# English I, Grade 9 (ENG) 1A
# Syllabus

## Course Name

ENG 1A

English I, Grade 9 – Semester A

## Course Information

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

English 1A focuses on reading and writing skills, building on what you've learned before and laying a foundation for more advanced work in future English courses. You'll read a variety of texts to think about author purpose, techniques and tools used, and how we use language and stories to convey meaning. You'll use what you learn in your own writing. Broadly speaking, this course covers:

- narrative, argumentative, persuasive, and informational writing;
- editing skills, with particular emphasis on the use of commas and pronoun-antecedent agreement;
- research skills and the research process, including how to evaluate and cite sources as well as how to effectively integrate various media into writing; and
- textual elements that give clues to the author's purpose, such as structural choices, theme, imagery, symbolism, word choice, and so on.

## 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, you should be able to:

1. analyze the impact of political, economic, religious, and social events and issues identify key elements in a variety of texts;
2. analyze a variety of texts to infer the author's purpose;
3. evaluate and use sources effectively in the research and writing process;
4. write effective essays in a variety of styles and modes; and
5. apply editing skills to make revisions to your own and others' writing.

ENG 1 addresses the required Texas Essential Knowledge and Skills (TEKS). These can be found at the [Texas Education Agency](#) website.

## Textbook and Materials

### Textbook(s)

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

- Digital: Pearson (2021). *myPerspectives Texas English Language Arts, Grade 9 (or English 1)*. Pearson. ISBN: 9781418307622

You'll need to have log-in information to access the online textbook and see some of the reading selections and videos.

This digital textbook can only be purchased through the TTU K-12 partner bookstore, MBS (see the [TTU K-12 website](#) 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.

The **print** textbook is optional:

- Print: Pearson (2021). *myPerspectives Texas English Language Arts, Grade 9 (or English 1).* Pearson. ISBN: 9781418301972

The following required book may be in any format:

- *To Kill a Mockingbird* by Harper Lee (any edition)

### Materials

No additional materials are required.

## Technical Requirements

- Internet access – preferably high speed (for accessing Blackboard)
- Email
- Word processing software such as Microsoft Word
- Adobe Reader (download from [Adobe.com](Adobe.com))
- Audio and video capabilities (for watching/listening to course content)
- PDF app (free options available)
- Digital camera or camera phone

## Technical Skill Requirements

Be comfortable with the following:

- using a word processor
- Internet search engines and browsers
- creating PDFs (see **Requirements for Creating PDFs** in the Syllabus section of your course)

## Course Organization

This course consists of six units, a midterm exam, and a final exam. Each lesson contains the following:

- Introduction and Weeks to Complete
- Learning Objectives and Curriculum Standards
- Reading, Watching, and Learning Activities for the Unit
- Self-Check Quiz
- Discussion Board
- Teacher-Graded Assignments such as essays

Each lesson includes several activities that present content knowledge. Each lesson also includes multiple graded assignments to ensure that you learn the content that has been presented in the activities. Some of the assignments are automatically-graded quizzes, and some are written assignments or activities that your instructor will grade. Be sure you read all instructions carefully and ask your instructor for help if something is not clear.

## Course Outline

Please note that some assignments will be hidden from you when you start the course. As you move through the lessons and complete assignments, more will unlock for you.

| Unit | Topic | Approximate Time for Completion |
|---|---|---|
| **Unit 1** | Americans in Writing | Two weeks |
| **Unit 2** | Social Rights and Responsibilities | Two weeks |
| **Unit 3** | Romance and Adventures | Three weeks |
| **Midterm Exam** | | |
| **Unit 4** | Modern Life | Three weeks |
| **Unit 5** | Hardships and Perseverance | Three weeks |
| **Unit 6** | Detective Work | Three weeks |
| **Final Exam** | | |

## Assignment Schedule

Each of the following must be completed to complete the course. Items with an asterisk (*) indicate that these are summative assessments for the course.

| Unit | Weeks | Assignments |
|---|---|---|
| **1** | 1-2 | Checkpoint 1: Introduce Yourself (non-graded)<br>1.1 Introductory Activity – Journal<br>1.3 Conventions and Reading – Check Your Understanding<br>1.5 Revising a Personal Essay<br>1.4 Discussion Board – *To Kill a Mockingbird*<br>1.6 Analyze and Interpret<br>1.7 Analyzing Nonfiction for Bias and Purpose<br>1.8 Dialogue in Stories<br>*1.9 Narrative Writing and Audience-Specific Writing |
| **2** | 3-4 | 2.1 Introductory Activity – Journal<br>2.3 Conventions and Reading – Check Your Understanding<br>2.4 Discussion Board – *To Kill a Mockingbird*<br>2.5 Study Language and Craft – Dialogue<br>2.6 Connotative and Denotative Meanings in "I Have a Dream"<br>2.7 Symbolism and Imagery in the American Revolution<br>*2.8 Writing: Informative or Expository Essay – Compare and Contrast Analysis |

| Unit | Weeks | Assignments |
|:---:|:---:|:---|
| **3** | 5-7 | 3.3 Conventions and Readings – Check Your Understanding<br>3.4 Discussion Board – *Romeo and Juliet* and *To Kill a Mockingbird*<br>3.5 Character Analysis and Plot – *Romeo and Juliet*<br>3.6 Elements of Poetry – "Ithaka" and "Courage"<br>3.7 Understanding Plot – *Romeo and Juliet*<br>*3.8 Writing: Argumentative Essay<br>Checkpoint 2 (non-graded) |
| | | **\*Midterm Exam** |
| **4** | 8-10 | 4.1 Introductory Activity – Journal<br>4.3 Conventions and Reading – Check Your Understanding<br>4.4 Discussion Board – *To Kill a Mockingbird*<br>4.5 Response, Comprehension, and Analysis – *The Odyssey*<br>4.6 Research Questions<br>4.7 Writing: Narrative Draft<br>*4.8 Turn in Final Narrative |
| **5** | 11-13 | 5.1 Introductory Activity – Journal<br>5.3 Conventions Lesson and Readings – Check Your Understanding<br>5.4 Discussion Board – Disaster Discussion and *To Kill a Mockingbird*<br>5.5 Reflection<br>5.6 Identifying a Thesis, Evidence, and Examples<br>5.7 Timelines: *The Odyssey*<br>5.8 Informational Essay Outline<br>5.9 Writing: Informational Essay Draft<br>*5.10 Turn in Final Informational Essay |
| **6** | 14-16 | 6.3 Conventions and Readings – Check Your Understanding<br>6.4 Discussion Board – Wrap Up the Unit<br>6.5 Close Reading of Two Poems<br>6.6 Compare and Contrast Two Poets<br>6.7 Write a Poem<br>6.8 Writing: Persuasive Rough Draft<br>*6.9 Turn in Final Persuasive Essay<br>*6.10 Final Project – *To Kill a Mockingbird*<br>Checkpoint 3 (non-graded) |
| | | **\*Final Exam** |

## Course Credit

The course grade will be calculated as follows:

- 50% coursework average;
- 50% summative assessment average (for Units 1-6), including the final exam;
- A passing course grade is 70 or higher.

Students must attempt all assignments in the course. The final exam will not be available until all assignments have been accepted and graded by the teacher.

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

## Coursework

The graded assignments within each lesson are formative in nature. This means that they are designed to assist you in applying and demonstrating the lesson concepts, as well as identifying areas in which you need additional review. You may use all the lesson's learning activities to assist you as you complete the graded assignments.

## Summative Assessments

Summative assessments are those that allow you to demonstrate mastery of the course objectives. For summative assessments, you will NOT be allowed to use the learning materials. These are opportunities for you to show what you have learned by that point in the course.

Summative assessments may be proctored using the online proctoring system Proctorio. Information about Proctorio is provided in **Remote Proctoring** in the Syllabus section of your course. The summative assessments for this course are as follows:

- Summative Assessments **(20% of Course Grade)**
    - 1.9 Narrative Writing and Audience-Specific Writing
    - 2.8 Informative or Expository Essay – Compare and Contrast Analysis
    - 3.8 Argumentative Essay
    - Midterm Exam
    - 4.8 Turn in Final Narrative
    - 5.10 Turn in Final Informational Essay
    - 6.9 Turn in Final Persuasive Essay
    - 6.10 Final Project – *To Kill a Mockingbird*
- Summative Final Exam **(30% of Course Grade)**

## Course Completion

- 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 Expectations

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

Students are expected to maintain an online environment conducive to learning, which includes "netiquette" (Internet etiquette). Please review the basic rules for Online Discussion Netiquette. Ensure that your email messages, discussion board postings, and other electronic communications are thoughtful and respectful. Diverse opinions are welcome in this course, and you are expected to demonstrate an open mind and courtesy when responding to the thoughts and ideas of others.

The following are prohibited:

- making offensive remarks in email or the discussion board;
- using inappropriate language or discussing inappropriate topics online;
- spamming;
- hacking;
- using TTU or Blackboard email or discussion boards for commercial purposes;
- using all caps (considered shouting in online communications); and
- cyber-bullying or online harassment of any type.

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.

## 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.