

COURSE SYLLABUS

Course Title: English Language Arts/Writing (6th Grade, Starter)

The Asian International School

I. INSTRUCTIONAL RESOURCES:

1. **Text:** Moore, D. W., Short, D. J., Smith, M. W., Tatum, A. W., Tinajero, J. V. (2014). *Inside*. National Geographic Learning, Cengage Learning.
2. **Other:** Teacher selected short stories, essays, non-fiction/informational materials, and poetry.

II. COURSE PREREQUISITE:

Students must meet the minimum requirements by the Asian International School to demonstrate English proficiency and readiness to take English Language Arts (ELA) course the international program offers for students.

III. COURSE DESCRIPTION

The course is designed according to the Common Course State Standards. It aims for the students to read like a writer and write for a range of purpose and audiences, as per one of the book's authors. Each unit contains three main writing topics which are integrated with Grammar, Reading and Speaking. The topics cover varied and pivotal writing skills, such as personal narrative, realistic and short stories, letter writing, and writing to help the environment. Specific standards used in Writing are clearly documented in the last few pages of the Common Core book, CCSS 1- 50.

IV. COURSE GOALS

By taking the course, students will:

1. Write various forms of fiction and non-fiction that demonstrate clear viewpoints, evidence, and knowledge and information through references as a result of the writing process to write narrative, argumentative, informative/explanatory summative pieces as well as continual formative writing practice; use credible sources to sharpen the focus based on the research findings in (1) writing arguments with clear reasons and relevant evidence, (2) writing brief reports that include relevant facts, details, and quotations for a specific topic and a clear focus, and (3) conducting short research projects to answer a question.
2. Learn effective use of the conventions of English and vocabulary acquisition through collaborative activities of discussion, interpretation, and presentation of information; recognize variations from Standard English in writing and speaking, and improve language use based on this knowledge; understand multiple-meaning words from the context in which they are used.

V. COURSE OBJECTIVES

At the end of this course, the students will be able to:

- A) Write about the topics stated in Units 1 – 8.
- B) Recall the grammar rules that they have learned in the previous level and use them as required in the writing topics.
- C) Utilize the writing stages to develop their skills and produce better results.
- D) Apply their real life experiences and day-to-day activities to make writing more meaningful.
- E) Develop writing skills through continuous practice and learning.
- F) Make learning holistic by integrating Writing with other language skills – Reading, Speaking, Grammar and Listening.

VI. COURSE REQUIREMENTS

Students are expected to write continuously about different topics. They should have a “Writer’s Notebook” in which they will write all their writing tasks. There are three writing topics in every unit; however, it is the teacher’s discretion what or which topic to be covered and prioritized. In addition, they should be able to work individually, in pairs or in groups as required in the activity.

The course includes monthly Writing tasks, homework, and class activities. They are required, and it is a must that they follow and do the tasks assigned to them. They will be given midterm and final exams in the first and second semesters.

VII. EVALUATION AND GRADING

- A. Summative
 - 1. Midterm Exam (30%)
 - 2. Final Exam (30%)
- B. Formative (*please see specific formative assessments in the unit mapping*)
 - 1. homework
 - 2. daily quiz
 - 3. individual/pair/groups activities
 - 4. other writing activities and classroom activities
- C. Other assessments
 - 1. class participation, attendance and behavior

VIII. GRADING SCALE

Below is the school’s standard grading scale:

Letter	Range	Percentages
A	90-100	90% (High Distinction)
B	80-89	80% (Distinction)
C	65-79	70% (Pass with merit)
D	50- 64	60% (Pass)
F	0- 49	Below 60% (Fail)

IX. COURSE OUTLINE

SEMESTER	UNIT	TOPIC	CONTENT	TIME (WEEKS)	NOTES
Semester I (18 weeks)	Unit 1: Finding Your Own Place	Paragraph: Topic and Details, Persuasive, Main Idea and Details	I. Write About Someone You Know II. Write About a Message III. Write About a Special Event	1.5 1.5 1.5	
	Unit 2: Water for Life	Sequence Paragraph, Explanatory Paragraphs	I. Write About a Situation II. Write About Water III. Write About a Day at a River	1.5 1.5 1.5	
	Unit 3: Natural Forces	Friendly Letter, Personal Narrative	I. Write About an Interesting Place II. Write About a Natural Disaster III. Write Advice	1.5 1.5 1.5	
	Unit 4: Creepy Classics	Short Story	I. Write About a Creepy Situation II. Write to Compare Creepy Situations III. Write About a Performance	1.5 1.5 1.5	
Semester II (16 weeks)	Unit 5: The Drive to Discovery	Information Report	I. Write About the Past II. Write About the Past III. Write About the Past and Present	1.5 1.5 1	
	Unit 6: Struggle for Freedom	Summary Paragraph, Cause-and-Effect Essay	I. Write About Freedom II. Write About a New Home III. Write About Human Rights	1.5 1.5 1	

	Unit 7: Star Power	Speech, Persuasive Business Letter	I. Write About a Character in Space	1.5	
			II. Write About an Adventure	1.5	
			III. Write About the Night Sky	1	
	Unit 8: Art and Soul	Editorial, Literary Response	I. Write About Music	1.5	
			II. Write About Your Interests	1.5	
			III. Write About Myths	1	

The table below shows how the topic will be divided per week for the whole month.

Week 1		Week 2		Week 3		Week 4	
Day 1	Day 2	Day 1	Day 2	Day 1	Day 2	Day 1	Day 2
<p>Write About Someone You Know</p> <p>1. Lesson Introduction 2. Unlocking of Unfamiliar Terms 3. Student's Book Exercises</p>	<p>Pre-Writing Activities</p> <p>1. Brainstorming Activities 2. Discussion of Paragraph Plan 3. Guided Draft Writing</p>	<p>Writing Activities</p> <p>1. Editing and Revising 2. Final Draft 3. Checking</p>	<p>Write a Message</p> <p>1. Lesson Introduction 2. Unlocking of Unfamiliar Terms 3. Student's Book Exercises</p>	<p>Pre-Writing Activities</p> <p>1. Brainstorming Activities 2. Discussion of Paragraph Plan 3. Guided Draft Writing</p>	<p>Writing Activities</p> <p>1. Editing and Revising 2. Final Draft 3. Checking</p>	<p>Write About a Special Event</p> <p>1. Lesson Introduction 2. Unlocking of Unfamiliar Terms 3. Student's Book Exercises</p>	<p>Pre-Writing Activities</p> <p>1. Brainstorming Activities 2. Discussion of Paragraph Plan 3. Guided Draft Writing</p> <p>Note: The Final Draft is given as a homework.</p>
<p>Write About a Situation</p> <p>1. Lesson Introduction 2. Unlocking of Unfamiliar Terms 3. Student's Book Exercises</p>	<p>Pre-Writing Activities</p> <p>1. Brainstorming Activities 2. Discussion of Paragraph Plan 3. Guided Draft Writing</p>	<p>Writing Activities</p> <p>1. Editing and Revising 2. Final Draft 3. Checking</p>	<p>Write About Water</p> <p>1. Lesson Introduction 2. Unlocking of Unfamiliar Terms 3. Student's Book Exercises</p>	<p>Pre-Writing Activities</p> <p>1. Brainstorming Activities 2. Discussion of Paragraph Plan 3. Guided Draft Writing</p>	<p>Writing Activities</p> <p>1. Editing and Revising 2. Final Draft 3. Checking</p>	<p>Write About a Day at a River</p> <p>1. Lesson Introduction 2. Unlocking of Unfamiliar Terms 3. Student's Book Exercises</p>	<p>Pre-Writing Activities</p> <p>1. Brainstorming Activities 2. Discussion of Paragraph Plan 3. Guided Draft Writing</p> <p>Note: The Final Draft is given as a homework.</p>
<p>Write About an Interesting Place</p> <p>1. Lesson Introduction 2. Unlocking of Unfamiliar Terms 3. Student's Book Exercises</p>	<p>Pre-Writing Activities</p> <p>1. Brainstorming Activities 2. Discussion of Paragraph Plan 3. Guided Draft Writing</p>	<p>Writing Activities</p> <p>1. Editing and Revising 2. Final Draft 3. Checking</p>	<p>Write a Natural Disaster</p> <p>1. Lesson Introduction 2. Unlocking of Unfamiliar Terms 3. Student's Book Exercises</p>	<p>Pre-Writing Activities</p> <p>1. Brainstorming Activities 2. Discussion of Paragraph Plan 3. Guided Draft Writing</p>	<p>Writing Activities</p> <p>1. Editing and Revising 2. Final Draft 3. Checking</p>	<p>Write Advice</p> <p>1. Lesson Introduction 2. Unlocking of Unfamiliar Terms 3. Student's Book Exercises</p>	<p>Pre-Writing Activities</p> <p>1. Brainstorming Activities 2. Discussion of Paragraph Plan 3. Guided Draft Writing</p> <p>Note: The Final Draft is given as a homework.</p>

<p>Write About a Creepy Situation</p> <p>1. Lesson Introduction 2. Unlocking of Unfamiliar Terms 3. Student's Book Exercises</p>	<p>Pre-Writing Activities</p> <p>1. Brainstorming Activities 2. Discussion of Paragraph Plan 3. Guided Draft Writing</p>	<p>Writing Activities</p> <p>1. Editing and Revising 2. Final Draft 3. Checking</p>	<p>Write to Compare Creepy Situations</p> <p>1. Lesson Introduction 2. Unlocking of Unfamiliar Terms 3. Student's Book Exercises</p>	<p>Pre-Writing Activities</p> <p>1. Brainstorming Activities 2. Discussion of Paragraph Plan 3. Guided Draft Writing</p>	<p>Writing Activities</p> <p>1. Editing and Revising 2. Final Draft 3. Checking</p>	<p>Write About a Performance</p> <p>1. Lesson Introduction 2. Unlocking of Unfamiliar Terms 3. Student's Book Exercises</p>	<p>Pre-Writing Activities</p> <p>1. Brainstorming Activities 2. Discussion of Paragraph Plan 3. Guided Draft Writing</p> <p>Note: The Final Draft is given as a homework.</p>
<p>Write About the past</p> <p>1. Lesson Introduction 2. Unlocking of Unfamiliar Terms 3. Student's Book Exercises</p>	<p>Pre-Writing Activities</p> <p>1. Brainstorming Activities 2. Discussion of Paragraph Plan 3. Guided Draft Writing</p>	<p>Writing Activities</p> <p>1. Editing and Revising 2. Final Draft 3. Checking</p>	<p>Write About the Past</p> <p>1. Lesson Introduction 2. Unlocking of Unfamiliar Terms 3. Student's Book Exercises</p>	<p>Pre-Writing Activities</p> <p>1. Brainstorming Activities 2. Discussion of Paragraph Plan 3. Guided Draft Writing</p>	<p>Writing Activities</p> <p>1. Editing and Revising 2. Final Draft 3. Checking</p>	<p>Write About the Past and Present</p> <p>1. Lesson Introduction 2. Unlocking of Unfamiliar Terms 3. Student's Book Exercises</p>	<p>Pre-Writing Activities</p> <p>1. Brainstorming Activities 2. Discussion of Paragraph Plan 3. Guided Draft Writing</p> <p>Note: The Final Draft is given as a homework.</p>
<p>Write About Freedom</p> <p>1. Lesson Introduction 2. Unlocking of Unfamiliar Terms 3. Student's Book Exercises</p>	<p>Pre-Writing Activities</p> <p>1. Brainstorming Activities 2. Discussion of Paragraph Plan 3. Guided Draft Writing</p>	<p>Writing Activities</p> <p>1. Editing and Revising 2. Final Draft 3. Checking</p>	<p>Write About a New Home</p> <p>1. Lesson Introduction 2. Unlocking of Unfamiliar Terms 3. Student's Book Exercises</p>	<p>Pre-Writing Activities</p> <p>1. Brainstorming Activities 2. Discussion of Paragraph Plan 3. Guided Draft Writing</p>	<p>Writing Activities</p> <p>1. Editing and Revising 2. Final Draft 3. Checking</p>	<p>Write About Human Rights</p> <p>1. Lesson Introduction 2. Unlocking of Unfamiliar Terms 3. Student's Book Exercises</p>	<p>Pre-Writing Activities</p> <p>1. Brainstorming Activities 2. Discussion of Paragraph Plan 3. Guided Draft Writing</p> <p>Note: The Final Draft is given as a homework.</p>

<p>Write About a Character in Space</p> <p>1. Lesson Introduction 2. Unlocking of Unfamiliar Terms 3. Student's Book Exercises</p>	<p>Pre-Writing Activities</p> <p>1. Brainstorming Activities 2. Discussion of Paragraph Plan 3. Guided Draft Writing</p>	<p>Writing Activities</p> <p>1. Editing and Revising 2. Final Draft 3. Checking</p>	<p>Write About an Adventure</p> <p>1. Lesson Introduction 2. Unlocking of Unfamiliar Terms 3. Student's Book Exercises</p>	<p>Pre-Writing Activities</p> <p>1. Brainstorming Activities 2. Discussion of Paragraph Plan 3. Guided Draft Writing</p>	<p>Writing Activities</p> <p>1. Editing and Revising 2. Final Draft 3. Checking</p>	<p>Write About the Night Sky</p> <p>1. Lesson Introduction 2. Unlocking of Unfamiliar Terms 3. Student's Book Exercises</p>	<p>Pre-Writing Activities</p> <p>1. Brainstorming Activities 2. Discussion of Paragraph Plan 3. Guided Draft Writing</p> <p>Note: The Final Draft is given as a homework.</p>
<p>Write About Music</p> <p>1. Lesson Introduction 2. Unlocking of Unfamiliar Terms 3. Student's Book Exercises</p>	<p>Pre-Writing Activities</p> <p>1. Brainstorming Activities 2. Discussion of Paragraph Plan 3. Guided Draft Writing</p>	<p>Writing Activities</p> <p>1. Editing and Revising 2. Final Draft 3. Checking</p>	<p>Write About Your Interests</p> <p>1. Lesson Introduction 2. Unlocking of Unfamiliar Terms 3. Student's Book Exercises</p>	<p>Pre-Writing Activities</p> <p>1. Brainstorming Activities 2. Discussion of Paragraph Plan 3. Guided Draft Writing</p>	<p>Writing Activities</p> <p>1. Editing and Revising 2. Final Draft 3. Checking</p>	<p>Write About Myths</p> <p>1. Lesson Introduction 2. Unlocking of Unfamiliar Terms 3. Student's Book Exercises</p>	<p>Pre-Writing Activities</p> <p>1. Brainstorming Activities 2. Discussion of Paragraph Plan 3. Guided Draft Writing</p> <p>Note: The Final Draft is given as a homework.</p>