

ACES Learning Center Course Syllabus E103: Introduction to English Writing and Literature

Course Objectives and Student Competencies:

1. Students will read challenging, above-grade-level passages, both fiction and non-fiction.
2. Students will master new grammatical structures by emulating writing (sentence-composing).

Class Structure:

Class will include reading passages, discussion of homework reading, and lecture on a new grammar topic each week. Students will have the opportunity to practice sentence-composing (composition) exercises during class. Readings will cover Lexile levels 650-950 (emphasizing 700-900).

Required Materials:

Students will bring pencil, paper, a folder, a notebook for sentence-composing, and completed homework to all classes.

Class Assignments:

Students will complete assigned readings and sentence-composing (writing) exercises. Students will also read two books, *The Brilliant World of Tom Gates* and *Diary of a Wimpy Kid*. (The choice of books will be adjusted if students have already read these two).

Date	Readings	Lexile Level	Model Sentences	Homework
Week 1	Tom Gates	650	Overview of Sentence Composing.	Reading Assignment
Week 2	A Brush With History A Ride In Space	700	The toothbrush has come a long way since chew sticks. Who knows what kind of toothbrush will be invented in the future?	Reading Questions; Sentence-Composing I
Week 3	A Hero In Disguise A Grand Old Canyon	710	The group of people who worked to help slaves escape by using different places and secret routes was known as the Underground Railroad. Together, the wind and water created the canyon we see today.	Reading Questions Sentence-Composing II
Week 4	A Juicy Problem How to Say I Ruff You	730	To that end, students conducted a campaign to collect 800 signatures on a petition. Shapiro's class got an up-close look at how the legislative process works.	Reading Questions; Sentence-Composing III
Week 5	Johann Sebastian Bach Loopy Loops (Saturn)	730 740	During his life, J.S. Bach was not as popular as Beethoven and Mozart were during their lifetimes. He knew the sounds and subtleties of every instrument by heart.	Reading Questions Sentence-Composing IV
Week 6	Chemistry- Atoms and Molecules Li Bing and the Flooding	780	Two hydrogen atoms and one oxygen atom are bonded together to create a water molecule. He realized that the best way to solve the problem would be to turn it into an opportunity.	Reading Questions; Sentence-Composing V
Week 7	A Deep Sea Wonderland American Government: Get Out the Vote	840 850	Scientists say that we must find ways to protect this place or we will lose these sea creatures forever. Most people want a candidate who will represent them and their beliefs in office.	Reading Questions Sentence-Composing VI
Week 8	The Giant Panda Understanding How the Brain Works	870	Many people are working hard to strengthen the protection of giant panda habitats, learn more about the bears, and end the remaining threats. Thus, the future looks hopeful for giant pandas.	Reading Questions; Sentence-Composing VII
Week 9	A Bad Robot	890	At night his pistons and spinning gears made so much noise that Bonnie could hardly sleep, even when she got really mad and squeezed him into the closet.	Reading Questions Sentence-Composing VIII
Week 10	Diary of a Wimpy Kid I	950	You might think I was pretty dumb for falling for that one.	Final Writing Assignment
Week 11	Diary of a Wimpy Kid II	950	He is not considerate of the fact that...	Course Evaluation