

Reading and Writing Syllabus Part 1

20 Lesson Language Plan

Shawn Gaffney Shawn.gaffney@gmail.com

This class will help you improve your reading and writing skills. It will also help you expand your vocabulary and explore some new types of writing and genres that you may not be familiar with yet. Lastly, this course will help you identify areas that you can still improve on.

Coursework

The following is a general overview of the content for the 20 lessons.

Synopsis of Readings:

To Kill a Mockingbird by Harper Lee Excerpt from Brewster
Excerpt from Emma
"Stolen Day", Sherwood Anderson
"Thirteen and a Half", Rachel Vail
"After Twenty Years", O. Henry
"Annabel Lee", Edgar Allan Poe

Literature:

Students will **always** have a reading assignment. The curriculum includes assigned class novels and various independent reads. There is often a free read assignment each quarter which requires a type of project/report. Information regarding the specific reports will be announced in class. Students will be given time to read their free choice book and then be given due dates for specific projects. The majority of free choice reading assignments will be completed at home, while class time will be devoted to shared literature. More information regarding how to complete these specific reports will be posted online as well as taken home.

In addition to free choice reads, we will read a multitude of short stories, poems, and plays from our literature textbook. Students will also be starting to learn and review literary terms. There are often frequent quizzes based on the assigned reading and writing projects.

Writing:

During the lessons, students write extensively from journal entries to essays to formal reports. Thus, students will learn to write in various formats (narratives, journals, poems, essays, stories, etc.) and write for different purposes (analytical, persuasive, and expository writing). Through this journey, students will come to understand the writing process as a whole: prewriting, drafting, revising, proofreading, and editing, which will benefit them not only in English class, but across the subject areas, as well.



Vocabulary and Grammar:

Vocabulary is presented through a "Word of the Day" at the beginning of some classes. Students are expected to write it down in their vocabulary section of their writer's notebook and are encouraged to use that word at least once throughout their day. The vocabulary is extracted directly from the literature we read in class. Students are tested after every 10 words and will be notified in advance.

Moreover, grammar is a very crucial element of the course. By exercises throughout the year, students will understand the importance of using correct punctuation, capitalization, and spelling in their writing. Students will utilize transition words and advance to writing compound/complex sentences in order to make their personal writing style more sophisticated.

Student Expectations

☐ Join class on time with an open mind and a readiness to learn.
$\hfill\square$ Take notes to help enhance study skills and to ensure greatness on tests
☐ Be prepared with your writing and reading.

Detailed Course Contents

	Topics	
Lesson 1	Introduction Reading Discussion	Get a copy of <i>To Kill a Mockingbird</i> Read the first chapter.
Lesson 2	Reading comprehension Answer questions Review Writing	Begin writing project Brewster from PSAT 2 Read Chapter 2.
Lesson 3	Discuss reading Careful reading Purpose	Read Chapter 3 &4 Vocabulary collection Formulate 5 questions Continue writing project
Lesson 4	Vocabulary discussion Review 5 questions Analyses texts	Read Chapter 5 Emma from PSAT 1 Vocabulary collection
Lesson 5	Discuss our writing projects Discuss <i>Emma</i> Vocabulary quiz	Edit writing project Pick 3 paragraphs of writing to talk about Read Chapter 6 & 7



Lesson 6	Facts and opinions Main ideas	Collect examples of Facts and Opinions Read Chapter 8 Vocabulary collection Writing Samples
Lesson 7	Writing exercises Brainstorming Outlining Evidence	"Stolen Day", Sherwood Anderson Bring in ideas for writing Review previous reading for ideas. Read Chapter 9 & 10
Lesson 8	Research Vocabulary Quiz	Vocabulary collection Writing Samples Chapter 11 & 12
Lesson 9	Word choice Vocabulary	"Thirteen and a Half", Rachel Vail Read Chapter 13 &14 Vocabulary collection Writing Samples
Lesson 10	Sentence Structure Grammatical mistakes	"After Twenty Years", O. Henry Read Chapter 15 &16 Vocabulary collection Writing Samples
Lesson 11	Writing Samples Common Assignments Drafts	Read Chapter 17 & 18 Free Writing Vocabulary Collection
Lesson 12	Grammatical quiz Discuss writing IN class reading assignment with questions	Compare and Contrast reading Free Writing Vocabulary Collection Read Chapter 19 & 20 "Annabel Lee", Edgar Allan Poe



Lesson 13	Discuss compare and contrast Vocabulary quiz In class Reading	Compare and Contrast Writing Free Writing Vocabulary Collection Read 21 & 22
Lesson 14	Review compare and contrast writing In class Reading	Details reading Free Writing Vocabulary Collection Read 23&24
Lesson 15	Review Details reading/Free writing In class Reading	Details writing Free Writing Vocabulary Collection Read 25 & 26
Lesson 16	Narrative examples In class Reading	Narrative Fredrick Douglas Free Writing Vocabulary Collection Read 27 &28
Lesson 17	Vocabulary quiz In class Reading	Narrative writing Free Writing Vocabulary Collection Read 29 &30
Lesson 18	Science examples Historic examples Careful in class reading	Science Free Writing Vocabulary Collection Read 31
Lesson 19	More historical examples and review	Historical documents Free Writing Vocabulary Collection
Lesson 20	Review	