



Switched-On
SCHOOLHOUSE

Course Catalog

Language Arts 500

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COURSE OVERVIEW

Language Arts 500 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' basic reading skills, including the identification of main ideas, supporting details, sequence, and facts and opinions; introduces more advanced reading skills, showing students how to make inferences and derive implied meanings; shows students how to identify parts of speech in sentences, with emphasis on nouns, adverbs, and verb tenses; develops students' capacities for identifying basic elements of narrative prose; introduces students to types of nonfiction, including biographies, autobiographies, and short essays; helps students develop basic literary comprehension skills through the reading of excerpts from *Beowulf*, *Call it Courage*, and *Gulliver's Travels* and of various short stories, nonfiction pieces, and poetry.
- **Writing-** develops students' understanding of sentence structure, providing hands-on experience with subject-verb agreement and parts of speech; 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, dialogue, poetry, and short stories; guides students through planning, organizing, writing, and revising a report.

Curriculum Contents

Reading Comprehension Skills

- Comparing and Contrasting
- Determining Author's Purpose—Reading for Entertainment and Reading for Information
- Identifying Facts and Opinions
- Identifying Main Ideas and Supporting Details
- Finding Implied Meanings
- Making Inferences
- Reading Poetry
- Determining Reading Rates
- Reading Biblical Literature
- Reading Short Stories
- Reading for Sequence

Composition

- Writing Reports—Summary
- Writing Dialogue
- Writing a Fable
- Writing with Facts and Opinions
- Writing Poetry—Pen Pictures, Couplets, and Free Verse
- Writing a Report—Outlining, Writing, and Revising
- Writing Short Stories—Coming Up with Seed Ideas, Developing Story Parts, Developing Characters, Writing, and Revising

Grammar and Usage

- Adjectives
- Adjectives—Changing Adverbs from Adjectives, Adverb Comparison, and Negative Adverbs
- Dialogue—Using and Punctuating Dialogue
- Kinds of Sentences—Statement, Question, Command, and Surprise/Excitement
- Levels of Language Use—Formal and Informal
- Nouns—Singular and Plural Nouns, Possessives, Subjects, Objects, and Common and Proper Nouns
- Pronouns
- Pronunciation
- Punctuation—Exclamation Points, Periods, Question Marks, and Quotation Marks
- Sentence Structure—Subject/Predicate, Participles, and Phrases
- Verbs—Verb Forms

Literature Studies

- Fiction
 - Definition—Short Story and Novel
 - Elements—Structure, Character, Dialogue, Plot, Setting, and Symbolism
 - Genre/Type—Fable and Legend
 - Literary Device—Metaphors and Similes
- Nonfiction
 - Definition
 - Genre/Type—Autobiography, Biography, Essay, History, and Articles
- Poetry
 - Definition
 - Elements—Structure, Rhyme, Meter, and Symbolism
 - Genre/Type—Ballad, Free Verse, and Limerick
 - Literary Device—Metaphors, Similes, and Sound Effects

Speaking and Listening

- Using Appropriate Words

Spelling

- Compound Words
- Contractions
- Confusing Spellings
- Dividing Words
- Homonyms and Antonyms
- Ordinal Numbers
- Roots and Affixes
- Sight Words
- Strategies—Digraphs and Diphthongs
- Words with Silent Letters
- Words with Silent and Irregular Letters

Vocabulary Building

- Dictionary Skills
- Word Relationships—Synonyms, Antonyms, Heteronyms, and Homonyms
- Word Structure—Roots and Affixes

Special Topics

- The Bible as Literature—Nonfiction, Short Story, Poetry, Drama, and Parable
- Graphic Aids—Maps, Charts, Diagrams, Captions, and Illustrations
- Dictionary Skills
- Handwriting Skills
- Origin/Development of Language—Middle and Modern English
- Study Skills—Note-Taking and Summarizing
- Word Play—Palindromes, Puns, Conundrums, and Idioms

| UNIT 1: JESUS, OUR EXAMPLE | | |
|----------------------------|---|------------------------------------|
| LANGUAGE ARTS 500 | Assignment Titles | |
| | 1. Course Overview | 12. Essay: Using Spelling Words* |
| | 2. The Author's Message | 13. Spelling Quiz 2 |
| | 3. Project: Finding the Topic | 14. Communicating with Handwriting |
| | 4. Vowel Diphthong Design | 15. Spelling Lesson 3: Silent e |
| | 5. Spelling Lesson 1: Vowel Diphthongs | 16. Quiz 3 |
| | 6. Quiz 1 | 17. Spelling Quiz 3 |
| | 7. Spelling Quiz 1 | 18. Unit 1 Special Project* |
| | 8. Narrative Elements | 19. Review Game |
| | 9. Vocabulary Study: Dictionary Respellings | 20. Test |
| | 10. Spelling Lesson 2: Vowel Digraphs | 21. Alternate Test* |
| | 11. Quiz 2 | 22. Reference |

| UNIT 2: WORKING WITH INFORMATION | | |
|----------------------------------|---|-------------------------------------|
| LANGUAGE ARTS 500 | Assignment Titles | |
| | 1. The Author of the Story | 13. Mood |
| | 2. Reading an Excerpt: CALL IT COURAGE | 14. Poetry |
| | 3. Project: Outline - The Polynesian People* | 15. Contractions |
| | 4. Compound Words and Hyphens | 16. Spelling Lesson 3: Contractions |
| | 5. Spelling Lesson 1: Compound Words | 17. Quiz 3 |
| | 6. Quiz 1 | 18. Spelling Quiz 3 |
| | 7. Spelling Quiz 1 | 19. Unit 2 Special Project* |
| | 8. Finding Main Ideas (1) | 20. Review Game |
| | 9. Finding Main Ideas (2) | 21. Test |
| | 10. Spelling Lesson 2: Spelling Troublemakers | 22. Alternate Test* |
| | 11. Quiz 2 | 23. Reference |
| 12. Spelling Quiz 2 | | |

| UNIT 3: THE STORY OF OUR LANGUAGE | | |
|--|---|---|
| LANGUAGE ARTS 500 | Assignment Titles | |
| | 1. In the Beginning | 13. Middle and Modern English |
| | 2. Word Study | 14. Homonyms, Idioms, and Abbreviations |
| | 3. Spelling Lesson 1: Words with Many Syllables | 15. Essay: Descriptive Story |
| | 4. Quiz 1 | 16. Spelling Lesson 3: Antonyms |
| | 5. Quiz: Spelling 1 | 17. Quiz 3 |
| | 6. Abused Language in the Garden | 18. Quiz: Spelling 3 |
| | 7. Prefixes and Suffixes | 19. Project: Book Report—Nonfiction* |
| | 8. Phrases, Adjectives, and Adverbs | 20. Unit 3 Special Project* |
| | 9. Spelling Lesson 2: Silent Letters | 21. Review Game |
| | 10. Quiz 2 | 22. Test |
| | 11. Quiz: Spelling 2 | 23. Alternate Test* |
| 12. Anglo-Saxon Literature; Author's Purpose | 24. Reference | |

| UNIT 4: EFFECTIVE COMMUNICATION | |
|---------------------------------|--|
| LANGUAGE ARTS 500 | Assignment Titles |
| | 1. Main Idea and Supporting Details |
| | 2. Sentence Patterns; Speaking Courteously |
| | 3. Spelling Lesson 1: Silent Letters |
| | 4. Quiz 1 |
| | 5. Spelling Quiz 1 |
| | 6. Sensible Sentences |
| | 7. Essay: Pollution |
| | 8. Reading Skills |
| | 9. Spelling Lesson 2: Same Sounds, Different Letters |
| | 10. Quiz 2 |
| | 11. Spelling Quiz 2 |
| | 12. Essay: Robin Hood |
| | 13. The Written Report (1) |
| | 14. Project: Taking Notes |
| | 15. The Written Report (2) |
| | 16. Project: Outline |
| | 17. Essay: Report |
| | 18. Spelling Lesson 3: Homonyms |
| | 19. Quiz 3 |
| | 20. Spelling Quiz 3 |
| | 21. Unit 4 Special Project* |
| | 22. Review Game |
| | 23. Test |
| | 24. Alternate Test* |
| 25. Reference | |

| UNIT 5: READING AND WRITING STORIES | |
|-------------------------------------|---|
| LANGUAGE ARTS 500 | Assignment Titles |
| | 1. Reading a Story |
| | 2. Essay: Writing a Summary |
| | 3. Judging the Value of a Story |
| | 4. Project: Book Report--Historical Fiction* |
| | 5. Spelling Lesson 1: Suffixes |
| | 6. Quiz 1 |
| | 7. Spelling Quiz 1 |
| | 8. Mastering Dialogue |
| | 9. Project: Making Conversation |
| | 10. Project: Seed Ideas* |
| | 11. Writing Better Sentences |
| | 12. Spelling Lesson 2: Ordinal Numbers; Suffix -ism |
| | 13. Quiz 2 |
| | 14. Spelling Quiz 2 |
| | 15. Story Writing |
| | 16. Essay: Short Story |
| | 17. Spelling Lesson 3: Prefixes |
| | 18. Quiz 3 |
| | 19. Spelling Quiz 3 |
| | 20. Unit 5 Special Project* |
| | 21. Review Game |
| | 22. Test |
| | 23. Alternate Test* |
| | 24. Reference |

| UNIT 6: POETRY | |
|-------------------|--|
| LANGUAGE ARTS 500 | Assignment Titles |
| | 1. Reading Story Poems |
| | 2. Enjoying Poetry |
| | 3. Project: Working with Rhythm |
| | 4. Spelling Lesson 1: Suffixes |
| | 5. Quiz 1 |
| | 6. Spelling Quiz 1 |
| | 7. Reading Humorous Poems |
| | 8. Playing With Words |
| | 9. Project: Book Report--Poetry* |
| | 10. Spelling Lesson 2: Suffixes |
| | 11. Quiz 2 |
| | 12. Spelling Quiz 2 |
| | 13. Reading Inspirational Poems |
| | 14. Poetic Ideas and Devices |
| | 15. Writing Poetry |
| | 16. Project: Pen Pictures and Couplets |
| | 17. Project: Free Verse Prayer |
| | 18. Project: Poetry Book* |
| | 19. Spelling Lesson 3: Plurals |
| | 20. Quiz 3 |
| | 21. Spelling Quiz 3 |
| | 22. Unit 6 Special Project* |
| | 23. Review Game |
| | 24. Test |
| | 25. Alternate Test* |
| 26. Reference | |

| UNIT 7: READING COMPREHENSION | | |
|-------------------------------|--|---|
| LANGUAGE ARTS 500 | Assignment Titles | |
| | 1. Cause and Effect | 16. The Story of Marc |
| | 2. From GULLIVER'S TRAVELS | 17. Spelling Lesson 3: Words with /aw/ |
| | 3. Essay: Land of Lilliput | 18. Quiz 3 |
| | 4. Spelling Lesson 1: Homonyms | 19. Spelling Quiz 3 |
| | 5. Quiz 1 | 20. Adjectives (1) |
| | 6. Spelling Project: Homonyms | 21. Project: Using Adjectives* |
| | 7. Spelling Quiz 1 | 22. Adjectives (2) |
| | 8. Reviewing Nouns | 23. Spelling Lesson 4: Unexpected Spellings |
| | 9. Singular and Plural Nouns | 24. Quiz 4 |
| | 10. Possessive Nouns; Uses of Nouns (Case) | 25. Spelling Quiz 4 |
| | 11. Noun Substitutes | 26. Unit 7 Special Project* |
| | 12. Spelling Lesson 2: Words with /sh/ | 27. Review Game |
| | 13. Quiz 2 | 28. Test |
| | 14. Spelling Quiz 2 | 29. Alternate Test* |
| | 15. Judgments, Inferences, Facts, and Opinions | 30. Reference |

| UNIT 8: WORKING WITH WORDS | | |
|----------------------------|---|---|
| LANGUAGE ARTS 500 | Assignment Titles | |
| | 1. Main Verbs | 15. Aesop and Fables |
| | 2. Verb Forms | 16. Essay: Fable Rewrite |
| | 3. Subject/Verb Agreement; Contractions | 17. Project: Retelling Fables* |
| | 4. Participles | 18. Parables-Stories Jesus Told |
| | 5. Spelling Lesson 1: Suffix -ure | 19. Project: Parables* |
| | 6. Quiz 1 | 20. Spelling Lesson 3: Suffixes -al, -ial, -ual |
| | 7. Spelling Quiz 1 | 21. Quiz 3 |
| | 8. Modifying with Adverbs | 22. Spelling Quiz 3 |
| | 9. Changing Adjectives into Adverbs | 23. Unit 8 Special Project* |
| | 10. Extra Practice: Using Adverbs in Writing* | 24. Review Game |
| | 11. Showing Comparisons | 25. Test |
| | 12. Spelling Lesson 2: Suffixes -age, -ion | 26. Alternate Test* |
| | 13. Quiz 2 | 27. Reference |
| | 14. Spelling Quiz 2 | |

| UNIT 9: READING AND STUDY SKILLS | | |
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| LANGUAGE ARTS 500 | Assignment Titles | |
| | 1. Improving Reading Fluency and Study Skills | 13. Reviewing Literary Forms |
| | 2. A Story About Old England | 14. Recognizing Facts and Opinions in a Report |
| | 3. Spelling Lesson 1: Using Syllable to Help You Spell | 15. Project: Facts and Opinions Report |
| | 4. Quiz 1 | 16. Report: Facts and Opinions |
| | 5. Spelling Quiz 1 | 17. Spelling Lesson 3: Homonyms with Long /e/ |
| | 6. Using Graphic Aids; Outlining | 18. Quiz 3 |
| | 7. A Story About Esther | 19. Spelling Quiz 3 |
| | 8. Report: Summary of Esther | 20. Unit 9 Special Project* |
| | 9. Project: Book Report—Biography* | 21. Review Game |
| | 10. Spelling Lesson 2: Sight Words | 22. Test |
| | 11. Quiz 2 | 23. Alternate Test* |
| 12. Spelling Quiz 2 | 24. Reference | |

| UNIT 10: REVIEW | |
|-------------------|------------------------------------|
| Assignment Titles | |
| LANGUAGE ARTS 500 | 1. Literature |
| | 2. Project: Book Report—Fiction* |
| | 3. Project: Composition Folder* |
| | 4. Poetry |
| | 5. Project: Poetry Project |
| | 6. Using Nouns and Adjectives |
| | 7. Writing a Short Story |
| | 8. Essay: Short Story |
| | 9. Quiz 1 |
| | 10. Reading Comprehension |
| | 11. Using Word Study Skills |
| | 12. Using Verbs |
| | 13. Using Adverbs |
| | 14. Quiz 2 |
| | 15. Reading and Bible Study Skills |
| | 16. Types of Sentences |
| | 17. Essay: Dialogue |
| | 18. Essay: Personal Reaction |
| | 19. Quiz 3 |
| | 20. Unit 10 Special Project* |
| | 21. Review Game |
| | 22. Test |
| | 23. Alternate Test* |
| | 24. Reference |

(*) Indicates alternate assignment