

Course Description:

English III (1 of 2) is the first semester of a high school level English Language Arts course. This course covers reading, writing, and analysis using both informational and argument texts. Students read seminal US texts, as well as presidential speeches, court documents, and scientific articles. These reading selections demonstrate concepts such as textual evidence, central ideas, inferences, word choice, and figurative language. Students also learn about context clues, spelling, hyphens, contested usage, figures of speech, and reference materials. In addition, students write a researched informational essay and a researched argument essay.

Prerequisites: English II (1 of 2) and (2 of 2) or equivalent 10th-Grade English Language Arts

Course Objectives:

- Analyze explicit and implicit ideas, using evidence within texts as support.
- Determine central ideas and purposes, as well as information to include in objective summaries.
- Identify and analyze text structure and organization.
- Recognize figurative language and examine the impact of word choice on texts.
- Assess the usefulness and purpose of structure and graphics in functional texts.
- Decipher an author's purpose and perspective.
- Explore rhetorical appeals, rhetorical devices, and faulty reasoning.
- Analyze the effect of various sentence structures.
- Use word position, function, and context clues to determine meaning.
- Recognize contested grammar rules.
- Use reference sources.
- Recognize academic, technical, and domain-specific vocabulary.
- Compose a research-based informational essay and an argument essay.

Required Materials:

- word-processing software
- internet browser
- presentation software

*Additional materials listed in the course

Course Overview:

Each unit begins with an introduction, which includes a brief description of the content and intended learning outcomes. Following the introduction are these standard activities, which may or may not be present in each lesson:

Unit Vocabulary – Includes parts of speech, definitions, and etymology.

Language Skill Instruction – Includes instruction in language skills; contains practice questions.

Reading Selections – Includes reading selections and videos; is part of the Reading Skill.

Reading Skill Instruction – Includes instruction in reading skills; contains practice questions.

Writing Skill Instruction and Activity – Includes instruction in writing skills; contains activities including writing projects, which are assessments graded by the instructor and which require you to apply your knowledge and writing capabilities to demonstrate mastery of the lesson content; includes a research-based informational essay, completed in Units 1, 2, and 3; and an argument essay, completed in Units 3, 4 and 5.

Checkpoint – Uses several questions to assess mastery of lesson objectives; is a graded activity; may be taken up to three times.

Discussion Board – Is an academic discussion board; gives you a chance to share your thoughts and ideas about the topics covered in each lesson.

Exam Prep – Presents a summary of the skills covered in the unit.

In the last lesson of each unit, the Checkpoint activity is replaced with a comprehensive assessment:

Unit Exams – At the end of the unit is an exam that will assess your mastery of unit objectives. It consists of a maximum of 20 questions. You may take the Unit Exam only once.

Final Exam – This exam is in Lesson 30 and consists of questions that test you on the concepts and information you learned in this course. You may take the Final Exam only once.

Schedule of Work

Unit 1: A Certain Shade of Green

- Introduction: Lessons 1–5
- Vocabulary/Language Skills: Lessons 1–2, 5
 - Unit Vocabulary: Lesson 1
 - Language Skill: Lesson 2
 - Unit Vocabulary/Language Skill Workbooks: Lessons 1–2
 - Language Skill Exam Prep: Lesson 5
- Reading Skills: Lessons 1–5
 - Reading Selections: Lessons 1–5
 - Reading Skills: Lessons 1–4
 - Reading Skills Workbooks: Lessons 1–4
 - Reading Skills Exam Prep: Lesson 5
- Writing Skills: Lessons 4-5
- Discussion Board: Lessons 2, 4
- Checkpoints: Lessons 1–4
- Unit 1 Exam: Lesson 5

Unit 1 Reading Selections

- **“The Bean-Field”**
 - Excerpt from *The Education of a Young Chief*
 - “Principles of Conservation”
 - “Save the Redwoods”
 - *Peregrine Falcon*
 - *For More Wonder, Rewild the World* video
 - *Bring Back the Woolly Mammoth!* video
 - “Street Farmer”
 - Excerpt from “Conservation as a National Duty”

Unit 2: **She Blinded Me with Science**

- Introduction: Lessons 6–10
- Vocabulary/Language Skills: Lessons 6–7, 10
 - Unit Vocabulary: Lesson 6
 - Language Skill: Lesson 7
 - Unit Vocabulary/Language Skill Workbooks: Lessons 6–7
 - Language Skill Exam Prep: Lesson 10
- Reading Skills: Lessons 6–10
 - Reading Selections: Lessons 6–10
 - Reading Skills: Lessons 6–9
 - Reading Skills Workbooks: Lessons 6–9
 - Reading Skills Exam Prep: Lesson 10
- Writing Skills: Lessons 6–10
- Discussion Board: Lessons 7, 9
- Checkpoint: Lessons 6–9
- Unit 2 Exam: Lesson 10

Unit 2 Reading Selections

- **“Your Average, Everyday Zombie”**
- “Mindsuckers: Meet Nature’s Nightmare”
- “‘Rewilding’ Draws on the Past to Modify Plants”

- “Why People Oppose GMOs Even Though Science Says They Are Safe”
- “Calculating the Value of Human Tissue Donation”
- “Leather and Meat without Killing Animals”
- “Paying Patients for Their Tissue: The Legacy of Henrietta Lacks”
- “NASA’s Curiosity Rover Finds Clues to How Water Helped Shape Martian Landscape”
- “NASA Confirms Evidence That Liquid Water Flows on Today’s Mars”

Unit 3: **Back to Life, Back to Reality**

- Introduction: Lessons 11–15
- Vocabulary/Language Skills: Lessons 11–12, 15
 - Unit Vocabulary: Lesson 11
 - Language Skill: Lesson 12
 - Unit Vocabulary/Language Skill Workbooks: Lessons 11–12
 - Language Skill Exam Prep: Lesson 15
- Reading Skills: Lessons 11–15
 - Reading Selections: Lessons 11–15
 - Reading Skills: Lessons 11–14
 - Reading Skills Workbooks: Lessons 11–14
 - Reading Skills Exam Prep: Lesson 15
- Writing Skills: Lessons 11–15
 - Writing Activity: Lesson 13
- Discussion Board: Lessons 12, 14
- Checkpoint: Lessons 11–14
- Unit 3 Exam: Lesson 15

Unit 3 Reading Selections

- **“How to Manage Stormwater: Rain Barrels”**
- “Water Conservation and Efficiency”
- “How to Select a Checking Account”
- “5 Tips: Protecting Your Checking Account”
- “How to Make the Most of Your Debit Card”
- “Making a Budget”

- “Teens Feeling Stressed and Many Not Managing It Well”
- “The Science of Conquering Your Fears—And Living a More Courageous Life”
- *Teach Every Child About Food* video
- “Balancing Calories to Manage Weight”
- “All About Sleep”
- “Sleep Problems and Solutions”

Unit 4: **Fight for Your Right**

- Introduction: Lessons 16–20
- Vocabulary/Language Skills: Lessons 16–17, 20
 - Unit Vocabulary: Lesson 16
 - Language Skill: Lesson 17
 - Unit Vocabulary/Language Skill Workbooks: Lessons 16–17
 - Language Skill Exam Prep: Lesson 20
- Reading Skills: Lessons 16–20
 - Reading Selections: Lessons 16–20
 - Reading Skills: Lessons 16–19
 - Reading Skills Workbooks: Lessons 16–19
 - Reading Skills Exam Prep: Lesson 20
- Writing Skills: Lessons 16–20
- Discussion Board: Lessons 17, 19
- Checkpoint: Lessons 16–19
- Unit 4 Exam: Lesson 20

Unit 4 Reading Selections

- **Hazelwood School District v. Kuhlmeier**
- “For the Equal Rights Amendment”
- “What Will It Take to Make Gender Equality the Norm, Not the Exception?”
- “A Defense of the Constitution”
- “Let’s Give Up on the Constitution”
- “Declaration of Conscience”
- John F. Kennedy’s “Inaugural Address”
- John F. Kennedy’s “Speech at American University”

Unit 5: Everybody Talks

- Introduction: Lessons 21–25
- Vocabulary/Language Skills: Lessons 21–22, 25
 - Unit Vocabulary: Lesson 21
 - Language Skill: Lesson 22
 - Unit Vocabulary/Language Skill Workbooks: Lessons 21–22
 - Language Skill Exam Prep: Lesson 25
- Reading Skills: Lessons 21–25
 - Reading Selections: Lessons 21–25
 - Reading Skills Lessons 21–24
 - Reading Skills Workbooks: Lessons 21–24
 - Reading Skills Exam Prep: Lesson 25
- Writing Skills: Lessons 21–23
 - Writing Activity: Lesson 23
- Discussion Board: Lessons 22, 24
- Checkpoint: Lessons 21–24
- Unit 5 Exam: Lesson 25

Unit 5 Reading Selections

- *“We Shall Overcome”*
- Barack Obama’s “Second Inaugural Address”
- *What to the Slave Is the Fourth of July?* Parts 1 and 2
- *Energy and the National Goals—A Crisis of Confidence*

Unit 6: The World We Live In

- Introduction: Lessons 26–30
- Language Skills Exam Prep: Lessons 26–29
- Reading Skills: Lessons 26–29
 - Reading Selections: Lessons 26–29
 - Reading Skills Exam Prep: Lessons 26–29
- Final Exam: Lesson 30

Unit 6 Reading Selections

- *“Conservation as a National Duty”*
- *“NASA’s Curiosity Rover Finds Clues to How Water Helped Shape Martian Landscape”*
- *“Sleep Problems and Solutions”*
- *John F. Kennedy’s “Inaugural Address”*
- *“Energy and the National Goals—A Crisis of Confidence”*