



English Language Arts and Reading, Grade 1 (ELAR) 1A – Syllabus

Course Name

ELAR 1A

English Language Arts and Reading, Grade 1 – Semester A

Course Information

ELAR 1A is the first semester of this two-semester course.

In first grade, students will engage in activities that build on their prior knowledge and skills in order to strengthen their reading, writing, and oral language skills. Students should write and read (or be read to) on a daily basis. Topics covered this semester include:

- reading,
- writing,
- research,
- oral and written conventions, and
- listening and speaking

Course Delivery Method

Online

Contacting Your Instructor

You may contact your instructor through the Blackboard messaging system. Technical support is available 24/7 at [TTU K-12](#).

Course Objectives

After completing this course, the students should have increased knowledge of

- reading and understanding a wide variety of literary and informational texts;

- composing a variety of written texts with a clear controlling idea, coherent organization, and sufficient detail;
- knowing how to locate a range of relevant sources and evaluate, synthesize, and present ideas and information;
- using the oral and written conventions of the English language in speaking and writing; and
- listening and responding to the ideas of others while contributing their own ideas in conversations and in groups.

ELAR 1 addresses the required Texas Essential Knowledge and Skills (TEKS). These can be found at the [Texas Education Agency](http://www.tea.state.tx.us) website.

Textbook and Materials

Textbook(s)

The required **digital** textbook for this course is:

- *HMH Into Reading: Digital Learning, Grade 1*, Texas edition. (2020). Houghton Mifflin Harcourt Publishing Company. ISBN 9780358032274: [HMH Into Reading Texas Grade 1](http://www.hmhco.com)

The online textbook must be purchased through the TTU K-12 partner bookstore, MBS (see the [TTU K-12 website](http://www.ttu.edu/k12) for a link to MBS). Once you make your purchase, you will receive your credentials to the online textbook and resources via email, and it may take 1-2 business days. There are clear instructions on Blackboard for logging into the online textbook as needed on a day-to-day basis.

Materials

- small dry erase board and markers
- scissors
- pencils
- crayons

Technical Requirements

- Internet access – preferably high speed (for accessing Blackboard and online HMH textbook materials)
- Email
- Printing capabilities
- Adobe Reader (download from [Adobe.com](http://adobe.com))
- Audio and video capabilities (for watching/listening to course content)
- PDF app (free options available)

Technical Skill Requirements

Be comfortable with the following:

- accessing online learning materials via Blackboard and HMH site
- Internet search engines and browsers
- uploading assignments into Blackboard website (there will be instructions for uploading assignments)

Course Organization

This course consists of five Learning Modules of instruction. Each Learning Module contains the following:

- Introduction and instructions for parent facilitation
- Learning Objectives and Curriculum Standards
- Daily lessons that consist of accessing online books, videos, worksheets, etc.
- Module Assessment

The course uses the *HMH Into Reading: Digital Learning, Grade 1* online textbook as a guide for lessons, but some of the material is condensed. Our semester schedule does not follow the exact weekly schedule of the textbook.

Refer to the schedule below for the weekly schedule of ELAR 1A:

Module	Weeks	Topic	Assessment
Module 1	Weeks 1-3	Nice to Meet You!	Module Assessment 1
Module 2	Weeks 4-6	My Family, My Community	Module Assessment 2
Module 3	Weeks 7-9	Amazing Animals	Module Assessment 3
Module 4	Weeks 10-12	Better Together	Module Assessment 4
Module 5	Weeks 13-15	Now You See It, Now You Don't	Module Assessment 5

Content Organization for Modules

Each of the five Modules is divided into three weeks, and each week contains five days of daily work. Students will be able to complete some activities by themselves even if they cannot read the lessons, as the audio provided will walk them through the lesson. Some of the daily work will require the help of an adult, so **it is important to assist your student as they complete their daily activities.**

NOTE: Most activities are checked for completion by the parent/guardian and will not be submitted for teacher assessment.

At the end of each Module, there will be a **Module Assessment** that assesses the student's knowledge of the Module's content. Some of the assessment will be printed, completed, and scanned to upload into Blackboard. Assessments that require correct phonetic pronunciation and/or vocal collaboration will need to be recorded with a smartphone or other recording device and uploaded to the assessment file.

No activities or worksheets from the week's content will be assessed, but adults are encouraged to retain the printed worksheets, drawings, etc., from the weeks of each Module to use as a reference for the student as they take the Module Assessment.

Various daily activities that will be checked for completion by the parent, but not turned in for a grade, include the following:

- **Writing Journal:** You will need to purchase a blank composition notebook or spiral notebook for your student to write in.
- **Know It, Show It:** This is an HMH resource that you will download, print, and have the student complete as required by the daily activities. These worksheets are provided in the Introduction of each Blackboard Module. Some worksheets will be completed as directed in the daily lessons; you are welcome to use the others as additional practice.
- **myBook:** This is a resource on the *HMH Into Reading: Digital Learning, Grade 1* textbook website that you will access as required by the daily activities.
- **Start Right Readers:** These are resources on the HMH textbook website, in the "Foundational Skills" section. You will access the Readers online as required by the daily activities.
- **Big Book and Read Aloud Books:** These are resources on the HMH textbook website. They are digital versions of books that you will read with your child as required by the daily activities. Links to all books are provided in the lessons.

Course Credit

The course grade will be calculated by taking an average of the five Module Assessments. Each Module Assessment is worth 200 points, equaling a 1000-point scale for the overall course grade. Students must make a 70% or above to pass the course.

Students will not have a cumulative course final exam—Module Assessment 5 in Week 15 will be treated as the final exam.

Students who score below 70% on the Module 5 Test will be eligible for one re-exam opportunity.

Course Completion and Extensions

- Students may not complete the course in less than 30 days.
- All courses expire six months after the enrollment date.

Academic Integrity

It is the aim of the faculty of Texas Tech University to foster a spirit of complete honesty and high standard of integrity. The attempt of students to present as their own any work not honestly performed is regarded by the faculty and administration as a most serious offense and renders the offenders liable to serious consequences, possibly suspension.

“Scholastic dishonesty” includes, but is not limited to, cheating, plagiarism, collusion, falsifying academic records, misrepresenting facts, and any act designed to give unfair academic advantage to the student (such as, but not limited to, submission of essentially the same written assignment for two courses without the prior permission of the instructor) or the attempt to commit such an act.

Student/Parent Expectations

You will be expected to log into the Blackboard course regularly to be aware of possible announcements/reminders and to pace your student’s progress in the course.

The following are prohibited while using the Blackboard interface:

- spamming;
- hacking; and
- using TTU or Blackboard email for commercial purposes;

Inappropriate behavior shall result in consequences ranging from a request to correct the problem, to removal from the course or even the university, depending on the severity of the behavior. Disciplinary actions will be taken according to the TTU K-12 Student Handbook.

In addition to expectations above, the nature of a 1st Grade class requires that parents/adults are actively involved in their student’s instruction. 1st Grade is a time where students are still learning to read, so adults will need to help read the daily instructions to them and assist them in their activities.

Communication

- You can expect a reply from your instructor within 2 business days.
- Use the Blackboard Course Messages tool for sending messages to your instructor.

Submitting Assignments

You will submit all assignments through the Blackboard Assignment Tool, rather than by mail or email.

Technical Difficulties

Getting Help

For student assistance with Blackboard, visit [TTU K-12 Support](#).

Computer Problems

A working computer is necessary for online coursework. Computer problems will not be accepted as a valid reason for failure to complete course activities within the allotted time frame. Identify a second computer, before the course begins, that you can use if you experience computer problems.

Server Problems

When the Blackboard server needs to be taken down for maintenance, the Blackboard administrator will post an announcement in your course informing you of the time and date. If the server experiences unforeseen problems, your course instructor will notify you.

Lost or Corrupted Files

You must keep/save a copy of every project/assignment on an external disk or personal computer. In the event of any kind of technology failure (e.g., Blackboard server crash or virus infection, students' own computer problems, loss of files in cyberspace, etc.) or any disputes, the instructor may request or require you to resubmit the files. In some instances, the instructor may need to open another attempt within Blackboard, so communication with your instructor is critical in these circumstances.