

### Course Description:

In this course, you will read and analyze informational texts. These texts take many different forms, including biographies, personal accounts of events, instructional documents, film reviews, and persuasive letters. The course's reading selections demonstrate ways to understand explicit and implicit information, central ideas and key details, and claims and arguments, among other ideas and concepts. Over the course of English 6A Honors, you will read the novel *The Road* by Jack London. You will also examine informational texts to better your understanding of the science behind sunsets, the lives of several important historical figures, the history of the Olympics, and the process of flotation used by archeologists, among other topics.

As you read the selections in this course, you will practice ways to use supporting evidence, identify central ideas, make inferences, analyze word choice, and identify figurative and connotative language in informational texts. In addition, you will learn about basics in grammar, usage, and punctuation, including correct spelling, analogies and word relationships, simple and compound sentences, prepositions and prepositional phrases, subordinating conjunctions, and varying sentence patterns. You will also review context clues to determine word meaning, and you will learn various vocabulary words and more about Greek and Latin prefixes, suffixes, and roots.

In addition, you will learn the elements of informational and argument writing so that you can plan, create, write, revise, and edit your own informational and argument essays. Through the lessons provided in this course, you will master techniques that help you achieve a deeper appreciation of informational texts.

### Course Objectives:

- Identify and describe central ideas and key details in texts.
- Analyze connections between key individuals, ideas, and events in texts.
- Identify and analyze implicit and explicit evidence in texts to make inferences.
- Determine how a text's perspective and structure contribute to its meaning and style.
- Identify and analyze claims and arguments within informational texts.
- Identify and interpret figurative, connotative, and technical meanings in texts.
- Use Greek or Latin affixes and roots, context, or reference materials to determine the meaning of words.
- Present information effectively, using multimedia components, visual displays, and speech skills.
- Use phrases and clauses within different sentence structures when writing.
- Complete writing activities and projects in which the development, organization, and style are appropriate to task, purpose, and audience.
- Identify and explain topics and issues from information presented across a variety of different media and formats.
- Use knowledge of writing ideas, concepts, and strategies to write informational and argument essays.
- Use punctuation and spell words correctly.
- Participate in academic discussions appropriately.
- Read and interpret informational text and literary nonfiction.

### Required Materials:

- word-processing software

- internet browser

\*Additional materials are 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:

- **Vocabulary Words** – Includes parts of speech, definitions, synonyms, related words, and etymology; contains practice questions; is a part of the Language Skill.
- **Language Skill Instruction** – Includes instruction in vocabulary and language skills; contains workbook questions; is a part of the Language Skill.
- **Reading Selections** – Includes reading selections, videos, infographics, and audio files; is part of the Reading Skill.
- **Reading Skill Instruction** – Includes instruction in reading skills; contains workbook questions; is part of the Reading Skill.
- **Writing Skill Instruction and Activity** – Includes instruction in writing skills; workbook questions; 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 an informative essay, completed in Units 2 and 3; and an argument essay, completed in Units 4 and 5.
- **Checkpoint** – Uses 15 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 mastery of unit objectives. You may take the Unit Exam only once.
- **Midterm Writing Exam** – This exam is in the next-to-last lesson and tests how well you have learned the writing skills presented in the course. You may take the Midterm Writing Assessment only once.
- **Midterm Exam** – This exam is in the last lesson and consists of 40 questions that test you on the concepts and information learned in the course. You may take the Midterm Exam only once.