

Course Description
Basic English 1
Literature and Composition

Course Description:

Basic English I is an introductory course in the study of literature with a focus on writing. Emphasis should be on helping students approach literature and writing at a pace appropriate to their abilities. Curriculum for this course is designed for students who are reading 1 or more years below grade level and/or have English as their second language. Students will read a variety of literature and write in response to the literature. Students will learn about the writing process in order to foster confidence in developing a written voice, use of mechanics and enhanced vocabulary. This course will cover traditional grammar usage, study skills, library research, and oral communication. Basic English I is a one- year course, 5 credits each semester will be awarded with a passing grade.

Curriculum:

-Recommended for students 1-2 years below grade level as determined by STAR or NWEA test results.

The following are packaged curriculums:

North Dakota Independent Study (web or print)

- Developmental English (grammar& usage) H EN 1011.
- Literature for Reluctant Readers, tool skills, H EN 1021

University Nebraska Lincoln

- Basic Grammar ENGH 001 055
- Intermediate Grammar ENGH 002 055
- Effective Reader Skills ENGH 005 056
- Basic Expository Writing ENGH 023 002

Starline Press

Apex

- English Fundamentals

-Recommended for Students more than 2 years below grade level as determined by STAR or NWEA test results or,

-Students who are in a grade recovery situation

-Students whose needs may require specific plan put in place as agreed upon collectively by parent, IS teacher and administration.

AGS- Basic English Grammar And/or Basic English Composition

AGS Exploring Literature

The corresponding AGS workbooks and answer keys must be ordered along with the textbook.

Literature guides corresponding to assigned novels.

Key Assignments:

Students using a packaged curriculum will follow the course syllabus included with the course. Courses are intended to cover an entire year. The Independent Study Teacher (IST) may modify the assignments as deemed necessary in his/her professional judgment.

1) Students using the AGS materials will complete the following per chapter, ensuring that the entire text is completed within a school year:

Section Review Questions as assigned by the IST

Chapter Review Tests per chapter

Corresponding Workbook pages as assigned by the IST

Basic Grammar and composition assignments as directed by the IST

2) Each student, regardless of curriculum being used, will select four novels per year from the attached list. The student will complete the novel (2 per semester) and prepare a 3-5 page essay that summarizes the elements of the novel. The paper will identify the plot, main characters, setting, and the major themes of the book.

3) Every student, regardless of curriculum, will present a 3-5 minute oral presentation on the novel. The student will prepare an outline summarizing the elements of the novel along with their personal reaction to the story. The student should discuss why the novel was selected, what he/she liked and disliked about the novel and what the student learned from the reading. The outline will be turned in after the presentation is complete.

Recommended Reading List

Title	Lexile level
* To Kill a Mockingbird	870
* I Know Why the Caged Bird Sings	1070
* Of Mice and Men	630
* Esperanza Rising	N/a
* The Giver	760
The Sign of the Beaver	770
The Witch of Blackbird Pond	850
Ella Enchanted	670
Sing Down the Moon	820
Where the Flame Trees Bloom	1030
Call It Courage	830
Shiloh	890
My Side of the Mountain	N/a
Number the Stars	670
Lyddie	860
Mama's Bank Account	820
Hatchet	1020
Stone Fox	850
Parrot in the Oven	1000

* Strongly recommended

4) Every student, regardless of curriculum, will complete the following basic writing assignments during the year in connection with assigned reading as determined by the IST. The assignments will be graded using the Basic novel summary rubric, and/or other rubrics included in the manual.

- Narrative
- Biographical or autobiographical narrative
- Short story using sensory details
- Character sketch
- Descriptive setting
- Business letter
- Research paper

Basic Novel Summary Scoring Rubric

The following 9-point Rubric will be utilized when grading Basic student summaries.

The 8-9 Point Summary: A grade

- contains a clear, detailed summary of the plot and characters
- supports the summary with substantial, relevant information about characters, settings
- uses in-text citations from the book
- in-depth understanding of the complexity of the themes
- may contain minor grammatical, spelling and punctuation errors

The 5-7 Point Essay: B/C grade

- contains a clear summary with limited details
- supports the summary with limited information using some in-text citations
- exhibits limited understanding of themes; may deal with only one aspect in some depth, or with many elements in a general way
- may contain grammatical, spelling or punctuation errors that do not detract from the overall summary

The 2-4 Point Essay: C/D grade

- contains a weak, vague, summary with few details
- has minimal or irrelevant supporting information
- ignores thematic complexity; may deal with one area in a general or superficial way
- may contain major errors

The 0-1 Point Essay: F grade

- gives an incompetent response
- may paraphrase other material
- show little or no understanding of the novel or themes

Basic English I Key Assignment checklist

Assignment	Date/Learning Period Completed
Narrative paragraph/essay	
Biographical or autobiographical narrative	
Short story using sensory details	
Character sketch	
Descriptive setting	
Business letter	
Research paper	
Novel/reading #1	
Essay <input type="checkbox"/>	
Presentation <input type="checkbox"/>	
Novel/reading #2	
Essay <input type="checkbox"/>	
Presentation <input type="checkbox"/>	
Novel/reading #3	
Essay <input type="checkbox"/>	
Presentation <input type="checkbox"/>	
Novel/reading #4	
Essay <input type="checkbox"/>	
Presentation <input type="checkbox"/>	
Independent reading #1	
Independent reading #2	
Independent reading #3	
Independent reading #4	

