

English Language Arts 6

Course Overview and Syllabus

Course Number: ELA3006 IC

Grade level: 6

Prerequisite Courses: None

Credits: 1.0

Course Description

This course eases students' transition to middle school with engaging, age-appropriate literary and informational reading selections. Students learn to read critically, analyze texts, and cite evidence to support ideas as they read essential parts of literary and informational texts and explore a full unit on Lewis Carroll's classic novel *Through the Looking Glass*. Vocabulary, grammar, and listening skills are sharpened through lessons that give students explicit modeling and ample practice. Students also engage in routine, responsive writing based on texts they have read. In extensive process-based writing lessons, students write topical 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.
- Use research skills to access, interpret, and apply information from several sources.
- Gain the tools for speaking and listening in discussions and presentations.
- Learn a variety of real-world and digital communication skills.

Student Expectations

This course requires the same level of commitment from you as a traditional classroom course. Throughout the course, you are expected to spend approximately 5–7 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. 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
Quiz	20%
Test	30%
Exam	20%
Essay	15%
Assignment	10%
Additional	0%
Project	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. There are 12 units of study grouped by the quarterly themes of Identity, Perseverance, Heroism, and Community.

Unit 1: Fitting In

Unit 2: Making Changes

Unit 3: That's Pretty Clever!

Unit 4: Making Sense

Unit 5: Planning and Building

Unit 6: New Beginnings

Unit 7: Overcoming Obstacles

Unit 8: Growing Up

Unit 9: Caretakers of the Earth

Unit 10: What's Out There?

Unit 11: Making Tough Choices

Unit 12: Understanding Others

Unit	Lesson	Lesson Objectives
Fitting In		
Introduction to Identity and Fitting In		
Identify the elements of a story		
Reflect on how characters and events connect in a story		
Trace plot developments in a short story		
Characters in <i>Holes</i>		
Distinguish between stated and implied character traits		
Infer to identify implied traits		
Understand how an author reveals details about a character		
Narrative Structure in <i>Holes</i>		
Evaluate an author's craft		
Identify the narrative structure of a story		
Understand the purpose of flashbacks		
Details in a Middle Schooler's Personal Narrative		
Connect to the writer's central idea		
Identify details that tell what happened to the writer		
Understand the characteristics of a personal narrative		
Setting in <i>A Girl Named Zippy</i>		
Analyze how setting conveys historical context		
Consider why an author writes about his or her own life		
Identify aspects of setting		
Context Clues and Multiple-Meaning Words		
Determine the appropriate meaning of multiple-meaning words		
Identify context clues within sentences and paragraphs		
Use context clues to determine the meanings of unfamiliar words		
Writing a Personal Narrative about Fitting In		
Brainstorm and sequence events in chronological order		
Revise to use descriptive details and sensory words		
Write an engaging personal narrative through the writing process		
Making Changes		
Making Changes: Central Ideas in <i>Immigrant Kids</i>		
Analyze text details that support a central idea		
Identify and paraphrase central ideas		
Understand the purpose of an informational text		
Ellis Island National Monument Online: Text and Visual Details		
Analyze details presented both textually and visually		
Combine details to determine central ideas		
Use photographs to understand the historical context of an informational text		

Unit	Lesson	Lesson Objectives
		<p>Ellis Island National Monument Online: Cause-and-Effect Structure</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Analyze how ideas within informational text are organized Connect a text's structure to its purpose Identify cause and effect relationships within a text <p>Responding to Quotations in an Informational Text</p> <p>Bringing the 1930s to Life in <i>Brighton Beach Memoirs</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Analyze how a drama conveys historical context Explain how a playwright develops a character's perspective Identify structural elements of a drama <p>Sentence Patterns</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Evaluate the use of varied sentence patterns in writing Explain how varied sentence patterns can affect fluency, style, and tone Recognize and correct incomplete fragments and run-on sentences <p>Writing an Informative Essay about the Immigrant Experience</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Identify appropriate sources for research Organize ideas and information Revise to use concrete details Write an informative essay with clearly organized ideas
		<p>That's Pretty Clever</p> <p>That's Pretty Clever! Characters in <i>The Number Devil</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Determine how a character can convey an author's purpose for writing Distinguish between a protagonist and an antagonist Understand a character's purpose in a story <p>Author's Viewpoint in <i>Bone Detective</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Analyze how a key individual is illustrated in an informational text Determine the author's viewpoint in an informational text Understand the connection between an author's viewpoint and purpose for writing <p>Analyzing a Text by Comparing and Contrasting</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Recognize the use of a compare-and-contrast text structure in a text. Understand compare-and-contrast signal words and the compare-and-contrast text structure. Write an analysis using a compare-and-contrast text structure. <p>Synthesizing Information about the <i>Apollo 11 Moon Landing</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Combine information from different sources Compare two articles about the same events Understand how texts show problems and solutions <p>Denotation and Connotation</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Determine how authors use the emotional meanings of words to show feeling Identify the dictionary meanings and emotional meanings of words Understand the differences between words with similar meanings Understand word choice

Unit	Lesson	Lesson Objectives
		<p>Creating a Yearbook Page</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Create a yearbook page that expresses the characteristics of a person Organize information Research and collect text evidence about a person from a text Use multimedia components to describe a person from a text
		<p>Making Sense</p> <p>Perseverance and Making Sense: <i>Through the Looking Glass</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Identify what makes <i>Through the Looking Glass</i> a fantasy Predict what will happen by using clues from the text Understand the language Lewis Carroll uses in the story <p>Figurative Language in <i>Through the Looking Glass</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Analyze the use of opposites Ask and answer questions to monitor understanding Visualize to interpret figurative language <p>Making Inferences about Events in <i>Through the Looking Glass</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Infer the deeper meaning of the words on a page Decide what is logical and what is not Identify the important details in a story <p>Word Choice and Tone in <i>Through the Looking Glass</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Analyze how word choice impacts tone Identify the tone of a text Monitor understanding during reading <p>Characters in <i>Through the Looking Glass</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Analyze how Lewis Carroll develops characters Explore the relationship between characters Identify character traits <p>Symbols in <i>Through the Looking Glass</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Analyze symbols in <i>Through the Looking Glass</i> Explore the ways authors use symbols Understand how a character can symbolize the life of an author <p>Theme in <i>Through the Looking Glass</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Connect the theme to your own life and to the world Determine the theme using story details Understand what a theme is <p>Writing an Analysis of Poetry</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Develop a thesis using text evidence Revise to establish a formal tone and style Write a literary analysis of the use of text within a text

Unit	Lesson	Lesson Objectives
Planning and Building		
Building and Creating: Distinguishing Fact from Opinion in an Essay		
Cite facts that support a speaker's opinions		
Distinguish between facts and opinions in a personal essay		
Draw conclusions about a central idea that is unstated		
Objective Language in a Speech about the Brooklyn Bridge		
Construct an objective summary		
Distinguish between objective and subjective language		
Explore the historical context of a speech		
Figurative Language in a Poem about the Empire State Building		
Build background knowledge about a historic landmark		
Interpret figurative language in a poem		
Make connections to understand a poem's significance		
Responding to Facts in an Informational Text		
Describe how a writer's style changes depending on the audience and purpose		
Explain how facts help support the writer's opinion and shape the reader's impressions		
Respond to a writer's ideas		
Text Features in <i>A Short Walk Around the Pyramids and Through the World of Art</i>		
Synthesize information presented textually and visually		
Understand the purpose of text features		
Use text features to interpret important details in the text		
<i>Frida Kahlo</i> : Word Choice in a Biography		
Explore how word choice can indicate how the author feels about a topic		
Form an opinion of a person based on a biography		
Understand the purpose and organization of a biography		
Group Discussion		
Demonstrate the ability to present and respond to information in a formal discussion		
Prepare to participate in a formal group discussion		
Recognize and apply listening guidelines for listening and speaking in a group		
Writing an Argument about a National Landmark		
Develop a claim, reasoning, and evidence to make an argument		
Revise to clarify the relationships between reasons and evidence		
Support reasons with credible sources		
Write an argument with a logical concluding statement		
New Beginnings		
New Beginnings: Characters in <i>Roll of Thunder, Hear My Cry</i>		
Analyze what characters do and why they do it.		
Explore how stories connect readers to history.		
Investigate a character's motivation.		
Read an excerpt from <i>Roll of Thunder, Hear My Cry</i> by Mildred D. Taylor.		

Unit	Lesson	Lesson Objectives
		<p>Making Connections to <i>Roll of Thunder, Hear My Cry</i> Analyze the tone of a fictional text Evaluate how the relationships in a story relate to a larger theme Make text-to-self connections to understand a story</p> <p>Writing a Strong Conclusion Evaluate the impact of a strong story conclusion Examine how transitions are used to organize a story Write a concluding paragraph that resolves a conflict</p> <p>Author's Craft in <i>Wonder</i> Explore an author's inspiration for writing Identify how details help in characterization Make inferences to explain what is not stated in a text</p> <p>Monitoring Understanding in <i>Wonder</i> Make a personal connection to evaluate a character in a story Monitor understanding of plot events Visualize to understand the characters in a story</p> <p>Character Development in <i>Esperanza Rising</i> Analyze how an author uses descriptions to develop characters Describe how a character responds to plot events Examine details that show how a character changes</p> <p>Pronouns Identify and use personal pronouns Identify and use reflexive and intensive pronouns Recognize how to use pronouns in the correct case and with clarity</p> <p>Creating a Text Trailer Analyze tone appropriate to a project Create a multimedia text trailer that shows tension and entices viewers to read Research to gather and organize ideas about conflicts in a text</p>
		<p>Overcoming Obstacles</p> <p>Overcoming Obstacles: Word Choice in <i>Heart of a Samurai</i> Analyze how word choice and pacing add excitement to a story Examine how word choice conveys historical context Understand the purpose of a cliffhanger in a story</p> <p>Characterization in <i>Heart of a Samurai</i> Analyze how an author's word choice affects character development Cite details to make inferences Connect characterization to theme</p> <p>Connecting to Text in <i>The Boy Who Harnessed the Wind</i> Analyze an author's descriptions of personal experiences Apply context to the ideas in a text Make connections between a written version and a filmed version of an author's experience</p>

Unit	Lesson	Lesson Objectives
		<p>Visual Text Features in <i>Into the Unknown</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Analyze how visual text features convey information Explore the purpose of text features Use text features to examine people profiled in a text <p>Understanding Mythology in <i>Black Ships Before Troy</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Analyze backstory to identify theme Connect the concepts of heroism to Greek mythology Identify elements of mythology <p>Punctuation and Capitalization</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Edit for punctuation and capitalization Identify common errors in punctuation and capitalization Understand punctuation and capitalization rules <p>Writing an Analysis of Literary Characters</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Revise to clarify the relationships between ideas through transitions and details Use text evidence to plan a compare-and-contrast analysis Write an analysis that compares how culture shapes two characters in different texts

Growing Up

	<p>Growing Up: Narrative Voice in <i>The Jungle Book</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Analyze how point of view contributes to characterization Explore narrative point of view Understand the role of a narrator in the story <p>Sensory Language in <i>The Jungle Book</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Explore why an author uses imagery Understand how imagery appeals to the senses Visualize to imagine description in the text <p>Plot Development in <i>The Jungle Book</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Analyze the pacing of plot events Explore the development of rising action Understand the elements of a plot <p>Theme in <i>The Jungle Book</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Cite details that support a theme Make text-to-self and text-to-world connections Recognize that a text can have multiple themes <p>Responding to Theme and Character in a Narrative</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Choose details that indicate characters' actions and responses Reflect on an important theme in the text Write a paragraph that analyzes how theme impacts the characters <p>Comparing Prose and Poetry: Rudyard Kipling's "If"</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Analyze thematic details in a poem Identify poetic elements Make connections between two works by the same author
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		<p>Using Reference Materials</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Choose the best resource for a specific task Recognize the purpose of a dictionary and a thesaurus Use reference materials to clarify word meaning <p>Writing an Argumentative Essay about a Tradition</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Establish a position on a topic with supporting reasoning and evidence Revise to create a strong conclusion Write a well-supported argumentative essay
Caretakers of the Earth		
		<p>Caretakers of the Earth: Examining the Legend of "The Chenoo"</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Connect the purpose of a legend to its theme Explore legend as a genre Summarize a story <p>Narrative Point of View in <i>Seedfolks</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Analyze why an author assigns a specific point of view to a narrator Examine how an author conveys a narrator's perspective Explore how a character's style of narration reveals character traits <p>Evaluating an Argument on Healthy Eating</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Evaluate an author's argument for its effectiveness Explain how an author supports an argument with reasons and evidence Identify and trace an author's argument <p>Analyzing Procedural Text</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Analyze the purpose of procedural writing Explore the steps in a process Write a recipe based on a procedural framework <p>Connecting to an Informational Text: <i>Steve and Bindi Irwin</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Connect an informational text to self, to other texts, and to the world Explain the connection between an author's purpose and an overarching theme Recognize how to make connections in an informational text <p>Exploring Word Relationships and Figurative Language</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Interpret figurative language Recognize relationships between words Understand how knowledge of figurative language improves comprehension and writing <p>Creating a Blog</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Develop a claim with research and evidence Explore the purpose of a blog Research a topic

Unit	Lesson	Lesson Objectives
What's Out There?		
What's Out There: Exploring a Science Text in <i>A Black Hole Is NOT a Hole</i>		
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Determine what makes sources credible for an informational text 		
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Examine a scientific introduction 		
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Identify the parts of a scientific text 		
Understanding Complex Information in <i>A Black Hole Is NOT a Hole</i>		
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Compare and contrast to analyze similarities and differences 		
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Determine the meaning of key terms using context 		
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Explore the author's use of humor 		
Cause-and-Effect Structure in <i>A Black Hole Is NOT a Hole</i>		
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Analyze cause-and-effect relationships 		
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Distinguish between causes and effects 		
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Examine information presented in different media or formats 		
Analyzing Descriptions in <i>A Black Hole Is NOT a Hole</i>		
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Cite text evidence that describes features, characteristics, or examples of black holes 		
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Evaluate the author's use of description text structure 		
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Investigate the purpose of incorporating images and renderings in a scientific text 		
Making Connections in <i>A Black Hole Is NOT a Hole</i>		
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Investigate the background of black hole detection 		
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Make connections between ideas and subjects in a science text 		
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Relate information explained in text form and in video form 		
Questioning in <i>A Black Hole Is NOT a Hole</i>		
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Interpret information presented graphically 		
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Practice using the questioning strategy 		
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Seek out possible answers to questions 		
Drawing Conclusions in <i>A Black Hole Is NOT a Hole</i>		
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Draw conclusions based on a scientific text 		
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Interpret a timeline 		
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Summarize a text 		
Writing an Informative Essay about Nature		
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Gather details and organize ideas to plan an informative essay 		
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Revise to use descriptive words 		
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Write an informative essay with precise details 		
Making Tough Choices		
Making Tough Choices: Exploring Graphic Treatment in <i>Citizenship</i>		
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Analyze the central idea of a text 		
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Determine an author's purpose 		
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Explore an informational text presented graphically 		

Unit	Lesson	Lesson Objectives
		<p>Connecting to a Fight Against Bullying</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Apply prior knowledge to a topic to increase comprehension Make text connections Synthesize learned ideas to create new ones <p>Retelling History through Biography</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Analyze how an author uses various narrative points of view to present information Interpret the historical significance of primary sources Recognize the elements of a biography <p>Exploring Tone in Poetry</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Analyze tone in a poem Determine how word choice affects the meaning of a poem Examine the historical context of a poem <p>Understanding Greek and Latin Affixes and Roots</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Explore how affixes and roots affect the meaning of words Recognize roots and affixes with Greek and Latin origins Use Greek and Latin affixes and roots to determine word meaning <p>Writing an Argumentative Essay about an Injustice</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Organize ideas based on reasoning and evidence Research to gather relevant information Revise writing to show relationships between ideas Write an argument with a strong concluding statement
Understanding Others		
		<p>Understanding Others: Analyzing Conflict in "Eleven"</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Evaluate a character's actions Examine internal and external conflict Explore elements of plot in a short story <p>Writing a Thank-You Letter</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Differentiate between formal and informal writing Understand the structure, purpose, and audience of a letter Write a formal thank-you letter to an author <p>Wordplay in <i>The Phantom Tollbooth</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Analyze a writer's choice to use idioms Explore wordplay in a piece of fiction Identify examples of realism in a fantastical story <p>Characters' Perspectives in <i>The Phantom Tollbooth</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Draw conclusions about a character from his or her perspective on a topic Examine different perspectives presented in a fiction text Explore how perspective shapes our experiences

Unit	Lesson	Lesson Objectives
		<p>Structure of a Drama: <i>Blanca Flor</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">Analyze differences and similarities between narrative and dramatic textExplore the characteristics of a folktaleMake predictions to support comprehension
		<p>Creating a Multimedia Presentation</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">Analyze how multimedia is used to clarify information and make content engagingDetermine how to present ideas effectively for a formal presentationEvaluate how a speaker considers audience, topic, and purpose
		<p>Creating a Public Service Advertisement</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">Create a public service advertisement that presents a focused message with supporting evidenceExplore the purpose of a public service advertisementResearch to state a claim and provide evidence to support itUse appropriate voice and tone to convey a message