Reading and Writing IV

Course Overview and Syllabus



Prerequisite courses: none Grade level: 9-12

Course Description

Students will learn strategies for pre-reading and reading across fiction and non-fiction texts written at sixth- and seventh-grade reading levels. Skills focuses include fiction elements like point of view and character development, as well as non-fiction features like questioning and drawing conclusions. Students will also learn critical vocabulary strategies and compose an argumentative essay.

This course is part of the Exceptional Students Course Suite, designed for high school students working three or more grade levels behind. The Exceptional Students courses are ideal for students whose IEPs allow them to earn credit for below-grade-level coursework.

Course Objectives

Students will meet the following goals in this course.

- Analyze the role of point of view in a fictional text.
- Analyze story elements that create conflict.
- Cite text evidence that describes features, characteristics, or examples of black holes.
- Determine word meaning using Greek and Latin affixes and roots.
- Punctuate simple, compound, complex, and compound-complex sentences.
- Identify the features of a folktale.
- Use context clues and in-text definitions to understand dialect.
- Write a well-supported argumentative essay.

Student Expectations

This course requires the same level of commitment from students as a traditional classroom course. Students are expected to spend approximately 5–7 hours per week online on:

- interactive lessons, which include a mixture of instructional videos and tasks.
- assignments, in which they apply and extend learning in each lesson.
- assessments, including guizzes, tests, and cumulative exams.

Communication

Teachers will communicate with students regularly through discussions, emails, chats, and system announcements. Students will also communicate with classmates, either via online tools or face to face, to collaborate, ask and answer questions in peer groups, and develop speaking and listening skills.

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Grading Policy

Students will be graded on work completed online and work submitted electronically to the teacher. The weighting for each category of graded activity is listed below.

Grading Category	Weight
Assignments	10%
Lesson quizzes	20%
Unit tests	30%
Cumulative exams	20%
Essays	20%

Scope and Sequence

When students log on to Imagine Edgenuity, they can view the entire course map—an interactive scope and sequence of all topics under study. The units of study are listed below

Course Units
Unit 1: Reading Fiction
Unit 2: Reading Informational Texts
Unit 3: Vocabulary and Language
Unit 4: Writing an Argumentative Essay about a Tradition