English Language Arts 8
Course Overview and Syllabus

Course Number: ELA3008 IC  Grade level: 8
Prerequisite Courses: None  Credits: 1.0

Course Description

In this course, students build on their knowledge and blossom as thoughtful readers and clear, effective writers. A balance of literary and informational text engages students throughout the course in reading critically, analyzing texts, and citing evidence to support claims. Students sharpen their vocabulary, grammar, and listening skills through lessons designed to provide explicit modeling and ample opportunities to practice. Students also routinely write responses to texts they have read, and use more extensive, process-based lessons to produce full-length essays in narrative, informative, analytical, and argumentative formats. In this full-year course, students develop a mastery of reading, writing, and language arts skills.

Course Objectives

Throughout the course, you will meet the following goals:

- Read complex texts at grade level.
- Understand and analyze the structure and elements of literature from various genres.
- Increase academic and domain-specific vocabulary.
- Use text evidence to analyze, infer, and synthesize ideas.
- Engage in routine writing in response to texts read and analyzed.
- Use the writing process to complete a variety of essay writing assignments.
- Develop research skills to access, interpret, and apply information from multiple sources.
- Gain the tools for speaking and listening in discussions and presentations.
- Learn a variety of real-world and digital communication skills.

Student Expectations

This course requires the same level of commitment from you as a traditional classroom course. Throughout the course, you are expected to spend approximately 5–7 hours per week online on:

- Interactive lessons that include a mixture of instructional videos and tasks
- Assignments in which you apply and extend learning in each lesson
- Assessments, including quizzes, tests, and cumulative exams
Communication

You are encouraged to communicate regularly with the school support staff through discussions, e-mail and online chat. We will regularly post system announcements. Instructors and academic success coaches are available during normal school hours to provide on-demand support.

Grading Policy

You will be graded on the work you do online and the work you submit electronically to your teacher. The weighting for each category of graded activity is listed below.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Grading Category</th>
<th>Weight</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Quiz</td>
<td>20%</td>
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<tr>
<td>Test</td>
<td>30%</td>
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<tr>
<td>Exam</td>
<td>20%</td>
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<tr>
<td>Essay</td>
<td>15%</td>
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<tr>
<td>Assignment</td>
<td>10%</td>
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<tr>
<td>Additional</td>
<td>0%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Project</td>
<td>5%</td>
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Scope and Sequence

When you log into Edgenuity, you can view the entire course map—an interactive scope and sequence of all topics you will study. There are 12 units of study grouped by the quarterly themes of Heroism, Perseverance, Identity, and Community.

Unit 1: American Heroes  
Unit 2: Lives of Commitment  
Unit 3: Everyday Heroes  
Unit 4: Rising to the Challenge  
Unit 5: Setting Goals  
Unit 6: Bravery and Resistance  
Unit 7: Belonging  
Unit 8: Rise to the Occasion  
Unit 9: Chance vs. Choice  
Unit 10: Making Communities Safer  
Unit 11: The Promise of America  
Unit 12: Out of Many, One