

# English Language Arts 8

## Course Overview and Syllabus

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**Course Subject Code:** 1114

**Grade level:** 8

**Prerequisite Courses:** English Language Arts 7

**Credits:** 1.0

### Course Description

In this yearlong course, students build on their knowledge and blossom as thoughtful readers and clear, effective writers. A balance of literary and informational texts engage 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.

The course objectives are implemented throughout specific lessons, which include examples of authentic, historic, and contemporary texts, and focus on grade-level writing and grammar skills.

The lesson objectives are assessed through assignments, quizzes, unit tests, and cumulative exams. Writing is assessed through short writing applications as well as full essay development.

## Student Expectations

This course requires the same level of commitment from you as a traditional classroom course. Students are expected to spend approximately five to seven 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

Your teacher will communicate with you regularly through discussions, e-mail, chat, and system announcements, and will provide you with hours of availability, contact policies, and any synchronous attendance requirements. You will also communicate with classmates, either via online tools or face to face, as you collaborate on projects, ask and answer questions in your peer group, and develop your speaking and listening skills.

## 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.

Grading Category	Weight
Assignments	10%
Essays	15%
Lesson Quizzes	20%
Unit Tests	30%
Cumulative Exams	20%
Projects	5%

## 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. The units of study are summarized below:

- Unit 1:** American Heroes and Everyday Heroes
- Unit 2:** Lives of Commitment
- Unit 3:** Setting Goals
- Unit 4:** Bravery and Resistance
- Unit 5:** Making Communities Safer
- Unit 6:** Belonging
- Unit 7:** Chance and Choice
- Unit 8:** Rising to the Occasion
- Unit 9:** The Promise of America

## **Standards Alignment**

The course was designed to meet the requirements of the 2016 Oklahoma Academic Standards for 8<sup>th</sup> grade English language arts. The standards aligned to each lesson are available in the student portal in the lesson information panel.

## **Materials and Technology Requirements**

All course materials are provided through the student portal. You will become familiar with them through an orientation video and the student handbook. These resources are available within the Student Organizer, where you can also check the status of your operating system, processor speed, plug-ins and connection speed.

## **Accessibility**

The course is designed for accessibility to all students. The system provides features and accommodations to meet the needs of ELL and students with IEP's, 504 plans, and Section 508. These accommodations include addressing multiple learning styles, accommodations for assessments, video caption/transcripts, read-aloud and translation tools, and many other features/accommodations.