



Switched-On

SCHOOLHOUSE® 2012 EDITION

Curriculum Catalog

Language Arts 800

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Course Overview

Language Arts 800 continues to build on the sequential development and integration of communication skills in four major areas—reading, writing, speaking, and listening. It most specifically focuses on deepening and furthering students' understanding in the following ways:

- **Reading**—reinforces reading comprehension skills by teaching students how to analyze propaganda and other forms of writing, including biographies, autobiographies, formal essays, and informal essays; shows students how to make denotative, symbolic, and connotative readings of a text; introduces both Old English and Middle English languages and literature to develop students' understanding of English language formation and development; prepares students for the higher level literary comprehension skills required in the upper grades.
- **Writing**—develops students' understanding of sentence structure, providing hands-on experience with conjunctions, transitions, clauses, and common sentence errors; teaches language histories and etymologies to help students build on knowledge of word structures, including topics like prefixes, roots, and suffixes; expands on students' vocabulary and spelling skills; gives students the opportunity to develop their abilities in writing business letters, friendly letters, informal essays, and basic literature analyses.
- **Speaking**—offers students experience in delivering oral reports; teaches skills that enable students to become effective speakers and communicators, weaving these skills together throughout the course.
- **Listening**—teaches effective listening comprehension skills, weaving these together throughout the lessons; builds upon students' study skills, as well as helping them become reliable and efficient note takers.

Curriculum Contents

Reading Comprehension Skills

- Analysis of Propaganda
- Denotation, Connotation, and Symbolism
- Elements of Narrative Prose
- Following Written Directions
- Reading Formal and Informal Essays
- Reading Skills—Fact versus Opinion, Validity, and Authority

Composition

- Essay/Report—Structure and Process
- Paragraph Elements and Structure
- Writing Informal Essays
- Writing Paragraphs
- Writing Business and Friendly Letters

Grammar and Usage

- Conjunctions—Subordinating, Correlative, and Coordinating
- Clauses—Adjective, Adverb, and Dependent/Independent
- Capitalization
- Grammar Errors—Sentence Construction Errors
- Introductory Expressions—Interjections, Participle Phrases, and Adverb Clauses
- Levels of Language Use—Standard/Nonstandard
- Parts of Speech—Nouns, Verbs, Pronouns, Adverbs, Adjectives, and Interjections

Grammar and Usage Continued

- Punctuation—Apostrophes, Hyphens, Italics, Commas, and End Punctuation
- Sentence Structure—Tense, Number, Person, and Transitions

Literature Studies

- Nonfiction—Biography and Autobiography
- Survey of English Literature—Old and Middle English

Speaking and Listening

- Direct/Indirect Communication
- Following Instructions
- Listening Skills—Strategies, Comprehension, and Note-Taking
- Nonverbal Communication
- Oral Report
- Speaking Skills—Purpose, Organization, and Delivery

Spelling

- Affixes
- Homonyms
- Borrowed Words
- Confused Spellings
- Silent Letters
- Words with “ei” and “ie”
- Words with “-ize,” “-yze,” “-ise,” “-ent,” “-ant,” “-ance,” “-ence,” “-able,” and “-ible” Endings

Vocabulary Building

- Confusing Words
- Connotation/Denotation
- Dictionary Skills
- Etymology
- Roots, Prefixes, and Suffixes
- Word Categorization
- Word Relationships

Special Topics

- Diacritical Marks
- English Variations
- Etymology
- Media Comprehension
- Note-taking
- Origin/Development of Language—Indo-European, Old and Middle English, and American English
- Use of Reference Materials

Literature List

The literary works students will encounter in Language Arts 800 include, but are not limited to:

Literature—Featured**Nonfiction**

- Byrd, Richard. *Flight to the South Pole* (excerpt).
- Stuart, Jesse. *The Thread That Runs So True* (excerpt).
- “Pain: the Tool of the Wounded Surgeon”
- Hackle, Sparse Gray. “Every Dog Should Own a Man”
- Leacock, Stephen. “My Financial Career”

Literature—Discussed**Poetry**

- Chaucer, Geoffrey. *Canterbury Tales*.
- “The Ruin.”
- “The Seafarer.”
- “Widsith.”

UNIT 1: COMMUNICATION
Assignment Titles

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|---|---|
| 1. Course Overview | 15. Suffixes Change the Spelling of Roots |
| 2. Documentation | 16. Spelling Lesson 2: General |
| 3. Improving Your Reading: Using Word Parts | 17. Quiz 2: Cumulative |
| 4. Inflections Add Grammatical Meaning | 18. Spelling Quiz 2 |
| 5. Word Roots from Latin and Greek | 19. Communication Without Words |
| 6. Categorizing Words and Analogies | 20. Direct Nonverbal Communication |
| 7. Book Report: Pre-1900 Novel | 21. Spelling Lesson 3: Affixes |
| 8. Spelling Lesson 1: Using ie and ei | 22. Quiz 3: Communicating Without Words |
| 9. Quiz 1: Word Parts/Categories/Analogies | 23. Spelling Quiz 3 |
| 10. Spelling Quiz 1 | 24. Unit 1 Special Project |
| 11. Following Directions | 25. Test |
| 12. Project: Directions | 26. Alternate Test |
| 13. Project: Writing Directions from a Prompt | 27. Reference |
| 14. Essay: Write a Technical Document Giving Directions | |

UNIT 2: DEVELOPMENT AND USAGE OF ENGLISH
Assignment Titles

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|--|---|
| 1. Development of Language: Origins and Dialects | 14. Quiz 2: Classification of Words |
| 2. The Indo-European Family | 15. Spelling Quiz 2 |
| 3. Spelling Lesson 1: General/Content Area | 16. Adjectives and Adjective Phrases |
| 4. Quiz 1: History of the English Language | 17. Adverbs and Adverb Phrases |
| 5. Spelling Quiz 1 | 18. Book Report: Short Story |
| 6. Word Classes--Nouns | 19. Spelling Lesson 3: Adjectives and Adverbs |
| 7. Personal and Possessive Pronouns | 20. Quiz 3: Cumulative |
| 8. Other Kinds of Pronouns | 21. Spelling Quiz 3 |
| 9. Verbs | 22. Unit 2 Special Project |
| 10. Adjectives and Adverbs | 23. Test |
| 11. Project: Descriptive Paragraph | 24. Alternate Test |
| 12. Essay: Writing About an Event | 25. Reference |
| 13. Spelling Lesson 2: General | |

UNIT 3: PUNCTUATION AND LITERATURE
Assignment Titles

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|---|-------------------------------------|
| 1. Ending a Thought: End Punctuation | 13. Spelling Quiz 2 |
| 2. Using Punctuation to Link Clauses | 14. The Informal Essay |
| 3. Interrupting a Thought | 15. The Anecdote |
| 4. Following an Introduction | 16. Essay: Informal Essay |
| 5. Spelling Lesson 1: -ant and -ent Endings | 17. Spelling Lesson 3: -able, -ible |
| 6. Quiz 1: Punctuation | 18. Quiz 3: Punctuation and Essays |
| 7. Spelling Quiz 1 | 19. Spelling Quiz 3 |
| 8. The Formal Essay | 20. Unit 3 Special Project |
| 9. Analyzing a Formal Essay | 21. Test |
| 10. Project: Analysis of an Essay | 22. Alternate Test |
| 11. Spelling Lesson 2: -ise, -ize, -yze | 23. Reference |
| 12. Quiz 2: Punctuation/The Formal Essay | |

UNIT 4: WORDS AND HOW TO USE THEM
Assignment Titles

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|--|---|
| 1. Spelling Lesson 1: Develop Spelling Sense | 10. Confusing Words |
| 2. Spelling Quiz 1 | 11. Quiz 2: Using Words Correctly |
| 3. Using the Dictionary | 12. Spelling Lesson 3: General |
| 4. Diacritical Marks | 13. Spelling Quiz 3 |
| 5. Using a Thesaurus | 14. Project: Book Report: Post-1900 Novel |
| 6. Quiz 1: Understanding Words (Dictionary and Thesaurus Skills) | 15. Unit 4 Special Project |
| 7. Spelling Lesson 2: General and Homonyms | 16. Test |
| 8. Spelling Quiz 2 | 17. Alternate Test |
| 9. Standard and Nonstandard Usage | 18. Reference |

UNIT 5: CORRECT LANGUAGE USAGE
Assignment Titles

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|---|---|
| 1. The Apostrophe | 15. Project: Speech |
| 2. The Hyphen | 16. Spelling Lesson 2: Content Words |
| 3. Quotation Marks | 17. Quiz 2: Punctuation, Usage, and Spoken Language |
| 4. Parentheses and Italics | 18. Spelling Quiz 2 |
| 5. Capitalization | 19. Review of Homonyms, Synonyms and Antonyms |
| 6. Essay: Choice of Topic | 20. Vocabulary Development: Word Pairs |
| 7. Abbreviations and Acronyms | 21. Spelling Lesson 3: Difficult Word Pairs |
| 8. Numbers and Figures | 22. Quiz 3: Correct Usage |
| 9. Spelling Lesson 1: General and Content Words | 23. Spelling Quiz 3 |
| 10. Quiz 1: Written Language | 24. Unit 5 Special Project |
| 11. Spelling Quiz 1 | 25. Test |
| 12. Spoken Language: Biblical Standards | 26. Alternate Test |
| 13. Project: Biblical Speech | 27. Reference |
| 14. Speaking Qualities | |

UNIT 6: LANGUAGE AND LITERATURE
Assignment Titles

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|--|--|
| 1. The Old English Period | 14. Quiz 2: The Construction of Sentences |
| 2. The Old English Language and Literature | 15. Spelling Quiz 2 |
| 3. Report: Anglo-Saxon Culture/Literature | 16. The Elements of Autobiography |
| 4. Middle English | 17. Autobiographical Excerpt: Jesse Stuart |
| 5. Report: Geoffrey Chaucer | 18. Autobiographical Excerpt: Admiral Byrd |
| 6. Spelling Lesson 1: -ance, -ence, -ense | 19. Essay: Autobiography |
| 7. Quiz 1: The History of the English Language | 20. Spelling Lesson 3: Vocabulary Words |
| 8. Spelling Quiz 1 | 21. Quiz 3: Cumulative |
| 9. Coordinating Conjunctions | 22. Spelling Quiz 3 |
| 10. Correlative Conjunctions/Conjunctive Adverbs | 23. Project: Book Report: Biography |
| 11. Subordinating Conjunctions/Adverb Clauses | 24. Unit 6 Special Project |
| 12. Relative Pronouns/Adjective Clauses; Phrases and Appositives | 25. Test |
| 13. Spelling Lesson 2: Mispronounced Words | 26. Alternate Test |
| | 27. Reference |

UNIT 7: CRITICAL READING AND PARAGRAPH SKILLS
Assignment Titles

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|---|---|
| 1. Critical Reading: Symbolism/Connotation | 15. Spelling Quiz 2 |
| 2. Critical Reading: Context/Directive Language | 16. Writing a Composition: The Introduction |
| 3. Analyzing an Author's Credentials/Argument | 17. Essay: Thesis Statement |
| 4. Propaganda | 18. Writing a Composition: The Body |
| 5. Spelling Lesson 1: Silent Letters | 19. Writing a Composition: The Conclusion |
| 6. Quiz 1: Critical Reading | 20. Writing a Composition: Proofreading |
| 7. Spelling Quiz 1 | 21. Essay: Analyzing an Argument |
| 8. Paragraph Structure | 22. Spelling Lesson 3: Unaccented Syllables |
| 9. Essay: Paragraph Types | 23. Quiz 3: Cumulative |
| 10. Organizing a Unified Paragraph | 24. Spelling Quiz 3 |
| 11. Paragraph Coherence/Transition Methods | 25. Unit 7 Special Project |
| 12. Essay: Paragraph Development | 26. Test |
| 13. Spelling Lesson 2: Silent Letters | 27. Alternate Test |
| 14. Quiz 2: The Paragraph | 28. Reference |

UNIT 8: WRITING, LISTENING, AND READING
Assignment Titles

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| 1. Writing Business Letters | 18. Quiz 2: Listening Skills/Nonverbal Communication |
| 2. Three Types of Business Letters | 19. Spelling Quiz 2 |
| 3. Project: Business Letters | 20. Distinguishing Between Fiction and Nonfiction |
| 4. Structure and Form of Personal Letters | 21. Evaluating the Reliability of Information |
| 5. Three Types of Personal Letters | 22. Report: Assessing Reliability |
| 6. Project: Personal Letters | 23. Sources of Information |
| 7. Spelling Lesson 1: General | 24. Reading the Newspaper |
| 8. Quiz 1: Writing Letters | 25. News Magazines/Other Nonfiction Resources |
| 9. Spelling Quiz 1 | 26. Project: Newspaper Analysis |
| 10. Sound and Listening | 27. Spelling Lesson 3: General |
| 11. Listening for Literal Meaning | 28. Quiz 3: Cumulative |
| 12. Listening for Implied and Figurative Meaning | 29. Spelling Quiz 3 |
| 13. Project: Figures of Speech | 30. Unit 8 Special Project |
| 14. Identifying Nonverbal Clues | 31. Test |
| 15. Being a Good Listener | 32. Alternate Test |
| 16. Project: Listening Skills | 33. Reference |
| 17. Spelling Lesson 2: General and Content Words | |

UNIT 9: THE ENGLISH LANGUAGE
Assignment Titles

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| 1. English is a Living Language | 14. Spelling Quiz 2 |
| 2. Etymology of English Words | 15. Organizing an Oral Report |
| 3. English in the United States | 16. Developing an Oral Report |
| 4. Project: Slang | 17. Using Language Appropriately |
| 5. Spelling Lesson 1: General | 18. Effective Speaking Techniques |
| 6. Quiz 1: The Changing Language | 19. Project: Oral Report |
| 7. Spelling Quiz 1 | 20. Spelling Lesson 3: Frequently Misspelled Words |
| 8. Double Negatives | 21. Quiz 3: Cumulative |
| 9. Dangling Modifiers | 22. Spelling Quiz 3 |
| 10. Shift in Person and Number | 23. Unit 9 Special Project |
| 11. Shift in Mood and Tense; S/V Agreement | 24. Test |
| 12. Spelling Lesson 2: General | 25. Alternate Test |
| 13. Quiz 2: Grammar and History of English | 26. Reference |

UNIT 10: REVIEW
Assignment Titles

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|--|--|
| 1. History of Language | 19. Review Quiz 2: Communication |
| 2. Grammar: Parts of Speech | 20. Review Spelling Lesson 3 and 4 |
| 3. Punctuation and Capitalization | 21. Spelling Quiz 2 |
| 4. Abbreviations, Apostrophes, and Hyphens | 22. Reading: Word Parts |
| 5. Dictionary and Thesaurus | 23. Reading: Context Clues and Sequence |
| 6. Standard English Usage | 24. Reading: Fact and Opinion, News Articles |
| 7. Common Sentence Errors | 25. Reading: Essays and Autobiographies |
| 8. Paragraphs | 26. Project: Analyze a Formal Essay |
| 9. Letters | 27. Report: Autobiography |
| 10. Compositions | 28. Review Quiz 3: Reading |
| 11. Essay: What Makes a Good Christian? | 29. Review Spelling Lesson 5 and 6 |
| 12. Review Quiz 1: Language | 30. Essay: Short Story |
| 13. Review Spelling Lesson 1 and 2 | 31. Spelling Quiz 3 |
| 14. Spelling Quiz 1 | 32. Unit 10 Special Project |
| 15. Communication: Unspoken Factors | 33. Test |
| 16. Communication: Spoken Factors | 34. Alternate Test |
| 17. Project: Interview a Friend | 35. Reference |
| 18. Following Directions and Listening | |