphor	
	13. Project: Literary Essay - Themes in Animal Farm	
	14. Quiz: Animal Farm: Chapters 6-10	

Unit 3: Fighting for Freedom**Assignments**

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| <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. "Once Upon a Time": Inference and Analysis 2. Language, History, Culture of South Africa 3. "Serve the People": Mao, China, and Media 4. "Garden of My Childhood": Personification and Theme 5. Quiz: Multicultural Poetry 6. Alternate Quiz: Multicultural Poetry - Form A* 7. Alternate Quiz: Multicultural Poetry - Form B* 8. "Granny and the Golden Bridge": Character and Anecdote 9. "'Agua Viva,' A Sculpture by Alfred Gonzalez": Implying 10. "They Shot Wook Kim": Shape Poetry 11. History, Language, and Theme 12. Night: Historical Context in Literary Nonfiction 13. Project: Explanatory Essay with Textual Evidence 14. Quiz: Historical Context 15. Alternate Quiz: Historical Context - Form A* 16. Alternate Quiz: Historical Context - Form B* 17. "Letter from a Birmingham Jail": Rhetoric and Allusion 18. The Apology: Socrates' Rhetoric 19. The Apology: Greek and Latin Root Words | <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 20. Quiz: Rhetoric and Culture 21. Alternate Quiz: Rhetoric and Culture - Form A* 22. Alternate Quiz: Rhetoric and Culture - Form B* 23. One Thousand and One Nights: History and Culture in Classic Text 24. One Thousand and One Nights: Context and Etymology 25. Writing: Clauses, Semicolons, Parallel Structure 26. Project: Research Presentation - Historical Context 27. Project: Write a Narrative about Injustice 28. Quiz: Research and Writing 29. Alternate Quiz: Research and Writing - Form A* 30. Alternate Quiz: Research and Writing - Form B* 31. Special Project* 32. Review 33. Test: Fighting for Freedom 34. Alternate Test: Fighting for Freedom - Form A* 35. Alternate Test: Fighting for Freedom - Form B* 36. Glossary and Credits |
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Unit 4: Semester Review and Exam**Assignments**

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| <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Review 2. Exam: English II Semester I | <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 3. Alternate Exam: English II Semester I - Form A* |
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Unit 5: Perspectives in World Literature**Assignments**

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| <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Nectar in a Sieve: Setting and Culture 2. "Gandhi Defends His Beliefs": Persuasion and Parallel Structure 3. "Work Without Hope": Compare with Nectar in a Sieve 4. Nectar in a Sieve: Point of View 5. Nectar in a Sieve: Identifying Themes 6. Nectar in a Sieve: Narrative Structure 7. Quiz: Nectar in a Sieve Chapters 1-19 8. Alternate Quiz: Nectar in a Sieve Chapters 1-19 - Form A* 9. Alternate Quiz: Nectar in a Sieve Chapters 1-19 - Form B* 10. Nectar in a Sieve: Symbolism and Motif 11. Nectar in a Sieve: Compare Point of View 12. Nectar in a Sieve: Symbolism and Imagery 13. Nectar in a Sieve: Diction and Tone 14. Nectar in a Sieve: Simile, Metaphor, Personification 15. Quiz: Nectar in a Sieve Chapters 20-30 16. Alternate Quiz: Nectar in a Sieve Chapters 20-30 - Form A* 17. Alternate Quiz: Nectar in a Sieve Chapters 20-30 - Form B* | <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 18. Word Analysis: Prefixes, Suffixes, and Context 19. Project: Argumentative Essay - Theme in Nectar in a Sieve 20. "Tell me, O Swan, your ancient tale": Implicit and Explicit Meaning 21. "The Swan": Object Poetry 22. "Spanish Dancer": Imagery and Translations 23. Quiz: Theme, Poetry, and Meaning 24. Alternate Quiz: Theme, Poetry, and Meaning - Form A* 25. Alternate Quiz: Theme, Poetry, and Meaning - Form B* 26. Special Project* 27. Review 28. Test: Perspective in World Literature 29. Alternate Test: Perspective in World Literature - Form A* 30. Alternate Test: Perspective in World Literature - Form B* 31. Glossary and Credits |
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Unit 6: Cultural Context of Writing

Assignments

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| <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. "Your Laughter": Free Verse and Tone 2. "Birthplace": Enjambment and Tone 3. "It's This Way": Meter and Futurism 4. "Counting Small-Boned Bodies": Satire and Tercets 5. Project: Analysis and Comparison of Two Poems 6. Quiz: Poetry 7. Alternate Quiz: Poetry - Form A* 8. Alternate Quiz: Poetry - Form B* 9. Project: Write an Argument 10. "The Garden of Forking Paths": Allusions 11. Project: Narrative Essay: "The Garden of the Forking Paths" 12. "There's a Man in the Habit of Hitting Me on the Head with an Umbrella": Satire and Magical Realism 13. Quiz: Argument, Narrative, Satire 14. Alternate Quiz: Argument, Narrative, Satire - Form A* | <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 15. Alternate Quiz: Argument, Narrative, Satire - Form B* 16. Words: Syntax and Etymology 17. Project: Research Essay: Latin American Writers 18. "The Circuit": Theme 19. "The Passing": Inference and Theme 20. Project: Grammar Essay 21. Project: Cliches and Revision 22. Quiz: Writing Process 23. Alternate Quiz: Writing Process - Form A* 24. Alternate Quiz: Writing Process - Form B* 25. Special Project* 26. Review 27. Test: Cultural Context of Writing 28. Alternate Test: Cultural Context of Writing - Form A* 29. Alternate Test: Cultural Context of Writing - Form B* 30. Glossary and Credits |
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Unit 7: Things Fall Apart

Assignments

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| <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Things Fall Apart: Point of View 2. Project: Cited Web Search - Igbo Society 3. Things Fall Apart: Folkloric Traditions - Chapters 1-3 4. Things Fall Apart: Historical and Cultural Context - Chapters 4-6 5. Things Fall Apart: Character and Conflict - Chapters 7-8 6. Quiz: Things Fall Apart: Chapters 1-8 7. Alternate Quiz: Things Fall Apart: Chapters 1-8 - Form A* 8. Alternate Quiz: Things Fall Apart: Chapters 1-8 - Form B* 9. Things Fall Apart: Characterization - Chapters 9-11 10. Things Fall Apart: Symbolism 11. Things Fall Apart: Irony and Foreshadowing 12. Things Fall Apart: Character Analysis - Chapters 12-13 13. Things Fall Apart: Two Interpretations - Chapters 14-16 14. Things Fall Apart: Imagery 15. Quiz: Things Fall Apart: Chapters 9-16 16. Alternate Quiz: Things Fall Apart: Chapters 9-16 - Form A* 17. Alternate Quiz: Things Fall Apart: Chapters 9-16 - Form B* 18. Things Fall Apart: Decoding Words 19. Things Fall Apart: Conflict - Chapters 17-19 20. Things Fall Apart: Themes 21. Things Fall Apart: Context and Change 22. Things Fall Apart: Parallel Characters 23. Things Fall Apart: Individual vs. Society 24. Project: Elements of Tragedy in Things Fall Apart and Poetics | <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 25. Things Fall Apart: Rhythm of Language 26. "The Second Coming": Epigraph to Things Fall Apart 27. Project: Literary Analysis of Theme in Things Fall Apart 28. Quiz: Things Fall Apart: Chapters 17-19 29. Alternate Quiz: Things Fall Apart: Chapters 17-19 - Form A* 30. Alternate Quiz: Things Fall Apart: Chapters 17-19 - Form B* 31. "1959: What Is Apartheid?": Citing Key Concepts 32. "Master Harold": Analyzing Dialogue and Allusions 33. "Master Harold": Protagonists and Antagonists 34. Mandela's Nobel Prize Acceptance Speech: Diction and Rhetoric 35. Project: Reflective Essay - Literature of South Africa 36. Rhetoric and Logic in Politics 37. Quiz: Literature of South Africa 38. Alternate Quiz: Literature of South Africa - Form A* 39. Alternate Quiz: Literature of South Africa - Form B* 40. Special Project* 41. Review 42. Test: Things Fall Apart 43. Alternate Test: Things Fall Apart - Form A* 44. Alternate Test: Things Fall Apart - Form B* 45. Glossary and Credits |
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Unit 8: Tradition Vs. Change	
English II	Assignments
	1. Don Quixote: Historical Context
	2. Don Quixote: Allegory
	3. "The Lottery": Foreshadowing and Suspense
	4. "The Bane of the Internet": Tone and Point of View
	5. Figurative Language
	6. Project: Dramatic Recitation
	7. Project: Research an Author's Cultural Context
	8. Project: Gather, Evaluate, Cite Credible Information
	9. Project: Write, Revise, Publish
	10. Quiz: Cultural Context of the Author
	11. Alternate Quiz: Cultural Context of the Author - Form A*
	12. Alternate Quiz: Cultural Context of the Author - Form B*
	13. Special Project*
	14. Review
	15. Test: Tradition vs. Change
	16. Alternate Test: Tradition vs. Change - Form A*
	17. Alternate Test: Tradition vs. Change - Form B*
	18. Glossary and Credits

Unit 9: Semester Review and Exam	
English II	Assignments
	1. Review
	2. Exam: English II Semester II
	3. Alternate Exam: English II Semester II - Form A*

Unit 10: Final Exam	
English II	Assignments
	1. Exam: English II Final
	2. Alternate Exam: English II Final - Form A*

(*) Indicates alternative assignment