

# EL Basic Writing (1810) Course Overview Curriculum Document

## Course Description

This course primarily focuses on growing students' understanding of English grammar, syntax, and the foundational structures and functions of academic English. Through collaborative speaking and writing activities, students practice all four language domains to show understanding. Students will explore and experiment with vocabulary, grammar, and English language skills to express themselves in a school setting. Social and academic language are learned in the context of grammatical structure and conventions.

The complexity of reading, writing, speaking, listening, and vocabulary tasks are dependent upon students' prior experiences, prior knowledge, and English language development.

### Credits

One ELA Credit/Year

### Prerequisites

None

### Board Approved

11/27/23

### Revised

## Required Assessments

District-wide, standards-based common assessments, ACCESS 2.0

## Textbooks/Resources

Resources: Focus on Grammar 1 - An Integrated Skills Approach (text & workbook) Semuela Eckstut  
 Side by Side 1 (text & workbook) - Steven J. Molinsky and Bill Bliss  
 English in Action 1 and 2 (text & workbook) - Barbara H. Foley and Elizabeth R. Neblett  
 Step-by-Step Writing: A Standards Based Approach - Books 1 & 2 - Linda Lonon Blanton  
 Supplemental: More Grammar Practice 1 - Thomson Heinle publishers

## Course Essential Understandings

- As a result of successfully completing this course, students will:
- Write about a topic at the sentence and paragraph level clearly, with good organization
  - Be able to use phrases and clauses to converse with other students using academic English about a topic they're studying
  - Improve both academic and social English proficiency
  - Improve writing skills and develop an interest in reading and writing
  - Use the studied grammar concepts correctly when speaking and writing

**Language Objective:**

English Language Development Standard 1:

- Communicate for Social and Instructional purposes within the school setting

## Course Essential Questions

- How do I effectively communicate with others through writing?
- How can I learn to write in English?
- What are the rules for writing in English?

## Unit Overviews

Unit Name	Unit Description	Unit Essential Question	Instructional and Assessed Standards
<a href="#">Information About You</a>	Students will explore level appropriate vocabulary and grammar structures while writing about themselves, their families, and their lives.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● What words in English are used to talk about school?</li> <li>● What grammar conventions form the present tense in English?</li> <li>● What words in English describe me and my family?</li> </ul>	W2B L4 L5 L6
<a href="#">Describing Family and Home</a>	Students will explore level appropriate vocabulary and grammar structures while describing themselves, their families, and their home lives using descriptive language	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● What is the present tense?</li> <li>● What are the rules for writing in the present tense?</li> <li>● What are prepositions and what do they do?</li> <li>● What are possessive adjectives and what do they do?</li> <li>● What words are used in English to describe my family and my home?</li> </ul>	W2B L4 L5 L6
<a href="#">Explain How to Do Something</a>	Students will explore level appropriate vocabulary and grammar structures while writing about everyday tasks and writing out directions to follow processes.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● How do I remember and understand food and cooking words?</li> <li>● How do I give and follow directions?</li> <li>● What words in English show a sequence?</li> </ul>	W2B L4 L5
<a href="#">Holidays and Celebrations</a>	Students will explore time and space specific level appropriate vocabulary and grammar structures while writing about the countries, nationalities and celebrations of their home cultures as well as the home cultures of their classmates.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● How do I remember and understand new words?</li> <li>● What holidays do we celebrate and why? When do those holidays happen?</li> <li>● Where are we from and what similarities and differences do we bring to our classroom?</li> </ul>	W2B L4 L5 L6
<a href="#">Persuade your Classmates</a>	Students will explore level appropriate persuasive	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● How do I remember and understand new words?</li> </ul>	W2A W3C

	vocabulary and grammar structures while writing about their community.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• How do I describe my neighborhood and community?</li> <li>• What words and phrases do I use to persuade?</li> </ul>	L4 L5 L6
<a href="#">Describe your Future Plans</a>	Students will begin to learn about the future tense by describing their plans, promises, and predictions for the future.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• How do I remember and understand new words?</li> <li>• How do I explain what I and others will do in the future?</li> <li>• What words and phrases do I use to communicate my everyday activities?</li> </ul>	W2C L4 L5 L6
<a href="#">Write a Message to a Friend</a>	Students will explore multiple verb tenses and to write about their lives.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• How do I remember and understand new words?</li> <li>• How do I talk about events that happened in the past?</li> <li>• How do I format an email or letter to someone?</li> </ul>	W2C W4 L4 L5 L6
<a href="#">Tell a Story</a>	Students will explore the use of transition words while continuing to practice using multiple verb tenses to write about important events in their lives.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• How do I remember and understand new words?</li> <li>• How do I write a story about a problem or conflict?</li> </ul>	W2C W3C L4 L5 L6