

Advanced English Reading & Writing

with SAT Exam Practice Grade Level 6-8

NWCS Summer 2023

TIME: SATURDAYS (7/08 – 8/26, 2023)

NUMBER OF SESSIONS: 8, 2 HOURS EACH CLASS (10:00 AM - 12:00 PM)

COURSE OVERVIEW

Student-centered instructional method that focuses on blending deep conceptual knowledge with an inquiry-based approach to active, hands-on real-world application learning. The lessons will modify to accommodate various learning styles and levels within the grade prerequisite, including a strong curriculum focus enhanced by an engaging multi-stage, experiential learning approach, using universal design learning with multi-media.

In this inquiry-based PBL (Project-based Learning) environment, the first unit analyzes fiction and nonfiction, modern and classic literature, while the second unit studies informational data aligned with the framework of the SAT exam studies, including exam strategies to earn a higher score.

Learning Objectives:

- Discern and apply enhanced high school and SAT vocabulary to improve reading comprehension and develop higher level writing skills
- Conduct close readings and be able to read critically and evaluate in-depth elements about classic literature
- Increase appreciation of literature in various genres
- Improve analytical reading and writing skills, including editing and revisions
- Write a biographical-research paper and a literary essay in an MLA format, including MLA citations; analyses based on popular literature and famous world leaders
- Produce and Present a Multimedia PowerPoint Presentation
- Collaborate in a team to produce a response paper on current news media
- Identify and comprehend the genre, main idea, themes, tone, and underlying messages of literary works and biases
- Be able to cite direct evidence within the text to support their claim, using evidence-based arguments and individual perspectives
- Gain high school reading and writing readiness, applying critical thinking and analytical perspectives, with intermediate to advanced group activities and class discussions
- Learn the basics about SAT exams and how to prepare for them:
 - Sample multiple-choice questions
 - Practice exams
 - Finding the main point
 - Identifying grammar errors
 - SAT Test-Taking strategies
- The literary work improves reading skills and introduces SAT words, boosts the reader's imagination, and builds their vocabulary and word choices, which is critical for more advanced analytical reading comprehension and academic essay writing.

Class Notes: Late assignment submissions are NOT accepted!

*** If students miss taking a test or submitting an assignment when it's due, they will receive a ZERO!

The only exception is if a student has a medical or parental written excuse to do a make up in the following week. Only under these circumstances will a late submission or test be allowed and receive credit.

UNIT 1: LITERATURE ANALYSIS & COMPOSITION

Lesson 1

7/8/23

1. **Students get acquainted** through an interactive icebreaker and personal introductions
Be prepared to write and share a one-paragraph personal bio.
2. **Syllabus Preview** and Course Orientation
3. **High Level Vocabulary:** High School and SAT vocabulary are studied and practiced every week. A vocabulary quiz will be administered. **[50 pts.] [DUE 8/5/23]**
4. **LITERARY ANALYSIS ESSAY:** Teacher shares preliminary information about the classic literature: popular middle school and high school books. The students choose one from a provided list to read and annotate to write a literary analysis essay. It is recommended to purchase the book. Buying an eBook is fine to have it to read when away from home, and it is practical to have the hard-copy to highlight, earmark, and reference later on. Yes, you can attain it from the library, as long as you make sure you don't have to return it before the course analysis of the book. It will be a good novel to have on your shelf for future reference. Start reading the novel now to have it finished in time.
[100 pts.][DUE 8/5/23]
5. **BIOGRAPHICAL RESEARCH PROJECT:** The class previews this advanced research project: Each student selects one of the world famous influencers who have made an impact on the world in one way or another. This in-depth research requires library and online research gathering of information to write a research paper and produce a class multi-media PowerPoint presentation. Select someone to write about today to have your outline ready for peer review and to submit next week. Use a graphic organizer and info-graphics to develop an outline for your essay.
[Essay 100 pts.][Presentation 100 pts.][DUE 8/5/23]
6. **TEAM PROJECT:** A good news response paper group assignment: The class collaboratively: Each student needs to have a free Google Account and the group constructs their essay collectively from their independent homes, virtually, throughout the week. They will select a current news story to write about and give their personal opinion about it.
[50 pts.-per student][DUE 7/29/23]
HW:
 - Study high school, lit. terms, and SAT vocabulary Study Guide for the test on 8/5/23.
 - Gather research data and type an outline for your Bio-Research Essay to share in next class: 7/15/23.

Lesson 2

7/15/23

The Bio-Research Outline is due for peer review, revision, and submission DURING CLASS. If you don't have it ready to share on the share screen, you will lose 25 points! It is critical that you share your paper every week to improve and revise. That means you need to make sure your paper is on the same computer you are Zooming before class and that any tech issues are handled before class (audio and video are tested and resolved during the week, such as slow WiFi or a camera or mic that doesn't work properly.)

Work with a partner to share research ideas and give feedback, but each student must write his or her own independent paper. No one can write a paper on the same person that someone else is writing in the class. They must all be different biographies. The research work and ideas of content are shared in the group work during peer review. Whereas, each student is to write an independent essay in his or her own style, based on the data gathered in class.

HW:

- Study high school, lit. terms, and SAT vocabulary Study Guide for the test on 8/5/23.
- Type 1st draft for your Research Essay to share in next class: 7/22/23.

Lesson 3

7/22/23

The Bio-Research 1st draft is due for peer review, revision, and submission DURING CLASS.

Review the key elements important in a research paper: the hook, background information, a bridge to the thesis, the thesis.

Make sure you are including intriguing points about your biographee (whom you are writing about). At this point you should have what's called a working thesis that you develop as you analyze your research material.

HW:

- Study high school, lit. terms, and SAT vocabulary Study Guide for the test on 8/5/23.
- Type the revision of your Research Essay to share in the next class: 7/29/23.
- Type the 1st draft of your Literary Essay to share in the next class: 7/29/23.
- Type the final draft of the Team Project Response Paper to share in the next class: 7/29/23.

Lesson 4

7/29/23

*Research Essay Revision must be submitted today for 25 pts.: Peer Reviewed

1. The Class Team finalizes their *Good News* Response Paper before submitting it. **[50 pts.]**
2. Students share screen their typed revised draft of the bio-research to show the class for review and comments.
3. Students share screen their typed 1st draft of their Literary Analysis for peer review.
4. Students take notes from T-comments to make revisions to their drafts, accordingly.
5. Develop a strong thesis both papers to share with the class.
6. Prepare Class Presentation with PPT slides (including different pics of the author and the book)
7. Students practice giving their class presentation for the bio-research project for next class: Peer Review HW:

- Study high school, lit. terms, and SAT vocabulary Study Guide for the test at the next class: DUE 8/5/23.
- Type the Final Draft for your Biographical Research Essay to share and submit in the next class: DUE 8/5/23.
- Type the Final Draft for your Literary Analysis Essay to share and submit in the next class: DUE 8/5/23.
- Team types their final draft of the *Good News* Response Paper in Google Docs DUE 8/5/23.

Lesson 5

8/5/23

1. **Take the High School, Literary Terms, and SAT VOCABULARY EXAM DUE 8/5/23. [50 pts.]**
2. Submit all assignments due today while in class.
3. Final prep for the Class Multimedia PowerPoint Presentation (including a brief video clip)
4. **Present your Biographical Research Multimedia PowerPoint Presentation DUE 8/5/23; [100 pts.]**
5. **Submit the FINAL DRAFT of the Biographical Research Essay DUE 8/5/23; [Combined 4 sections worth a total 100 pts.]**
6. **Submit the FINAL DRAFT of the Literary Analysis Essay DUE 8/5/23. [100 pts.]**

UNIT 2: SAT EXAM PRACTICE & STRATEGIES

Lesson 6: Preview SAT test-taking strategies. Practice M-C study methods.

8/12/23

Write a Course Reflection Paper (MLA format 500 words) DUE 8/19/23 [50 pts.]

Lesson 7: Preview SAT more practice and post-Assessments (SAT examples)

8/19/23

Reflection Paper DUE 8/19/23 [50 pts.]

Lesson 8: Course Review

8/26/23

1. Students receive individual score reports.
2. Class Discussion: course reflection and what they learned and their application.
3. Students complete COURSE EVALUATION form on Google Docs for submission today.
4. SEND OFF: Students choose interactive activities with each other for closure.



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For questions or concerns, call or text: 425-208-2286 or email kurt.lehman@nwchinese.org