

## Language Arts Plan

### Writing

**All courses are 1 semester long.**

Students can fulfill any pre-requisites listed in the course descriptions through other classes or through study at home.

A credit of language arts in high school generally consists of a 1/2 credit of literature and 1/2 credit of writing, both of which will include increasing vocabulary and expectations of grammatical improvement (punctuation, and usage skills).

#### **GRAMMAR**

This class presents simplified methods for mastering just enough grammar to write well. This course may be taken at any time, but is most beneficial if your student still needs to learn to identify the difference between *phrases, dependent and independent clauses*. Recognizing these word groups, will help students eliminate run-ons and fragments, enabling them to punctuate correctly. There is also a strong emphasis on the mastery of punctuation.

#### **WRITING, Level I**

The skills in these classes lay a foundation for either Level II writing course.

##### **Writing: Creative Components**

This class is for the reluctant writer who hasn't discovered the fun in writing **yet!** Students learn 7 styles of sentences, so their writing becomes more varied. This class focuses on the importance of making every word a *best* choice. Students will be introduced to the paragraph; all assignments are creative in origin, oriented towards fun writing experiences, and don't require research outside of class.

##### **Writing: Format Writing**

This class is for the students who are ready to move beyond sentences into the world of a structured paragraph. This course will cover the structure of different types of paragraphs, and some simple essays by the end of the semester. Students will learn the structure of a story and how to write a formal letter.

#### **WRITING, Level II**

These 2 classes may be taken in any order. Neither is a pre-requisite for the other.  
The skills developed in each of these will support the requirements in Level III.

##### **Writing: Stylistic Development**

This class continues where Creative Components leaves off. The 7 sentence styles are reviewed and 6 more styles are added. In addition students work on the 13 different types of tropes and have a 3-week emphasis on poetry. The projects are very creative in orientation.

##### **Writing: Structure & Organization**

This class focuses on having a place for every thought and putting that thought in the best place. The focus is on essays—five different types, and has a simple introduction to the structure of stories. It also includes practice for the SAT & ACT essay exams.

#### **WRITING, Level III**

This class is recommended for 10<sup>th</sup> – 12<sup>th</sup> grade students.

##### **Writing: Essays & College Prep**

This class picks up where Structure & Organization leaves off. Various standards for punctuation and notations in college research papers are presented and utilized in the historical research essay. Additional types of essays, including poetic, literary critiques, how to answer essay test questions in college & more practice for the SAT & ACT essay exams are all covered.