

Course Outline for

Fundamentals Of English (online)

Grade Level(s):	9 th grade		
Assignments:	36 lessons	Credits:	10 units
Format:	online		
UC a-g Requirements:	b (English)		
Instructional Materials:	Online with interactive websites		

Course Description:

Fundamentals of English provides students with a broad overview of ancient literature from the earliest oral tradition of fable through classical Greek literature in *The Odyssey*. Students read a wide variety of short stories, writing persuasive and comparison/contrast essays. Students study various forms of poetry. They read *Romeo and Juliet*, then move into a Creative Writing unit and finish with a book report. Throughout the course, students engage in grammar lessons and systematic vocabulary development exercises.

Learning Objectives

- Students participate in systematic vocabulary development exercises.
- Students read and understand grade-level-appropriate material.
- Students demonstrate comprehension of literature by extending ideas presented in primary sources through original analysis, evaluation, and elaboration.
- Students read and respond to historically or culturally significant works of literature.
- Students compare works that express a universal theme and provide evidence to support the ideas expressed in each work.
- Students recognize and understand the significance of various literary devices, including figurative language, imagery, allegory, and symbolism, and explain their appeal.
- Students identify and describe the function of dialogue, scene designs, soliloquies, asides, and character foils in dramatic literature.

- Students write coherent and focused essays that convey a well-defined perspective and tightly reasoned argument. The writing demonstrates students' awareness of the audience and purpose.
- Students progress through the stages of the writing process as needed.
- Students write responses to literature which:
 - a. Demonstrate a comprehensive grasp of the significant ideas of literary works.
 - b. Support important ideas and viewpoints through accurate and detailed references to the text or to other works.
 - c. Demonstrate awareness of the author's use of stylistic devices and an appreciation of the effects created.
 - d. Identify and assess the impact of perceived ambiguities, nuances, and complexities within the text.
- Students write expository compositions, including persuasive and comparison/contrast essays.
- Students produce age-appropriate work that shows accurate spelling and correct use of the conventions of punctuation and capitalization.

Course Outline

Lesson 1: Fables

- (A) Vocabulary - definitions
- (B) Fables - keywords - reading questions
- (C) Writing exercise: write your own fable
- (D) Grammar - spelling exercise
- (E) Aesop's Fables

Lesson 2: Fables, cont.)

- (A) Definitions
- (B) Orally told fables - reading questions
- (C) Grammar - spelling rules - writing exercise

Lesson 3 Greek Mythology

- (A) Greek & Roman Gods - Mount Olympus - reading questions
- (B) Phaeton & Helios myth - reading Questions
- (C) Image gallery - questions
- (D) Grammar: parts of speech - reading questions

Lesson 4: Greek Mythology, (cont.)

- (A) Definitions - vocabulary
- (B) Keyword: Hubris - Myths of Nemesis - reading questions
- (C) Daedalus - reading questions
- (D) Painting - questions

Lesson 5: The Odyssey

- (A) Homer - The Trojan War - reading questions
- (B) Definitions - questions
- (C) Summary of Books I-IV of The Odyssey- Full Text as reference source - reading questions
- (D) Books IV-VIII & source - reading questions
- (E) Grammar: spelling, grammar, & punctuation correction exercise

Lesson 6: The Odyssey, (cont.)

- (A) Definitions
- (B) Image gallery - questions
- (C) Books IX-XII - reading questions
- (D) Penelope
- (E) Books XIII-XIV & source - reading questions
- (F) Grammar: *Word Safari* - definitions
- (G) Essay exercise

Lesson 7: The Odyssey, (Conclusion)

- (A) Definitions
- (B) Reading: Books XXI-XXIV - summaries - reading questions

Lesson 8: Review of Lessons 1-7

- (A) Fables: reading - reading questions
- (B) Animal spirits - reading questions
- (C) Greek Gods: Artemis - Poseidon - Demeter - reading questions
- (D) Report project - grammar: self correction of report

Lesson 9: Short Stories: O'Henry

- (A) Keywords defined
- (B) Biographical information - reading questions
- (C) *The Gift of The Magi* - definitions - reading questions
- (D) "Hair & Society" - reading questions

Lesson 10: Short Story Classics

- (A) Keywords defined
- (B) *The Lady or the Tiger* - reading questions
- (C) *The Open Window* - reading questions
- (D) Grammar: writing lab exercise

Lesson 11: More Classics

- (A) Mark Twain - biographical photo gallery - questions
- (B) Definitions
- (C) *The Celebrated Jumping Frog of Calaveras county* - reading questions
- (D) Shirley Jackson: biography & photo gallery - reading questions
- (E) *The Lottery* - reading questions

(F) Grammar: writing lab exercise

Lesson 12: Short Stories, (conclusion)

- (A) Rudyard Kipling - biography
- (B) Definitions
- (C) *Rikki Tikki Tavi* - reading questions
- (D) Edgar Allen Poe - biography - reading questions
- (E) *The Tell Tale Heart* - reading questions
- (F) Grammar: writing lab exercise

Lesson 13: Jack London

- (A) Biography - definitions
- (B) *The Call of the Wild*: chapter 1 - reading questions
- (C) Grammar: writing lab exercise

Lesson 14: More Jack London

- (A) *The Call of the Wild*: chapter 2 - reading questions
- (B) The Iditarod: history & facts - reading questions
- (C) Grammar: 11 uses for commas exercise

Lesson 15: *The Call of the Wild*

- (A) Definitions
- (B) The Northern Lights - reading questions
- (C) Chapter 3 - reading questions
- (D) Global concerns - reading questions
- (E) Grammar: correction exercise

Lesson 16: *The Call of the Wild*

- (A) Definitions
- (B) *Skagway* history - reading questions
- (C) Photo gallery - reading questions
- (D) Chapter 5 - reading questions
- (E) Historical expedition - reading questions
- (F) Emergency preparedness - reading questions
- (G) Grammar: writing lab exercise

Lesson 17: *The Call of the Wild*

- (A) Chapter 6 - definitions
- (B) Pets - reading questions
- (C) Chapter 6 - reading questions
- (D) Soapy Smith biography - reading questions
- (E) Teens Against Gang Violence - reading questions
- (F) Vocabulary - chapter 7 - reading questions
- (G) Wolves - reading questions & quiz
- (H) Grammar: sentence correction exercise

Lesson 18: *The Call of the Wild* Review

- (A) Essay exercise - essay structure - expository essay - persuasion - reading questions & practice essay
- (B) Thesis - practice exercise
- (C) Purpose of an outline - practice exercise

Lesson 19: Persuasive Essay

- (A) Elements - supporting argument - choose a topic
- (B) Thoreau: *Civil Disobedience* - reading questions
- (C) Topic - questions - writing an essay exercise

Lesson 20: Short Story Review

- (A) Keyword definitions - reading questions
- (B) Characterization - exercise & questions
- (C) Editing - exercise & questions
- (D) Denouement, suspense & foreshadowing - exercise: quotes 1-3 - reading questions

Lesson 21: Reading Poetry

- (A) Rhyme & Sound - keyword definitions - questions
- (B) Meter - keyword definitions - reading questions
- (C) The Sonnet - Petrarchan & Italian - Shakespeare's *Sonnet 29* - reading questions
- (D) Villanelle - Dylan Thomas' *Do Not Go Gently Into that Good Night* - reading questions
- (E) Langston Hughes' *Justice* - reading questions - *Dream Deferred* - reading questions
- (F) Longfellow's *Snowflakes* - reading questions

Lesson 22: Haiku

- (A) Reading & examples- reading questions
- (B) Haiku generator - questions
- (C) Image gallery - questions
- (D) Write your own Haiku - Haiku masters - Basho - Issa - reading questions

Lesson 23: Poetry

- (A) Robert Frost - *The Road Not Taken* - reading questions
- (B) *Stopping by Woods on a Snowy Evening* - reading questions
- (C) *The Armful* - reading questions
- (D) *Nothing Gold can Stay* - reading questions
- (E) *Earthward* - reading questions

Lesson 24: Research a Poet

- (A) Research a poet online - write a 2-3 page biography
- (B) Record 2 of your favorite poems by the poet

Lesson 25: Poetry Review

- (A) Painting by Manet - questions
- (B) Writing a Sonnet - questions
- (C) *The Woman at The Washington Zoo* - free verse poetry - exercise - questions
- (D) *In California During The Gulf war* - questions
- (E) Grammar- checking punctuation, etc.

Lesson 26: Shakespeare

- (A) Renaissance England - Biography of the Bard - reading questions
- (B) Keyword definitions - exercise
- (C) 1-2 page research paper - bibliography
- (D) Grammar: words & phrases - questions

Lesson 27: William Shakespeare

- (A) Shakespeare's time - reading questions
- (B) Keyword definitions - questions
- (C) The Plague - reading questions
- (D) Writing short dialogue exercise
- (E) Rules of courtly love - reading questions
- (F) Grammar: plague words & phrases

Lesson 28: Romeo & Juliet

- (A) Map of Italy - questions
- (B) Palazzo Della Erbe - reading questions
- (C) Vocabulary words - Act I, Scene V - reading questions
- (D) Vocabulary definitions exercise
- (E) Grammar: Paraphrasing

Lesson 29: Romeo & Juliet

- (A) Acts II & III - reading questions
- (B) Grammar: paraphrasing exercise

Lesson 30: Romeo & Juliet

- (A) Acts IV & V - reading questions
- (B) Summary of play - reading questions
- (C) Grammar: using Shakespeare's language exercise

Lesson 31: Comparing & Contrasting Works of Literature

- (A) Essay exercise
- (B) Terminology - compare & contrast exercise - questions
- (C) Write an Essay

Lesson 32: Creative Writing

- (A) Definitions
- (B) Student fiction - reading/terminology questions
- (C) Writing a rough draft of your short story - questions: based on terminology

Lesson 33: Creative Writing

- (A) Commentary & criticism exercise
- (B) Questions

Lesson 34: Book Report

- (A) Format & style
- (B) Choose an author & a book for your topic - research
- (C) Questions

Lesson 35: Book Report Continued

- (A) Refresher on format
- (B) Continue writing your report

Lesson 36: Book Report Continued

- (A) Finish your book report
- (B) Questions
- (C) Survey - questions