

English I

2019-2020
Freshman year

Course Description

The Acellus High School English I course provides a detailed investigation of literary techniques and devices using classics from American and English literature as examples. It explains how to recognize these techniques and to incorporate them into writing. It also presents strategies for expanding vocabulary through reading and provides focus on grammar skills for advanced writing. Course topics include:

- Plot, Setting, Conflict, and Irony
- Characterization and Theme
- Point of View, Narrator and Voice
- Cause and Effect
- Autobiography, Memoirs, and Biography
- Persuasive, Expository, and Descriptive Essays
- Speech in Writing
- Editorials
- Elements of Poetry and Poetic Devices
- Drama

High School English I is targeted to building a foundation in the core areas of reading fluency/comprehension and effective oral and written communication. Specifically, the course aids students to achieve the following:

- Read increasingly complex texts, both fiction and non-fiction, with comprehension and fluency, demonstrating an understanding of different treatments of similar themes
- Conduct long and short-term research projects utilizing multiple types of resources, assessing their reliability and relevancy to the research topic
- Produce a variety of oral and written presentations based on analysis and comparison of texts, on research conducted, and on conclusions drawn through study and discussion; these include both formal as well as informal written and oral presentations.
- Utilize multimedia components in written and oral presentations where these aid in making clear points
- Participate in meaningful group discussions, considering other's points of view, and exchanging knowledge and ideas
- Adhere to the conventions of Standard English in writing and speaking
- Gain an appreciation for and a greater understanding of great literature

Pre-Requisites

None

Resources

The following resources are used in this course:

- Acellus Curriculum. Acellus contains 418 units including unit exams, projects, a midterm and a final exam.
- Narrative of the Life of Frederick Douglass by Fredrick Douglass
- Benjamin Franklin's Autobiography
- The Red Badge of Courage
- Robinson Caruso
- The Man in the Iron Mask
- The Three Musketeers
- Treasure Island
- Kidnapped
- Dr. Jekyll and Mr. Hyde
- Gulliver's Travels
- 20,000 Leagues Under the Sea
- The Time Machine
- The Invisible Man

Grading

Daily assignments 25%

Unit exams 15%

Projects 15%

Essays 15%

Book Reports 10%

Midterm exam 10%

Final exam 10%

Grading scale

A+ 97-100	A 94-96	A- 90-93	B+ 87-89	B 84-86	B- 80-83
C+ 77-79	C 74-76	C- 70-73	D+ 67-69	D 64-66	D- 60-63
F below 59					

Assignments

Unit 1 – Plot, Setting

This unit covers plot and conflict, and includes genres, vocabulary, story elements, conflict, summarizing, literary devices, and semicolons.

- Narrative of the Life of Frederick Douglass book report due August 9
- Unit 1 exam August 21
- The Red Badge of Courage due August 30
- Practice with Literary Devices due

Unit 2 – Conflict

This unit covers conflict and also discusses how to evaluate and analyze irony, using verbs for description, using adverb clauses, etymology, vocabulary, and colons.

- Unit 2 exam September 6
- Practice with Adjective Clauses due
- Practice with Verbs due

Unit 3 – Irony

This unit covers irony, and includes homonyms and homophones, flashback, characterization, dashes, using dialect in dialogue, paraphrasing, imagery, synonyms, and humor through irony.

- Unit 3 exam September 24
- The Man in the Iron Mask due September 30
- Character Ranks and Roles due
- Academic Languages and Tasks due

Unit 4 – Short Story - Point of View

This unit discusses point of view, and includes vocabulary, setting, irony, characterization, imagery, simile, theme, transitional phrases, run-on-sentences, and misplaced modifiers.

- Unit 4 exam October 16
- Shifting Perspective is due
- Practice with Run-On Sentences is due
- Types of Conjunctions is due

Unit 5 – Short Story - Narrator and Voice

This unit covers narrator and voice, and also discusses using character foils, vocabulary, identifying sequence, comparing, contrasting, finding irony, how to use theme, comparative and superlative adjectives, and analogies.

- Unit 5 exam October 30
- Robinson Caruso due October 31
- Types of Characterization is due
- Theme Statements is due

Unit 6 – Short Story - Cause and Effect

This unit discusses cause and effect relationships, vocabulary and academic vocabulary, inferences, tips for using a dictionary, parts of words, words with multiple meanings, analogies, and how to use concrete details in writing.

- Unit 6 exam November 15
- The Three Musketeers due November 22

- Cause and Effect is due
- Practice with Multiple-Meaning Words is due

Unit 7 – Literary Analysis

This unit discusses literary analysis, including choosing a topic, writing an introduction, weaving in text, formatting body paragraphs, explaining evidence, constructing paragraphs with the alternating or chunked method, writing conclusions, and including citations.

- Unit 7 exam December 4
- Practice with Combining Sentences is due

Unit 8 – Nonfiction

This unit discusses the genre of nonfiction, including strategies for reading nonfiction and how vocabulary and angle are used in nonfiction, as well as how to use summarization, semicolons, synonyms, facts, opinion, and rhetorical devices.

- Midterm exam December 13
- Nonfiction Reading Strategies is due
- Practice with Semicolons is due

Unit 9 – Nonfiction – Autobiography, Memoirs

This unit discusses sentence fragments, analogies, historical narrative, how to write a news story, parts of words, analogies, using commas in series, and academic vocabulary.

- Treasure Island due January 6
- Unit 9 exam January 21
- Practice with Participles is due
- Practice with Commas in a Series is due

Unit 10 – Nonfiction – Autobiography

This unit discusses how to improve reading comprehension, how to decode vocabulary, and how to write autobiographical narratives, as well as jargon, characterization, imagery, adopted words, dialogue, speaker tags, and word usage.

- Kidnapped due January 31
- Unit 10 exam February 6
- Using Appositives is due

Unit 11 – Nonfiction – Biography

This unit covers the genre of biography, as well as tone, author's purpose, anecdotes, character inferences, writing skills, preparing for and conducting an interview, transitioning from interview to report, decoding vocabulary through word parts, cause and effect relationships, and dangling modifiers.

- Unit 11 exam February 21
- Dr. Jekyll and Mr. Hyde due February 21
- Practice with Word Parts is due

Unit 12 – Nonfiction – Persuasive, Expository Essays

This unit introduces the essay, including persuasive, expository, and humorous essays. It discusses antithesis, analyzing argument, word usage and vocabulary, pronoun-antecedent agreement, paraphrasing, analyzing humor, rhetorical devices, and using context clues.

- Autobiography of Benjamin Franklin due March 6
- Unit 12 exam March 17
- Gulliver's Travels due March 31
- Narrative Techniques and Structures is due
- The Power of Persuasion is due
- Writing Assessment is due
- Using LPR3 is due

Unit 13 – Persuasive Essay

This unit discusses writing a persuasive essay, including choosing topics, writing the thesis statement and introduction, how to construct an argument sandwich and a data dump, how to address the counter, how to write a conclusion, how to do research, and how to use and include citations.

- Unit 13 exam April 1
- Building a Powerful Thesis is due

Unit 14 – Nonfiction – Speech

This unit discusses persuasion, argument, bias, rhetorical devices, common ground, word usage, infinitives, synonyms, comparing literature, differing views, sentence fragments, analogies, and editorials.

- Unit 14 exam April 24
- 20,000 Leagues Under the Sea due April 30
- Types of Speeches is due
- Preparing a Speech is due
- Evaluating Editorials is due

Unit 15 – Nonfiction – Elements of Poetry

This unit discusses the elements of poetry, including paraphrasing, rhyme scheme, metaphor, poetic form, free verse, comparison and contrast, symbolism, and personification.

- Unit 15 exam May 12
- The Time Machine due May 29
- Alliterative Emphasis is due
- The Impact of Setting is due
- Creating Empathy with Metaphors is due
- Poetic Structure is due
- Non-Traditional Poetry is due
- Creating Tone is due
- Adding Depth and Detail is due

Unit 16 – Drama

This unit discusses the elements of drama, tragedy and its elements, comedy, and satire, as well as tips for reading and writing drama, dramatic devices, Shakespearean drama, and strategies for reading Shakespeare. Also covered are using possessives and subject-verb order.

- Final Exam June 12
- The Invisible Man due June 19
- Speaking Assessment is due
- Being the Bard is due