

Virginia English 10, Semester A

Course Overview

English is the study of the creation and analysis of literature written in the English language. In Virginia English 10, Semester A you will explore the different literary devices used in short stories, such as subject, theme, mood, plot, and narration. You will read and analyze a variety of literary works to learn more about a particular literary device. The second unit covers many types of informational texts. In the third unit, you will read and study drama from a range of eras. In addition, you will complete writing activities in which you will employ analytical and persuasive skills. In Virginia English 10, Semester A, you will also study a variety of techniques to improve your reading comprehension, writing skills, and grammar and mechanics.

Course Goals

By the end of this course, you will be able to do the following:

- Evaluate the different elements of fiction, such as subject, theme, tone, mood, plot, and point of view, in short stories.
- Explain the function, features, opinion, bias, and persuasive techniques used in informational texts.
- Examine how audience can influence informational texts.
- Identify and investigate the purpose of informational texts.
- Examine the features of dramatic texts such as *Antigone* by Sophocles.
- Analyze elements of stage performance in Shakespearean drama such as *Macbeth*.
- Examine the form and literary elements of modern dramatic texts such as Henrik Ibsen's *A Doll's House*.

General Skills

To participate in this course, you should be able to do the following:

- Complete basic operations with word processing software, such as Microsoft Word or Google Docs.
- Complete basic operations with presentation software, such as Microsoft PowerPoint or Google Docs Presentation.
- Perform online research using various search engines and library databases.
- Communicate through email and participate in discussion boards.

For a complete list of general skills that are required for participation in online courses, refer to the Prerequisites section of the Student Orientation, found at the beginning of this course.

Credit Value

Virginia English 10, Semester A is a 0.5-credit course.

Course Materials

- notebook
- pencil or pen
- computer with Internet connection and speakers or headphones
- Microsoft Word or equivalent
- Microsoft PowerPoint or equivalent

Some course readings may require a visit to your school library or public library.

Course Pacing Guide

This course description and pacing guide is intended to help you keep on schedule with your work. Note that your course instructor may modify the schedule to meet the specific needs of your class.

Unit 1: Literary Devices in Fiction

Summary

This unit focuses on the different elements of fiction, beginning with a lesson on subject and theme in short stories. In subsequent lessons, you will explore tone, mood, and narrative techniques in fiction while reading selections such as “The Exercise” by Bernard MacLaverly, “The Monkey’s Paw” by W. W. Jacobs, and Anita Desai’s “Games at Twilight.” You will analyze the development of characters and plot in O. Henry’s “Gift of the Magi.” In the final lesson in this unit, you will explore the use of symbolism in short stories, including a selection from James Joyce’s “Araby.”

Day	Activity/Objective	Type
1 day: 1	Syllabus and Plato Student Orientation <i>Review the Plato Student Orientation and Course Syllabus at the beginning of this course.</i>	Course Orientation
6 days: 2–7	Subject and Theme in Fiction <i>Evaluate subject and theme within short stories.</i>	Lesson
6 days: 8–13	Tone and Mood in Fiction <i>Analyze tone and mood in short stories.</i>	Lesson
6 days: 14–19	Character and Plot Development in Fiction <i>Investigate the development of characters and plot in short stories.</i>	Lesson
5 days: 20–24	Narrative Techniques in Fiction <i>Examine narration and point of view in short stories.</i>	Lesson
5 days: 25–29	Symbolism in Fiction <i>Explore the use of symbolism in short stories.</i>	Lesson
5 days: 30–34	Unit Activity and Discussion—Unit 1	Unit Activity/ Discussion
1 day: 35	Posttest—Unit 1	Assessment

Unit 2: Elements of Informational Nonfiction

Summary

This unit focuses on the elements of informational texts, beginning with a lesson on the purpose and characteristics of informational literature. In subsequent lessons, you will analyze opinion, bias, and persuasive techniques used in informational texts. You will explore the influence of audience on a piece of informational text by reading Abraham Lincoln’s famous First Inaugural Address and compare it with a letter he wrote on the same topic. The unit ends with a lesson in which you will investigate the aim and function of informational nonfiction.

Day	Activity/Objective	Type
4 days: 36–39	Introduction to Informational Texts <i>Evaluate the function and features of informational nonfiction texts.</i>	Lesson
4 days: 40–43	Opinion in Informational Texts <i>Analyze opinion, bias, and persuasive techniques in informational texts.</i>	Lesson
6 days: 44–49	Audience in Informational Texts <i>Examine how audience can influence an informational text.</i>	Lesson
5 days: 50–54	Purpose in Informational Texts <i>Identify and investigate purpose in informational texts.</i>	Lesson
5 days: 55–59	Unit Activity and Discussion—Unit 2	Unit Activity/ Discussion
1 day: 60	Posttest—Unit 2	Assessment

Unit 3: Foundations of Stagecraft

Summary

This unit focuses on the foundations and elements of drama. You will explore different aspects of drama, themes, and stage performance while reading *Antigone* by Sophocles and William Shakespeare’s *Macbeth*. You will also examine the form and literary elements of modern dramatic texts with reference to Henrik Ibsen’s work *A Doll’s House*.

Day	Activity/Objective	Type
4 days: 61–64	Elements of Drama: <i>Antigone</i> <i>Explore the features of dramatic texts in <i>Antigone</i> by Sophocles.</i>	Lesson
5 days: 65–69	Themes of Classical Drama: <i>Antigone</i> <i>Evaluate classical dramatic texts by reading <i>Antigone</i> by Sophocles.</i>	Lesson

Day	Activity/Objective	Type
5 days: 70–74	Stage Performance: <i>Macbeth</i> <i>Analyze elements of stage performance in acts I and II of Macbeth by William Shakespeare.</i>	Lesson
4 days: 75–78	Themes of Shakespearean Drama: <i>Macbeth</i> <i>Examine the steps for completing the final draft of an essay, including editing and revising.</i>	Lesson
4 days: 79–82	Modern Drama <i>Examine the form and literary elements of modern dramatic texts.</i>	Lesson
5 days: 83–87	Unit Activity and Discussion—Unit 3	Unit Activity/ Discussion
1 day: 88	Posttest—Unit 3	Assessment
1 day: 89	End-of-Semester Review	
1 day: 90	End-of-Semester Test	Assessment

Virginia English 10, Semester B

Course Overview

English is the study of the creation and analysis of literature written in the English language. In Virginia English 10, Semester B you will explore characteristics of different genres of fiction, such as realistic fiction, historical fiction, and science fiction, and analyze historical context, theme, and genre in Franz Kafka's novella *The Metamorphosis*. The second unit covers many types of nonfiction writing, including memoirs, personal essays, public essays, speeches, and narrative nonfiction. In the third unit, you will analyze traits and genres of poetry. In addition, you will complete writing activities in which you will employ analytical and persuasive skills. In Virginia English 10, Semester B, you will also study a variety of techniques to improve your reading comprehension, writing skills, and grammar and mechanics. In a Course Activity, you will examine techniques to present current events.

Course Goals

By the end of this course, you will be able to do the following:

- Understand different genres of fiction, such as realistic fiction, historical fiction, and science fiction.
- Explain the historical context, theme, and genre in Franz Kafka's novella *The Metamorphosis*.
- Analyze the literary characteristics of nonfiction texts such as memoirs.
- Understand the purpose, meaning, and form of personal essays, public essays, and speeches.
- Evaluate the form and literary elements of narrative nonfiction such as "My Brother Paul" from Theodore Dreiser's *Twelve Men*.
- Understand the various forms of poetry and the language used in poetry.
- Explain the different structures, metrical patterns, and sound patterns in poetry.
- Analyze features specific to lyric poetry, odes, elegies, narrative poetry, and ballad poetry.

General Skills

To participate in this course, you should be able to do the following:

- Complete basic operations with word processing software, such as Microsoft Word or Google Docs.
- Complete basic operations with presentation software, such as Microsoft PowerPoint or Google Docs Presentation.
- Perform online research using various search engines and library databases.
- Communicate through email and participate in discussion boards.

For a complete list of general skills that are required for participation in online courses, refer to the Prerequisites section of the Student Orientation, found at the beginning of this course.

Credit Value

Virginia English 10, Semester B is a 0.5-credit course.

Course Materials

- notebook
- pencil or pen
- computer with Internet connection and speakers or headphones
- Microsoft Word or equivalent
- Microsoft PowerPoint or equivalent

Some course readings may require a visit to your school library or public library.

Course Pacing Guide

This course description and pacing guide is intended to help you keep on schedule with your work. Note that your course instructor may modify the schedule to meet the specific needs of your class.

Unit 1: Genre and Context in Fiction

Summary

This unit focuses on the context and the different genres of fiction. You will analyze historical context and understand its effect on the purpose and meaning of literature. You will explore genres of fiction such as realistic fiction, historical fiction, and science fiction. At the end of the unit, you will study the historical context, theme, and genre in Franz Kafka's novella *The Metamorphosis*.

Day	Activity/Objective	Type
1 day: 1	Syllabus and Plato Student Orientation <i>Review the Plato Student Orientation and Course Syllabus at the beginning of this course.</i>	Course Orientation
4 days: 2–5	Understanding Context in Fiction <i>Analyze how historical context can influence purpose and meaning within literature.</i>	Lesson
5 days: 6–10	Realistic Fiction <i>Explore the literary characteristics of realistic fiction.</i>	Lesson
4 days: 11–14	Historical Fiction <i>Investigate how fiction can revisit and recreate historical events.</i>	Lesson
5 days: 15–19	Science Fiction <i>Evaluate the role of scientific discovery and exploration in science fiction.</i>	Lesson
4 days: 20–23	Context in Fiction: <i>The Metamorphosis</i> <i>Explore the historical context of Franz Kafka’s <i>The Metamorphosis</i>.</i>	Lesson
5 days: 24–28	Theme and Genre in Fiction: <i>The Metamorphosis</i> <i>Investigate theme and genre in Franz Kafka’s <i>The Metamorphosis</i>.</i>	Lesson
4 days: 29–32	Unit Activity and Discussion—Unit 1	Unit Activity/ Discussion
1 day: 33	Posttest—Unit 1	Assessment

Unit 2: Elements of Creative Nonfiction

Summary

In this unit, you will analyze the literary characteristics of nonfiction literature, such as memoirs, as well as the purpose, meaning, and form of personal essays, public essays, and speeches. You will evaluate the form and literary elements of narrative nonfiction

through the study of Theodore Dreiser’s “My Brother Paul.” Towards the end, in the Course Activity, you will explore the techniques to communicate the recent events.

Day	Activity/Objective	Type
4 days: 34–37	Memoirs <i>Examine the literary elements of memoirs.</i>	Lesson
4 days: 38–41	Personal Essays <i>Explore purpose and meaning within personal essays.</i>	Lesson
4 days: 42–45	Public Essays <i>Analyze the characteristics of public essays.</i>	Lesson
4 days: 46–49	Speeches <i>Consider the function and form of speeches.</i>	Lesson
4 days: 50–53	Narrative Nonfiction <i>Evaluate the form and literary elements of narrative nonfiction.</i>	Lesson
3 days: 54–56	Multimedia Presentations <i>Analyze how current events or issues are presented and communicated by visual images versus nonvisual texts in different types of media.</i>	Course Activity
3 days: 57–59	Unit Activity and Discussion—Unit 2	Unit Activity/ Discussion
1 day: 60	Posttest—Unit 2	Assessment

Unit 3: Form and Language in Poetry

Summary

This unit explores the various forms of poetry and the language used in poetry. You will begin by studying various structures and metrical and sound patterns in poetry. You will also analyze themes and figurative language used in poetry. Finally, you will examine features specific to different types of poetry such as lyric poetry, odes, elegies, narrative poetry, and ballad poetry.

Day	Activity/Objective	Type
5 days: 61–65	Structure and Meter in Poetry <i>Investigate structure, meter, and sound patterns in poetry.</i>	Lesson
4 days: 66–69	Theme and Language in Poetry <i>Inspect theme and figurative language in poetry.</i>	Lesson
5 days: 70–74	Lyric Poetry <i>Examine the characteristics of lyric poetry.</i>	Lesson
4 days: 75–78	Odes and Elegies <i>Analyze the poetic features of odes and elegies.</i>	Lesson
5 days: 79–83	Narrative and Ballad Poetry <i>Evaluate the elements of narrative and ballad poetry.</i>	Lesson
4 days: 84–87	Unit Activity and Discussion—Unit 3	Unit Activity/ Discussion
1 day: 88	Posttest—Unit 3	Assessment
1 day: 89	End-of-Semester Review	
1 day: 90	End-of-Semester Test	Assessment