

CURRICULUM OVERVIEW

Language Arts 600



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Language Arts 600 Course Overview

In Language Arts 600, students will delve into texts that span the genres of narrative fiction, poetry, literary nonfiction, and informational texts to build reading, writing and thinking skills. Students will also develop their writing skills as they focus on the six traits while producing narrative, argumentative, and explanatory compositions, as well as creative pieces including poetry. The course concludes with students completing a full research report.

With a strong emphasis on close reading instruction, writing and thinking activities, as well as speaking and listening tasks, this course will help students expand their understanding of literature while building 21st century skills. Multimedia and interactive elements are built into every lesson to ensure a high-level of student engagement. English 600 students will be enriched as they expand their skills and confidence in English language arts through a comprehensive study that includes the following units:

- **Unit 1:** Compare characters in both literature and informational text to build on reading strategies and further develop skills in both grammar and writing
- **Unit 2:** Understand mood and character types and learn how characters respond or change as the plot moves toward a resolution in different text types including drama and epic poetry
- **Unit 3:** Justify the power of words and analyze how authors use language to communicate ideas in varied poetry forms and explanatory essays
- **Unit 4:** Analyze exposition in both fiction and non-fiction text and compare and contrast texts from different genres in terms of their approaches to similar themes and topics
- **Unit 5:** Identify argument and specific claims found in news media, distinguish facts from opinion, as well as identifying bias, propaganda, and fallacies
- **Unit 6:** Identify argument, claims and evidence by completing a close read of nonfiction texts and complete an in-depth, multi-unit formal writing project on an argumentative essay
- **Unit 7:** Learn that important issues, such as civil rights and environmentalisms can be looked at from different perspectives and integrate information presented in different media and formats to develop a coherent understanding on a complex topic
- **Unit 8:** Explain that research and inquiry deepen understanding on topics and complete an in-depth, multi-unit formal research project answering an essential question

Unit 1: What a Character! Part I		
Language Arts 600	Assignments	
	1. Course Overview	20. Making Predictions Based on Evidence
	2. Adjectives Describe	21. Understanding Pronouns
	3. Understanding a Character: Using Descriptions to Draw Conclusions	22. Quiz: Predictions, Evidence, and Pronouns
	4. Understanding a Character: Reading Verses Listening	23. Alternate Quiz - Form A: Predictions, Evidence, and Pronouns*
	5. Identifying and Forming Types of Nouns	24. Alternate Quiz - Form B: Predictions, Evidence, and Pronouns*
	6. Project: Character Description	25. Finding the Main Idea
	7. Quiz: Nouns, Adjectives, and Character	26. Evidence to Support a Main Idea
	8. Alternate Quiz - Form A: Nouns, Adjectives, and Character*	27. Writing a Main Idea
	9. Alternate Quiz - Form B: Nouns, Adjectives, and Character*	28. Identifying Story Elements and Summarizing
	10. Understanding a Key Figure in Nonfiction: Preface	29. Reading to Compare and Contrast
	11. Understanding a Character: Using Plot	30. Quiz: Main Idea, Story Elements, Summaries, and Comparisons
	12. Identifying Action and Linking Verbs and Voice	31. Alternate Quiz - Form A: Main Idea, Story Elements, Summaries, and Comparisons*
	13. Context Clues Vocabulary	32. Alternate Quiz - Form B: Main Idea, Story Elements, Summaries, and Comparisons*
	14. Commonly Confused Words	33. Special Project*
	15. Project: Writing a Personal Narrative	34. Review
	16. Quiz: Verbs, Context, and Character	35. Test
	17. Alternate Quiz - Form A: Verbs, Context, and Character*	36. Alternate Test - Form A*
	18. Alternate Quiz - Form B: Verbs, Context, and Character*	37. Alternate Test - Form B*
	19. Providing Evidence to Make Predictions	38. Glossary and Credits

Unit 2: What a Character! Part II		
Language Arts 600	Assignments	
	1. Using 1st Person Point of View to Tell a Story	20. Understanding Heroes in Poetry
	2. Using Pronouns Correctly	21. Creating Mood in a Story
	3. Project: Another Point of View	22. Quiz: Heroes, Mood, and Poetry
	4. Using 3rd Person Point of View to Tell a Story	23. Alternate Quiz - Form A: Heroes, Mood, and Poetry*
	5. Identifying Conjunctions and Interjections	24. Alternate Quiz - Form B: Heroes, Mood, and Poetry*
	6. Using Prepositional Phrases to Describe	25. Context Clues
	7. How Parts of a Play Work Together to Tell a Story	26. Analogies: Parts to the Whole
	8. Quiz: Point of View and Parts of Speech	27. Reference Materials
	9. Alternate Quiz - Form A: Point of View and Parts of Speech*	28. Nonfiction - Providing Evidence to Understand a Key Figure
	10. Alternate Quiz - Form B: Point of View and Parts of Speech*	29. Nonfiction - Summarizing a Text with a Central Idea
	11. Understanding Purpose for Reading and Writing	30. Quiz: Context Clues, Evidence, Analogies, and Summarizing
	12. Inspirational Characters	31. Alternate Quiz - Form A: Context Clues, Evidence, Analogies, and Summarizing*
	13. Compare and Contrast Characters	32. Alternate Quiz - Form B: Context Clues, Evidence, Analogies, and Summarizing*
	14. Project: Compare and Contrast Writing Assignment	33. Special Project*
	15. Greek Affixes	34. Review
	16. Quiz: Purpose, Affixes, and Character Comparison	35. Test
	17. Alternate Quiz - Form A: Purpose, Affixes, and Character Comparison*	36. Alternate Test - Form A*
	18. Alternate Quiz - Form B: Purpose, Affixes, and Character Comparison*	37. Alternate Test - Form B*
	19. Heroes: Understanding Common Story Characters	38. Glossary and Credits

Unit 3: Journeys	
Assignments	
1. Figurative Language	24. Explanatory Essay Part I: Choose a Topic
2. Close Reading for Figurative Language	25. Explanatory Essay Part II: Developing the Topic
3. Using Verbs with Point of View	26. Explanatory Essay Part III: Transitions
4. Word Choice and Tone	27. Project: 3 Body Paragraphs
5. Project: Write a Recipe in Figurative Language	28. Quiz: Verbs and Explanatory Essay Writing
6. Quiz: Figurative Language, Word Choice, and Tone	29. Alternate Quiz - Form A: Verbs and Explanatory Essay Writing*
7. Alternate Quiz - Form A: Figurative Language, Word Choice, and Tone*	30. Alternate Quiz - Form B: Verbs and Explanatory Essay Writing*
8. Alternate Quiz - Form B: Figurative Language, Word Choice, and Tone*	31. Capitalizing Correctly in Your Writing
9. Characteristics of Poetry	32. Choosing Accurate Punctuation
10. Poetry Forms	33. Explanatory Essay Part IV: Introductory Paragraph
11. Narrative and Nonsense Poetry	34. Explanatory Essay Part V: Concluding Paragraph
12. Dialect and Character	35. Explanatory Essay Part VI: Language and Style
13. Project: Write a Poem	36. Project: Explanatory Essay
14. Understanding Ballads and Lullabies	37. Quiz: Explanatory Essay Writing and Formatting
15. Project: Lullaby Example	38. Alternate Quiz - Form A: Explanatory Essay Writing and Formatting*
16. Understanding Word Play in Poems	39. Alternate Quiz - Form B: Explanatory Essay Writing and Formatting*
17. Project: Word Play	40. Special Project*
18. Project: Write Your Own Limericks	41. Review
19. Quiz: Poetry Forms and Elements	42. Test
20. Alternate Quiz - Form A: Poetry Forms and Elements*	43. Alternate Test - Form A*
21. Alternate Quiz - Form B: Poetry Forms and Elements*	44. Alternate Test - Form B*
22. Identifying Verb Tense	45. Glossary and Credits
23. Using Verbs and Verb Phrases Correctly	

Unit 4: Journey into Literature		
Language Arts 600	Assignments	
1.	Elements of Exposition	21. Alternate Endings
2.	Breaking Down Words into Parts	22. Quiz: Parenthetical Elements, Resolution Techniques
3.	Project: Word Part Practice	23. Alternate Quiz - Form A: Parenthetical Elements, Resolution Techniques*
4.	Identifying Synonyms, Antonyms, and Idioms	24. Alternate Quiz - Form B: Parenthetical Elements, Resolution Techniques*
5.	Expressions and Idioms	25. Writing a Setting
6.	Introductory Information in Literary Nonfiction	26. Personal Narrative
7.	Project: Compare Prairie Fiction and Nonfiction	27. Making a Plot Map
8.	Quiz: Story Parts, Word Parts, and Expressions	28. Writing a Resolution
9.	Alternate Quiz - Form A: Story Parts, Word Parts, and Expressions*	29. Identifying Adjectives and Possessive Pronouns
10.	Alternate Quiz - Form B: Story Parts, Word Parts, and Expressions*	30. Identifying Adverbs and Adverb Phrases
11.	Creating Complete Sentences	31. Project: Write a Narrative
12.	Classifying Types of Sentences	32. Quiz: Writing Parts of Plot, Adjectives, and Adverbs
13.	Varied Sentence Structure	33. Alternate Quiz - Form A: Writing Parts of Plot, Adjectives, and Adverbs*
14.	Plot Development: Pacing	34. Alternate Quiz - Form B: Writing Parts of Plot, Adjectives, and Adverbs*
15.	Plot Development: Dialogue	35. Special Project*
16.	Quiz: Sentence Structure, Pacing, and Dialogue	36. Review
17.	Alternate Quiz - Form A: Sentence Structure, Pacing, and Dialogue*	37. Test
18.	Alternate Quiz - Form B: Sentence Structure, Pacing, and Dialogue*	38. Alternate Test - Form A*
19.	Punctuation: Parenthetical Elements	39. Alternate Test - Form B*
20.	Resolution Techniques	40. Glossary and Credits

Unit 5: Controversy in Our World		
Language Arts 600	Assignments	
1.	The News Article	21. Quiz: Editorials, Opinion Pieces, and Effective Sentences
2.	Analyzing a News Article	22. Alternate Quiz - Form A: Editorials, Opinion Pieces, and Effective Sentences*
3.	Distinguishing Fact from Opinion	23. Alternate Quiz - Form B: Editorials, Opinion Pieces, and Effective Sentences*
4.	Quiz: The News Article, Analyzing a News Article, Fact vs. Opinion	24. Considering Pros and Cons
5.	Alternate Quiz - Form A: The News Article, Analyzing a News Article, Fact vs. Opinion*	25. Gathering Evidence
6.	Alternate Quiz - Form B: The News Article, Analyzing a News Article, Fact vs. Opinion*	26. Using a Dictionary and Thesaurus to Understand Meaning
7.	Propaganda	27. Listening and Summarizing Effectively
8.	Recognizing Propaganda or Bias	28. Preparing for a Discussion
9.	Advertisements and Fallacies	29. Project: Debate Speech
10.	Project: Write an Advertisement	30. Quiz: Evidence, Discussion, and Debate Styles
11.	Quiz: Propaganda, Bias, and Advertisements	31. Alternate Quiz - Form A: Evidence, Discussion, and Debate Styles*
12.	Alternate Quiz - Form A: Propaganda, Bias, and Advertisements*	32. Alternate Quiz - Form B: Evidence, Discussion, and Debate Styles*
13.	Alternate Quiz - Form B: Propaganda, Bias, and Advertisements*	33. Special Project*
14.	Using Adjectives and Adverbs Effectively	34. Review
15.	Recognizing Run-On or Fragment Sentences	35. Test
16.	Project: Spelling and Spell Check	36. Alternate Test - Form A*
17.	Editorials	37. Alternate Test - Form B*
18.	Opinion Pieces	38. Glossary and Credits
19.	Project: Writing a Persuasive Paragraph	
20.	Using Graphics and Visuals	

Unit 6: Argument, Claims, and Evidence**Assignments**

Language Arts 600

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| 1. Arguments: Identifying the Position | 18. Quiz: Parts of an Argumentative Essay |
| 2. Arguments: Identifying Claims | 19. Alternate Quiz - Form A: Parts of an Argumentative Essay* |
| 3. Arguments: Identifying Evidence that Supports Claims | 20. Alternate Quiz - Form B: Parts of an Argumentative Essay* |
| 4. Quiz: Identifying Position, Claims, Evidence | 21. Writing an Argumentative Essay: Choose a Position |
| 5. Alternate Quiz - Form A: Identifying Position, Claims, Evidence* | 22. Writing an Argumentative Essay: Mapping Your Claims and Evidence |
| 6. Alternate Quiz - Form B: Identifying Position, Claims, Evidence* | 23. Writing an Argumentative Essay: Drafting A Thesis Statement and Introductory Paragraph |
| 7. Arguments: Position/Counter Position | 24. Project: Write an Argument |
| 8. Arguments: Examining Both Sides | 25. Quiz: Writing an Argumentative Essay |
| 9. Project: Oral Presentation - Solving a Problem | 26. Alternate Quiz - Form A: Writing an Argumentative Essay* |
| 10. Arguments: Analyzing Claims- Supported or Unsupported | 27. Alternate Quiz - Form B: Writing an Argumentative Essay* |
| 11. Project: Evaluate the Argument | 28. Special Project* |
| 12. Quiz: Arguments, Positions, and Claims | 29. Review |
| 13. Alternate Quiz - Form A: Arguments, Positions, and Claims* | 30. Test |
| 14. Alternate Quiz - Form B: Arguments, Positions, and Claims* | 31. Alternate Test - Form A* |
| 15. Model Argumentative Essay: Thesis Statement | 32. Alternate Test - Form B* |
| 16. Model Argumentative Essay: Trace the Argument | 33. Glossary and Credits |
| 17. Model Argumentative Essay: Conclusion | |

Unit 7: Perspectives**Assignments**

Language Arts 600

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| 1. Developing an Informed Opinion | 18. Earth's Resources: A Traditional Perspective |
| 2. Meet John Muir: First Modern Conservationist | 19. Earth's Resources: A New Perspective |
| 3. John Muir and the Hetch Hetchy Controversy: A Different Perspective | 20. Quiz: Gathering Evidence to Form an Opinion |
| 4. Project: Write a Reflection on the Different Faces of John Muir | 21. Alternative Quiz-Form A: Gathering Evidence to Form an Opinion* |
| 5. Quiz: Point of View, Developing an Informed Opinion | 22. Alternative Quiz-Form B: Gathering Evidence to Form an Opinion* |
| 6. Alternate Quiz-Form A: Point of View, Developing an Informed Opinion* | 23. Infographics |
| 7. Alternate Quiz-Form B: Point of View, Developing an Informed Opinion* | 24. Amazing Kids! Meet Boyan Slat |
| 8. Meet Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr.: Letter from a Birmingham Jail Pt. 1 | 25. Amazing Kids! Meet Duro-Aina Adebola, Akindele Abiola, Faleke Oluwatoyin, and Bello Eniola |
| 9. Meet Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr.: Letter from a Birmingham Jail Pt. 2 | 26. Project: Make an Infographic |
| 10. In the Words of Dr. King: I Have a Dream | 27. Oral Instructions |
| 11. Identifying Parts of a Business Letter | 28. Project: Procedural Scavenger Hunts |
| 12. Project: Letter Writing | 29. Quiz: Infographics and Oral Instructions |
| 13. Project: An Open Letter | 30. Alternate Quiz-Form A: Infographics and Oral Instructions* |
| 14. Quiz: Multiple Perspectives, Letters and Speeches as Persuasive Writing | 31. Alternate Quiz-Form B: Infographics and Oral Instructions* |
| 15. Alternative Quiz-Form A: Multiple Perspectives, Letters and Speeches as Persuasive Writing* | 32. Special Project* |
| 16. Alternative Quiz-Form B: Multiple Perspectives, Letters and Speeches as Persuasive Writing* | 33. Review |
| 17. Earth's Resources: What are the Issues | 34. Test |
| | 35. Alternate Test - Form A* |
| | 36. Alternate Test - Form B* |
| | 37. Glossary and Credits |

Unit 8: Research and Report Writing		
Language Arts 600	Assignments	
	1. Introduction to Research, Questioning Sources	20. Alternate Quiz - Form A: Gathering Data, Drafting Thesis Statement*
	2. Examining the Evidence	21. Alternate Quiz - Form B: Gathering Data, Drafting Thesis Statement*
	3. Determining a Central Idea, Summarizing	22. Outline
	4. Quiz: Introduction to Research	23. Project: Draft 1
	5. Alternate Quiz - Form A: Introduction to Research*	24. Using Digital Media
	6. Alternate Quiz - Form B: Introduction to Research*	25. Project: Multimedia Presentation of Your Research
	7. Choosing a Topic, Creating an Essential Question	26. Project: Final Draft
	8. Finding Credible Sources	27. Quiz: Outline to Final
	9. Narrowing the Topic	28. Alternate Quiz - Form A: Outline to Final*
	10. Quiz: Research Topic	29. Alternate Quiz - Form B: Outline to Final*
	11. Alternate Quiz - Form A: Research Topic*	30. Special Project*
	12. Alternate Quiz - Form B: Research Topic*	31. Review
	13. Parentheses, Brackets, and Ellipsis	32. Test
	14. Project: Practicing Underlining and Italics	33. Alternate Test - Form A*
	15. Gathering Data and Bibliography	34. Alternate Test - Form B*
	16. Taking Notes	35. Glossary and Credits
	17. Project: Note Taking	
	18. Drafting a Thesis Statement	
	19. Quiz: Gathering Data, Drafting Thesis Statement	
Unit 9: Final Review and Exam		
LA600	Assignments	
	1. Exam Review	3. Alternate Exam - Form A*
	2. Exam	4. Alternate Exam - Form B*

(*) Indicates alternative assignment