

Language Arts

Language Arts 600 Fundamentals

Language Arts 600 Fundamentals 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** develops students' reading skills, including the identification of main ideas, supporting details, sequence, and facts and opinions; introduces more advanced reading skills, showing students how to analyze propaganda, make inferences, and determine the author's authority; shows students how to identify parts of speech in sentences, with emphasis on kinds and uses of nouns, pronouns, and verb tenses; develops students' capacities for identifying basic elements of narrative prose; enhances students' abilities for reading newspaper articles and informative nonfiction; helps students develop basic literary comprehension skills through the reading of short stories, nonfiction pieces, and poetry.
- **Writing** develops students' understanding of sentence structure, providing hands-on experience with subject-verb agreement, participles, and phrases; emphasizes parts of speech and their roles, including adjectives, nouns, and verbs; familiarizes students with roots, affixes, and basic word relationships, including homonyms, synonyms, and antonyms; develops students' vocabulary and spelling skills; gives students the opportunity to develop their abilities in writing paragraphs, business letters, poetry, and short stories; guides students through planning, organizing, writing, and revising a report.

Curriculum Contents

Reading Comprehension Skills

- Analyzing Propaganda
- Comparing and Contrasting
- Determining Author's Purpose—Reading for Entertainment and Reading for Information
- Determining Author's Reliability
- Identifying Facts and Opinions
- Evaluating a Text
- Identifying Main Ideas and Supporting Details
- Finding Implied Meanings
- Reading Newspaper Articles
- Reading Poetry
- Reading Short Stories

Composition

- Paragraph Elements and Structure
- Report—Shepherding
- Using Invented Words
- Writing a Business Letter
- Writing Poetry—Pen Pictures, Cinquains, and Shaped Poems
- Writing a Report—Outlining, Writing, and Revising
- Writing with Metaphors
- Writing Short Stories—Plot, Setting, Structure, and Character Development

Grammar and Usage

- Adjectives—Comparative Adjectives, Superlative Adjectives, and Articles
- Adverbs—Comparative Adverbs and Superlative Adverbs

- Interjections and Conjunctions
- Kinds of Sentences—Statement, Question, Command, and Surprise/Excitement
- Nouns—Plural, Possessive, and Common and Proper Nouns
- Pronouns—Pronoun Case, Personal Pronouns, and Demonstrative Pronouns
- Punctuation—Exclamation Points, Periods, Question Marks, and Commas
- Sentence Structure—Subject/Predicate, Prepositions, and Phrases
- Verbs—Verb Tense, Irregular Verbs, Auxiliary Verbs, Person, Number, and Compound Verbs

Literature Studies

- Fiction
 - Elements—Structure, Character, Plot, and Setting
 - Genre/Type—Fable, Legend, Animal Story, Myth, Fairy Tale, Adventure, Historical Piece, Mystery, and Science Fiction
- Nonfiction
 - Definition
 - Elements—Organization and Diction
 - Genre/Type—Autobiography, Biography, Propaganda, and Articles
- Poetry
 - Definition
 - Elements—Structure, Rhyme, Meter, and Diction
 - Genre/Type—Ballad, Free Verse, Limerick, Shaped Poem, Epic, Narrative, and Pen Picture
 - Literary Device—Metaphors, Similes, Alliteration, Sound Effects, and Parallelism

Drama

- Elements—Structure, Character, Plot, and Setting

Speaking and Listening

- Speaking Qualities
- Listen Effectively

Spelling

- Homonyms
- Words with /sh/ sound
- Roots and Affixes

Special Topics

- The Nature of Advertising
- Creating an Advertisement
- Graphic Aids—Charts and Graphs
- Reference Materials—Dictionary, Encyclopedia, Almanac, Atlas, Who's Who, Thesaurus, and Concordance
- Study Skills—Note-Taking
- Word Play—Palindromes, Puns, and Conundrums

Literature List

The literary works students will encounter in Language Arts 600 include, but are not limited to:

Fiction

- Guerbner, H.A.
 - "The Tyrant of Syracuse"
- Shaw-Smith, Melissa
 - "The Magic Weaver"

Poetry

- Carroll, Lewis
 - "A Mouse's Tail"
- Stevenson, Robert
 - "Rain"

Unit 1: Elements of Grammar	
Assignments	
1. Course Overview 2. The Sentence 3. Sentence Types 5. Quiz 1: The Sentence 6. Spelling Quiz 1 7. Nouns 8. Verbs 9. Spelling Lesson Two 10. Quiz 2: Nouns and Verbs 11. Spelling Quiz 2 12. Adjectives	13. Adverbs 14. Spelling Lesson Three 15. Quiz 3: Adjectives and Adverbs 16. Spelling Quiz 3 17. Pronouns 18. Prepositions 19. Conjunctions and Interjections 20. Quiz 4: Pronouns to Interjections 21. Special Project* 22. Test 23. Alternate Test* 24. Glossary and Credits

Unit 2: Grammar Usage	
Assignments	
1. Capitalization 2. Punctuation 3. Spelling Lesson One 4. Quiz 1: Capitalization and Punctuation 5. Spelling Quiz 1 6. Word Parts 7. Word Parts: Exercises* 8. Synonyms, Antonyms, and Idioms 9. Spelling Lesson Two 10. Quiz 2: Word Parts; Synonyms, Antonyms, and Idioms 11. Spelling Quiz 2 12. Person and Number of Verbs 13. Principal Parts of Verbs	14. Using Auxiliary Verbs, Verb Phrases, and Contractions 15. Spelling Lesson Three 16. Quiz 3: Verbs--Person/Number, Tense, Auxiliaries 17. Spelling Quiz 3 18. Effective Sentences: Using Adjectives and Adverbs 19. Effective Sentences: Avoiding Fragments and Wordiness 20. Quiz 4: Effective Sentences 21. Special Project* 22. Test 23. Alternate Test* 24. Glossary and Credits

Unit 3: Reading Skills	
Assignments	
Language Arts 600 Fundamentals	1. Developing Reading Skills
	2. Reading to Develop Vocabulary
	3. Spelling Lesson One
	4. Quiz 1: Developing Reading Skills and Vocabulary
	5. Spelling Quiz 1
	6. Reading to Find Relationships
	7. Reading to Comprehend (1)
	8. Reading to Comprehend (2)
	9. Spelling Lesson Two
	10. Quiz 2: Reading to Find Relationships; Comprehension
	11. Spelling Quiz 2
	12. Reading Critically
13. Project: Book Report -- Short Story*	
14. Analyzing Story Structure	
15. Comparing and Contrasting Stories	
16. Project: Application	
17. Spelling Lesson Three	
18. Quiz 3: Analyzing Story Structure; Comparing and Contrasting Stories	
19. Spelling Quiz 3	
20. Special Project*	
21. Test	
22. Alternate Test*	
23. Glossary and Credits	

Unit 4: Writing Skills	
Assignments	
Language Arts 600 Fundamentals	1. Paragraph Writing
	2. Essay: Paragraph
	3. Essay: Autobiography*
	4. Business Letters
	5. Project: Business Letter
	6. Report Writing: Preparation
	7. Spelling Lesson One
	8. Quiz 1: Writing Paragraphs to Report Preparation
	9. Spelling Quiz 1
	10. Report Writing: Researching
	11. Project: Note Taking
	12. Outlining
13. Project: Outline	
14. Spelling Lesson Two	
15. Spelling Quiz 2	
16. Writing the Report	
17. Essay: Final Report	
18. Spelling Lesson Three	
19. Quiz 2: Preparing and Writing a Report	
20. Spelling Quiz 3	
21. Special Project*	
22. Test	
23. Alternate Test*	
24. Glossary and Credits	

Unit 5: Newspapers and Propaganda	
Assignments	
Language Arts 600 Fundamentals	1. The Newspaper
	2. Distinguishing Fact from Opinion
	3. Report: Newspapers Today
	4. Analyzing a News Story
	5. Report: News Story
	6. Spelling Lesson One
	7. Quiz 1: Newspapers
	8. Spelling Quiz 1
	9. Propaganda
	10. Project: Advertisement
	11. Spelling Lesson Two
12. Spelling Quiz 2	
13. Recognizing Propaganda	
14. Project: Propaganda	
15. Essay: Propaganda	
16. Quiz 2: Propaganda	
17. Spelling Lesson Three	
18. Spelling Quiz 3	
19. Special Project*	
20. Test	
21. Alternate Test*	
22. Glossary and Credits	

Fundament al 600 S S	Unit 6: Literary Forms	
	Assignments	
	1. Spelling Lesson One 2. Spelling Quiz 1 3. Poetry 4. Prose Fiction (1) 5. Prose Fiction (2) 6. Spelling Lesson Two 7. Quiz 1: Literary Forms 9. Prose Nonfiction	10. Mood 11. Report: Persuasive Oral Presentation 12. Spelling Lesson Three 13. Quiz 2: Literary Forms and Mood 14. Spelling Quiz 3 15. Special Report* 16. Test 17. Alternate Test* 18. Glossary and Credits

600 S S	Unit 7: Reading for a Purpose	
	Assignments	
	1. Judging a Book 2. Short Story: The Magic Weaver 3. Spelling Lesson One 4. Quiz 1: Judging a book; The Magic Weaver 5. Spelling Quiz 1 6. Reading for Information 7. Organizing Details 8. Project: Outline* 10. Spelling Lesson Two 11. Quiz 2: Reading for Information	12. Spelling Quiz 2 13. Reading for Inspiration (1) 14. Reading for Inspiration (2) 15. Spelling Lesson Three 16. Quiz 3: Reading for Inspiration 17. Spelling Quiz 3 18. Special Project* 19. Test 20. Alternate Test* 21. Glossary and Credits

Fundament al 600 S S	Unit 8: Poetry	
	Assignments	
	1. Characteristics of Poetry 2. Free Verse 3. Project: Youthfulness* 4. Spelling Lesson One 5. Quiz 1: Poetic Characteristics 6. Spelling Quiz 1 7. Synonyms and Similes 8. Metaphors 9. Project: Metaphors 10. Poetic Devices 12. Spelling Lesson Two 13. Quiz 2: Figures of Speech 14. Spelling Quiz 2 15. Poetic Forms (1)	16. Essay: Pen Picture 17. Poetic Forms (2) 18. Essay: Cinquain and Shaped Poems 19. Spelling Lesson Three 20. Quiz 3: Poetic Forms 21. Spelling Quiz 3 22. Musical Poems 23. Report: Lullabies 24. Word Play 25. Project: Limericks 26. Quiz 4: Musical Poems 27. Special Project* 28. Test 29. Alternate Test* 30. Glossary and Credits

Unit 9: Elements of Drama and Listening	
Assignments	
1. The Elements of Drama	11. Quiz 2: Dictionary Use and Listening to Summarize
2. Literary Terms	12. Spelling Quiz 2
	13. Plurals, Apostrophes, and Conjunctions
4. Project: Effective Listening	14. Spelling Lesson Three
5. Spelling Lesson One	15. Quiz 3: Plurals, Apostrophes, and Conjunctions
6. Quiz 1: Drama and Listening	16. Spelling Quiz 3
7. Spelling Quiz 1	17. Special Project*
8. The Dictionary and Thesaurus	18. Test
9. Listening and Summarizing	19. Alternate Test*
10. Spelling Lesson Two	20. Glossary and Credits

Unit 10: Review	
Assignments	
1. Patterns in Language	11. Communication (1)
2. Capitalization and Punctuation	12. Project: Advertising
3. Quiz 1: Language Patterns; Capitalization and Punctuation	13. Essay: The President's Thoughts*
4. Organization in Literary Forms	14. Communication (2)
5. Quiz 2: Organization in Literary Forms	15. Project: Newspaper*
6. Essay: Short Story	16. Quiz 4: Communication and its Purposes
7. Literary Forms: Fiction	17. Special Project*
	18. Test
	19. Alternate Test*
9. Literary Forms: Nonfiction and Poetry	20. Glossary and Credits
10. Quiz 3: Literary Forms	