

# HIGH SCHOOL LANGUAGE ARTS



## Suggested Requirements

We suggest that high school students complete the following courses for language arts:

### **These Three Courses:**

- High School Language Arts 1 (1 credit)
- High School Language Arts 2 (1 credit)
- High School Language Arts 3 (1 credit)

## HONORS COURSES

High school students have the option to take additional honors courses. For the honors track, the student must complete the High School Language Arts courses and at least eight honors book studies.





# HIGH SCHOOL LANGUAGE ARTS



## Scope & Sequence: Grammar, Usage, Punctuation

### INCLUDED IN HIGH SCHOOL 1, 2, 3

- commonly confused words
- coordinating conjunctions
- dependent and independent clauses
- determining the meaning of unfamiliar words
- editing
- Greek and Latin roots
- parts of speech
- sentence diagramming
- vocabulary

#### Year 1

- a sentence needs three things
- absolute phrases
- adjective & adverb rule: correct usage: adjective vs. adverb
- adjective & adverb rule: *real* vs. *really*
- adjective & adverb rule: sense & appearance verbs
- avoiding faulty comparisons
- comma rule: use a comma after a dependent clause at the beginning of a sentence
- comma rule: use a comma and a coordinating conjunction to connect two independent clauses

- comma rule: use a comma to separate a statement from a question
- comma rule: use a comma to separate contrasting parts of a sentence
- comma rule: use commas in a series
- comma splices
- compound subjects, verbs, direct objects, and indirect objects
- conjunctions
- implied subjects in imperative sentences
- parallel construction
- predicate adjectives
- quotation punctuation
- subordinating conjunctions
- vertical lists

#### Year 2

- adjective & adverb rule: comparisons and irregular comparisons
- adjective & adverb rule: comparisons ending in *LY*
- adjective & adverb rule: double negatives
- apostrophes
- appositives
- colons
- comma rule: commas with dates
- comma rule: use a comma after

a nonessential introductory word or phrase

- comma rule: use a comma to separate coordinate adjectives of equal importance
- comma rule: use commas to separate geographical names
- comma rule: use commas to set off degrees or titles used with names
- comma rule: use commas to set off names of people who are directly addressed
- correlative conjunctions
- gerunds (and diagramming gerunds)
- misplaced participial phrases
- participles and participial phrases
- prepositional phrases and commas (and diagramming prepositional phrases)
- problems with prepositions
- run-on sentences
- semicolons

#### Year 3

- avoiding unnecessary infinitives
- avoiding shifts in person, voice, number
- avoiding shifts in verb tense
- capitalization rules: days of the week, seasons, north, south, east, west

- capitalization rules: family relationships
- capitalization rules: formal titles/school titles
- capitalization rules: proper nouns
- capitalization rules: school courses
- capitalization rules: titles
- comma rule: use commas to set off infinitive phrases when they are at the beginning of sentences or used as interrupters in sentences
- dashes, parentheses, brackets
- ellipses
- hyphens
- infinitive phrases
- interjections
- problems with modifiers—dangling and misplaced
- problems with pronouns
- relative clauses
- restrictive and nonrestrictive clauses
- rules for abbreviations & acronyms
- rules for writing numbers
- sentence structures
- subject–verb agreement



## Scope & Sequence: Writing

### WRITING INSTRUCTION

- abstract vs. descriptive language
- annotating and summarizing difficult texts
- avoiding plagiarism
- avoiding wordiness and redundancy
- citing sources
- essay writing: beyond the five-paragraph essay
- essay writing: body paragraphs
- essay writing: developing and outlining an essay
- essay writing: introductory paragraphs
- essay writing: the conclusion
- essay writing: thesis statements
- focusing paragraphs on one main idea
- maintaining a consistent writing style
- prewriting
- revising
- using descriptive language
- using literary devices
- using or avoiding active and passive voice
- using rich and varied vocabulary
- using sensory language
- using strong verbs
- using transitions
- varying sentence structure and first words

### WRITING ASSIGNMENTS

Each course includes 4–5 major writing assignments. In addition, students complete 6–7 Insights Journal entries for each course, and each unit includes effective writing exercises and assignments.

#### High School 1

- Hudson River School multimedia presentation
- literary analysis essay
- persuasive essay
- poetry
- process essay

#### High School 2

- biography essay
- informative essay
- letter writing (personal and business)
- personal narrative
- research paper
- timed essays

#### High School 3

- research paper
- response essay
- résumé writing
- summaries
- timed essays
- travel articles



# HIGH SCHOOL LANGUAGE ARTS



## Scope & Sequence: Literature

### A UNIQUE APPROACH TO LITERATURE

The High School Language Arts courses do not use many classical books that are commonly integrated with other popular curricula. This is because many classics have questionable and even immoral foundations (often not realized by parents until closely evaluated) and do not meet the goals of these courses, which are

1. to help students gain knowledge and a more godly character, and
2. to expose students to literature that is challenging, but so beautifully written, meaningful, and full of light and truth that it engenders a lifelong love of reading worthy books.

The creators of this curriculum believe that a book is not worthy just because the world considers the book a classic. At the same time, it is helpful for students to be informed about classic literature and famous authors and their impacts on the world. Thus, in addition to the worthy and wholesome books we choose to integrate, the courses are carefully designed to teach students the knowledge needed about classical literature and its place in the literary

world, while not requiring them to read books that have questionable moral foundations.

For example, *Beowulf* has elements of both pagan Germanic culture and Christianity that are wound together in ways that can be confusing and do not completely harmonize with the teachings of God. The story is descriptively violent, and it is not a book known to engender a love of reading in many people. However, it can be helpful for students to understand *Beowulf's* impact on literature. Thus, rather than integrating the whole book into the course, our courses have a unit on Anglo-Saxon literature in which students learn about *Beowulf* and its importance in the literary world.

### Poets Studied

- Alfred, Lord Tennyson
- Edgar Guest
- Emily Dickinson
- George Gordon Byron (Lord Byron)
- Henry Wadsworth Longfellow
- John Greenleaf Whittier
- John Keats
- John Newton
- Middle English and Victorian poets

- Paul Laurence Dunbar
- Phillis Wheatley
- Ralph Waldo Emerson
- Robert Frost
- William Cowper
- William Wordsworth

### Literary Elements Studied

analogy, characterization, conflict, dialogue, ethos, figurative language, flashback, foreshadowing, genre, imagery, irony, literary analysis, literary devices, logos, meter, mood, motif, paradox, parody, pathos, plot, poetic devices and terms, point of view, satire, setting, soliloquy, suspense, style, symbolism, theme, tone



## HIGH SCHOOL 1

### ***Just David*** by Eleanor H. Porter

#### Fiction | Geography Connection: New England

From the author of *Pollyanna* comes a profound tale about a boy, David, who is raised in an isolated mountain cabin by a devoted father, and the journey he takes after his father dies.

### ***Up From Slavery*** by Booker T. Washington

#### Autobiography | Geography Connection: Southern United States

This beloved classic autobiography gives insights into a remarkable man and the work he accomplished despite being born into slavery.

### ***Patterns on the Wall*** by Elizabeth Yates

#### Historical Fiction | Geography Connection: None

This historical fiction novel takes place in New England during the early 1800s, including the “frozen year” of 1816.

### ***Into the Unknown*** by Various Authors

#### Biography/Autobiography | Geography Connections: The Arctic, Nordic Countries, Greenland, Iceland

The adventures of three Arctic explorers—Fridtjof Nansen, Robert Edwin Peary, and Matthew A. Henson—are told in this compilation of biographical and autobiographical stories.

### ***The Story of John Greenleaf Whittier*** by Francis E. Cooke

#### Biography | Geography Connection: The Middle East

This insightful biography tells the life story of an admirable writer and abolitionist.

## HIGH SCHOOL 2

### ***Men of Iron*** by Howard Pyle

#### Fiction | Geography Connection: The British Isles

This exciting classic tale of medieval times is packed with literary, educational, and moral value. As students read the book, they will also study the history of the English language and literature from *Beowulf* through Middle English literature.

### ***Harriet, the Moses of Her People*** by Sarah H. Bradford

#### Biography | Geography Connections: Canada, Western Africa

First published in 1886, this classic book tells the inspiring story of Harriet Tubman. As students read the book, they will also study the life and works of Phillis Wheatley and Harriet Beecher Stowe.

### ***Sagebrush Surgeon*** by Florence Crannell Means

#### Biography | Geography Connection: Western United States

Award-winning author Florence Crannell Means tells the story of Dr. Clarence Salsbury and his great work as a surgeon and missionary with the Ganado Mission to the Navajo. Students will find more meaning in the book as they study the geography of the area.

### ***A Girl of the Limberlost*** by Gene Stratton-Porter <sup>+</sup> CLEAN LANGUAGE VERSION

#### Fiction | Geography Connection: Midwestern United States

This coming-of-age classic combines fascinating observations on nature with the struggles of growing up at the dawn of the 20th century.

### ***Christoph von Schmid Collection*** by Christoph von Schmid

#### Fiction | Geography Connections: Germany, Spain, Portugal

*A Basket of Flowers*, *The Two Rings*, *Henry von Eichenfels*, and other books and stories make up this fantastic literary collection.

## HIGH SCHOOL 3

### ***Florence Nightingale: The Angel of the Crimea*** by Laura E. Richards

#### Biography | Geography Connections: Eastern Europe

Pulitzer Prize–winning author Laura E. Richards tells the inspiring true story of Florence Nightingale, highlighting moments in her early childhood, events that prepared her to accept the calling of head nurse during the grim days of the Crimean War, her service after the war, and the impact her life’s work had on nursing practices around the world. As students read the book, they will also study the life and works of Charles Dickens and the Brontë sisters.

### ***The Little Duke*** by Charlotte M. Yonge

#### Historical Fiction | Geography Connections: United Kingdom, Western Europe

This inspiring story of Richard the Fearless, who became Duke of Normandy at the tender age of eight, was originally published in 1854. Containing profound messages, this book is beautifully written. Students also study British writers from the Victorian period, such as Charles Dickens, Elizabeth Barrett Browning, and Alfred, Lord Tennyson.

### ***The Good and the Beautiful Classic Short Story Collection*** by Various Authors

#### Short Story | Geography Connections: Russia, Asia

This thought-provoking collection of classic short stories features good and beautiful literature from authors O. Henry, L. M. Montgomery, Leo Tolstoy, Guy de Maupassant, and others.

### ***The Call of the Woods: An Edgar Guest Collection*** written and compiled by Jenny Phillips

#### Poetry | Geography Connections: Various

Equal parts biography, poetry collection, and selected essays, this delightful book explores the life and literary works of author Edgar Guest. Students will learn more about the biographical background that illuminates the themes woven through Guest’s works: true friendship, faith, family, fatherhood, provident living, heartfelt citizenship, honesty, virtue, and diligent striving.