



Course Information

ACADEMIC READINESS: ELL Reading and Writing Advanced

Teacher: Moira Robinson

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Date: Fall 2024

Classroom: (Period 4) Room #119

Office Hours: Room 119; after school or by appointment

Course Rationale

The 'Advanced Reading and Writing' course is designed for high-intermediate to advanced English Language Learner (ELL) students who aim to refine their literacy skills and enhance their ability to produce and analyze complex written texts. This course focuses on deepening students' reading comprehension and writing proficiency through advanced-level materials and tasks.

Students will engage in analyzing diverse and challenging texts, including literature, academic articles, and opinion pieces. Activities will focus on critical reading strategies, such as identifying themes, analyzing arguments, and evaluating text structure. Reading comprehension will be assessed through detailed questions and discussions, promoting higher-level thinking and textual analysis.

The writing component will emphasize crafting well-structured essays, research papers, and creative pieces. Students will refine their ability to organize ideas, develop coherent arguments, and use sophisticated vocabulary and grammar. The course will include regular writing assignments with opportunities for peer and instructor feedback, helping students to polish their writing skills and achieve clarity and precision in their work.

By the end of the course, students will have enhanced their reading and writing capabilities, enabling them to engage more effectively with complex texts and produce polished, sophisticated writing in various academic and professional contexts.

Assessment Guidelines:

In- class Participation and Attendance	30%	For advanced ELL reading and writing students, regular attendance and punctuality are crucial for keeping up with course material. Active participation includes engaging in class discussions, contributing to group work, and sharing insights from readings and writing assignments. Students should take part in writing workshops, provide and receive constructive feedback, and ask questions to clarify complex concepts. Effective
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		communication and preparedness in presentations are also expected. Consistent attendance and active involvement are key to maximizing learning and skill development in this advanced course.
Weekly Reading and Writing Quizzes/projects/poetry/short stories	30%	Reading quizzes are given to test students' comprehension of complex texts, themes, and literary devices, helping to gauge their analytical skills. Writing assignments might focus on crafting essays, research papers, or creative pieces, allowing students to develop and organize their ideas while applying advanced grammar and vocabulary.
Mid-term Exam	20%	<p>Assessment Criteria</p> <p>Reading Comprehension: Analysis of complex texts with questions on themes, literary devices, and critical interpretation.</p> <p>Writing Proficiency: An essay or research paper showcasing thesis development, argument organization, and evidence support, along with editing and revision exercises.</p> <p>Grammar and Syntax: Advanced grammar questions and error correction tasks.</p> <p>Vocabulary Application: Tests on advanced vocabulary, including usage in context and understanding of synonyms and antonyms.</p>
Final Exam	20%	The final exam will include: reading analysis of complex texts, extended writing tasks such as essays, advanced grammar exercises, and vocabulary mastery tests. These components will evaluate students' comprehension, writing skills, grammatical accuracy, and vocabulary usage.

Materials

Please bring the following to class every day:

- Journal (Composition) Notebook and/or Laptop Computer
- Workbook/ Textbook
- A pen and/or a pencil
- A positive attitude

Expectations

1. Attend class punctually.
2. Notify in advance if you anticipate an absence.
3. Use English as the primary language in class to enhance your learning experience and accelerate your progress.
4. Adhere to classroom rules, which will be introduced during the first week of classes.
5. Always cultivate a culture of respect towards yourself and your peers.
6. Have fun along the way! English can be tough, but remember, every challenge is a step forward. Keep going, laugh at your mistakes, and together, we'll reach the finish line!

Dates	Grammar	Vocabulary	Reading/Writing
Week 1	-Parts of Speech- Review the “Parts of Speech” Nouns Verbs Adjectives Adverbs Prepositions Conjunctions Interjections Pronouns	Diagnostic testing- Check level Words of the week: muttering, barking, piercing Word list: Sensory Words	Students will complete the story: 1. Lost in the Forest. 2. The Lady and the Tiger.
Week 2	-positive and negative forms of to be. Sentence structure Conjunction and Subordinating conjunctions	Countries/nationalities/ jobs	Short reading passages: Understand conjunctions and complex sentences
Week 3	Comparatives and superlatives Different ways of comparing	Childhood and upbringing Remembering and forgetting	Reading: The secrets of your memory Listening: Childhood and Upbringing
Week 4	Comparatives and superlatives Different ways of comparing	Features and sights Adjectives for describing places	Reading: What's the right type of holiday for you? Write about your favorite holiday.(Use Sensory Word list to build your sentences)
Week 5	Present perfect and Past simple Present perfect simple and Present perfect continuous	Life events Personal qualities	Reading: Pushed too far?
Week 6	Future forms Future clauses with <i>if</i> , <i>when</i> , <i>unless</i> , etc.	Word families Work	Reading: Getting ahead in the 21st century Listening: Career

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