

Teacher: Mrs. Carolyn Vaughan
Course: English as a Second Language, Literature
Academic Year: 2008-2009

Course Philosophy: Learning American English is complicated because so much of our language is embedded with the “melting pot” of culture that makes up the United States. Therefore, a complete ESL course should have a variety of elements which gives students grounding in areas that an American student would already know such as Shakespeare’s stories or a story by Charles Dickens.

In this course you will make progress in the four areas of language acquisition, with special emphasis on reading, writing, and speaking. You will learn specific pronunciation of American phonemes, how to memorize and recite a poem, and how to give a class speech. You will also read a variety of short stories, and you will begin the task of English composition, learning basic writing and punctuation rules along the way. The three elements of the course, reading, writing, and pronunciation, will be incorporated throughout the week.

Course Requirements:

Discovering Fiction 1: A Reader of North American Short Stories

Large 3-ring binder with paper for notes and handouts
Dictionary or translator

Grading: Your course grade will be determined by the combination of the following assessments:

Reading/listening skills 20% Personal Journal 25%
Homework/other assignments 20% Tests 35%

In this course you will be studying all four aspects of language acquisition: reading, writing, speaking, and listening. We will be reading selected short stories, poems, and articles from North American fiction. Later in the year we will study poetry and world mythology. In addition, you will be writing in a personal journal and learning the basic parts of good composition. Third, we will study and practice the sounds of American English, cumulating in poetry readings, and fourth, we will be practicing listening skills through the use of various media such as DVDs and cassette tapes, and computer programs.

Grading Scale: It is usual in most American classes for grades to be based on 100 percentage points.

A+ 97-100 B+ 87-89 C+ 77-79 D+ 67-69

A 93-96 B 83-86 C 73-76 D 63-66
A- 90-92 B- 80-82 C- 70-72 D- 60-62 F 0-59

Class Policies:

- You must speak English. If you choose to speak your language in my class or in my presence anywhere or anytime, you will receive a “pink slip.”
- Come to class on time with your books, notebooks, homework, pens, and pencils ready to go.
- Always be dressed in the appropriate school uniform.
- Follow my directions at all times. If you do not understand something, please raise your hand and ask me.
- Treat your classmates with respect and kindness at all times. This includes speaking English so everyone in the class will understand what you are saying.
- Use the Academic Help period after school to speak with me or ask questions about the work.
- It is your responsibility to see me when you are absent to make up the work you missed.
- You should spend approximately 30 minutes each night on assignments. If you do not have a specific assignment, you should use the time to review.
- Your grammar workbook and notebook should be neat and organized at all times. If you do not bring your homework to class, you will receive a zero grade for that day.
- All school policies will be strictly enforced. Please read your student handbook for more information. I will be happy to explain any parts of the handbook to you that you do not understand.
 - Participation in class is very important. You must speak English to learn English. Part of your class grade is based on your speaking skills.
 - You may not use your translator or dictionary during tests and quizzes.
 - Please do not keep your books or notebooks under the desk in our classroom. They may get moved or become lost.

Important Expectation:

You are responsible for learning the class and homework material. This means that you should work hard to master the weekly English vocabulary and grammar NOT ONLY for

the quiz or test, but also for the year. I am here to help you, but you must make the effort to learn the language.

English as a Second Language Level 1, Language Lab Schedule

Discovering Fiction, Book 1

First Trimester

Week Topic Assignment

- 1 **Childhood Memories** Ch. 1: "Eleven" (Sandra Cisneros)
- 2 Pronunciation: introduction, [th] [r] [l] [s]
- 3 Ch. 2: "The Blanket" (Floyd Dell)
- 4 Pronunciation: vowels, [sh] [ch] [v] [w] [g] [z]
- 5 Ch. 3: "The Bracelet" (Yoshiko Uchida)
- 6 Pronunciation: [p] [b] [f] [w] [wh] [t] [d]
- 7 **The Unexpected** Ch. 4: "A Secret for Two" (Quentin Reynolds)
- 8 **Halloween** Washington Irving's Short Stories:
"Rip Van Winkle," "The Legend of Sleepy Hollow"
- 9 The History of Halloween and video
- 10 **The Unexpected** Ch. 5: "Johanna" (Jane Yolen)
- 11 Pronunciation practice: review and test
- 12 **Review and Final Exam**

Second Trimester

Week Topic Assignment

- 1 **The Unexpected** Ch. 6: "Two Thanksgiving Day Gentlemen"
(O Henry)

Thanksgiving Break

- 2 **Traveling Through Time** Ch. 7: "The Fun They Had" (Isaac Asimov)
- 3 Ch. 8: "The Mirror" (Judith Kay)
- 4 Listening Practice: Jane Eyre, Oliver Twist

Christmas Break

- 5 **Turning Points** Ch. 9: "You Go Your Way, I'll Go Mine"
(William Saroyan)

6 Ch. 10: "Snake Dance" (Corey Ford)

7 Ch. 11: "Home" (Gwendolyn Brooks)

8 **Men and Women** Ch. 12: "The Woman" (Zona Gale)

9 Ch. 13. "The Tigress and Her Mate"
(James Thurber)

10 Ch. 14: "The Kiss" (Kate Chopin)

11 **Writing Project on Short Stories**

English as a Second Language, Level 1, Language Lab Schedule

Third Trimester

Week Topic Assignment

1 **American Poetry** Introduction

2

3

4 Poetry Reading Project

Spring Break

5 **World Mythology** Introduction, Greek and Roman myth

6

7

8 Norse Mythology

9 Native American Mythology

10 American Folktales

11 Mythology Project and Review

12 **Final Exam**

English as a Second Language, Level 1 Language Lab Outline

Pronunciation of American English

- I. Introduction to American English pronunciation**
 - 1. Language origins
 - 2. Native speakers versus nonnative speakers
 - 3. Human language development
- II. Basic pronunciation practice**
 - A. Consonants
 - B. Vowels
 - C. Special sounds of the “-ed” ending
 - D. Special sounds of the “s” ending
- III. Specific pronunciation practice**
 - A. Consonants
 - 1. [Th] Voiced and voiceless as in “think/those”
 - 2. [L] [R] as in “lair/rare”
 - 3. [S] [SH] [CH] as in “sip/ship/chip”
 - 4. [V] [W] as in “vine/wine”
 - 5. [G] [GZ] as in “George/azure”
 - 6. [P] [F] as in “put/foot”
 - 7. [F] [V] as in “fine/wine”
 - 8. [W] [Wh] as in “who/what”
 - 9. [T] [D] as in “tin/in”
 - B. Troublesome vowels
 - 1. High stressed vowels as in “seen/sin”
 - 2. Open mid-vowels as in “pat/pet”
- IV. Listening to and understanding conversation**
- V. Learning to recite a poem in English**

English as a Second Language, Level 1 Language Lab

Reading Topics

Text: Discovering Fiction 1: A Reader of North American Short Stories

- I. The Elements of Literature – General Introduction
 1. Author, audience, and purpose
 2. Setting: time and place
 3. Theme
 4. Characters
 5. Conflict
 6. Plot
 7. Rising and falling action
 8. Narrator
- II. Stories About Childhood Memories
 1. “Eleven” by Sandra Cisneros, first person narrator
 2. “The Blanket” by Floyd Dell, poetic justice
 3. “The Bracelet” by Yoshiko Uchida, setting
- III. Stories About the Unexpected
 1. “A Secret for Two” by Quentin Reynolds, foreshadowing
 2. “Johanna” by Jane Yolen, imagery
 3. “Two Thanksgiving Day Gentlemen” by O Henry, theme
- IV. Traveling Through Time
 1. “The Fun They Had” by Isaac Asimov, dialogue
 2. “The Mirror” by Judith Kay, symbolism
- V. Turning Points
 1. “You Go Your Way...” by William Saroyan, parts of the plot
 2. “Snake Dance” by Corey Ford, surprise ending
 3. “Home” by Gwendolyn Brooks, realism
- VI. Men and Women
 1. “The Woman” by Zona Gale, cause and effect
 2. “The Tigress and Her Mate,” by James Thurber, fable
 3. “The Kiss” by Kate Chopin, irony
- VI. Poetry Unit
 1. The elements of poetry
 2. Rhyme and meter
 3. Reading poetry
- VII. World Mythology
 1. The elements of mythology
 2. Greek and Roman myths
 3. Norse myths
 4. Native American myths
 5. Myths from other places

6. American Tall Tales