English Foundations II offers a year of skill building and strategy development in reading and writing. Semester one is a reading program designed to help struggling readers develop mastery in the areas of reading comprehension, vocabulary building, study skills, and media literacy. Semester two is a writing program which builds confidence in composition fundamentals by focusing on the areas of composing, grammar, style, and media literacy. Both semesters are structured around ten mini-units which offer interactive instruction and guided practice in each of the four learning strands. Students read for a variety of purposes and write for a variety of audiences. The workshops stress high interest, engaging use of technology, relevant topics, and robustly scaffolded practice. Students learn to use different types of graphic organizers as they develop and internalize reading and writing process strategies. They build confidence as they develop skills and experience success on numerous low stakes assessments that encourage growth and reinforce learning.

The reading component of the course is built to state standards and informed by the National Council of Teachers of English (NCTE), International Reading Association (IRA), National Reading Program (NRP), and McREL, standards. The writing component of the course is built to state standards and informed by the National Council of Teachers of English (NCTE) standards.

Length: Two Semesters

Unit 1: Introduction to Reading Strategies

- Course Orientation
- Introduction to Vocabulary Building
- Introduction to Study Skills
- Introduction to Media Literacy
- Introduction to Reading Strategies Wrap-Up

Unit 2: Introduction to Reading Processes

- Reading as a Process
- Introduction to Vocabulary Tools
- Introduction to Time Management
- Introduction to Media Terms
- Introduction to Reading Processes Wrap-Up

Unit 3: Reading for Entertainment: Fiction

- Reading for Entertainment
- Introduction to Context Clues and Word Skipping
- Introduction to Silent Reading
- Introduction to Content and Purpose in Visual Media
- Reading for Entertainment: Fiction Wrap-Up

Unit 4: Reading for Information: Magazine Articles

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- Gaining and Retaining Information
- Introduction to Word Roots
- Introduction to Note Taking
- Introduction to Evaluating Sources of Visual Media
- Reading for Information: Magazine Articles Wrap-Up

Unit 5: Reading for Information: Newspapers

- Introduction to Strategies for Reading Newspapers
- Introduction to Prefixes
- Introduction to Outlining
- Introduction to Comparing Media
- Reading for Information: Newspapers Wrap-Up

Unit 6: Reading for Information: Essays

- Introduction to Reading Essays
- Introduction to Suffixes
- Introduction to Charts and Graphs
- Introduction to Discovering Meaning Through Design
- Reading for Information: Essays Wrap-Up

Unit 7: Reading to Complete a Task: School Texts

- Introduction to Reading School Texts
- Introduction to Spelling Strategies
- Introduction to Memory Strategies
- Introduction to Culture in Media
- Reading to Complete a Task: School Texts Wrap-Up

Unit 8: Reading to Complete a Task: Functional Documents

- Introduction to Reading Functional Documents
- Introduction to Prior-Knowledge Connections
- Introduction to More Memorization Strategies
- Introduction to Persuasive Techniques in Media
- Reading to Complete a Task: Functional Documents Wrap-Up

Unit 9: Reading to Analyze Literature: Poetry

- Introduction to Analyzing Poetry
- Introduction to Synonyms and Antonyms
- Introduction to Test Taking
- Introduction to Media Effects
- Reading to Analyze Literature: Poetry Wrap-Up

Unit 10: Reading to Analyze Literature: Prose

- Introduction to Analyzing Literary Prose
- Introduction to Cubing Vocabulary
- Introduction to More Test-Taking
- Effects of Media on Perception of Reality

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- Reading to Analyze Literature: Prose Wrap-Up

Unit 11: Introduction to Writing Strategies

- Course Orientation
- The Writing Process
- Plagiarism
- Introduction to Writing Strategies Wrap-Up

Unit 12: The Building Blocks of Composition

- Punctuation
- Sentence and Paragraph Essentials
- Essay Essentials
- The Building Blocks of Composition Wrap-Up

Unit 13: Paragraphs: Example and Illustration

- Composition: Example and Illustration Paragraphs
- Grammar: Parts of Speech
- Style: Making Language More Exact
- Media: Text-Based Media
- Writing Practice
- Paragraphs: Example and Illustration Wrap-Up

Unit 14: Paragraphs: Process and Cause-and-Effect

- Composition: Process and Cause-and-Effect Paragraphs
- Grammar: Parts of Sentences
- Style: Concision and Precision
- Media: Journalism
- Writing Practice
- Paragraphs: Process and Cause-and-Effect Wrap-Up

Unit 15: Paragraphs: Description and Classification/Division

- Composition: Description and Classification/Division Paragraphs
- Grammar: Verbs
- Style: Parallelism in Sentence Style
- Media: Art and the Media
- Writing Practice
- Paragraphs: Description and Classification/Division Wrap-Up

Unit 16: Essays: Personal Writing

- Composition: Writing Personal Essays
- Grammar: Pronouns
- Style: Appropriate Language
- Media: Film Studies
- Writing Practice
- Essays: Personal Writing Wrap-Up

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Unit 17: Essays: Compare-and-Contrast

- Composition: Compare-and-Contrast Essays
- Grammar: Adjectives and Adverbs
- Style: Sentence Emphasis and Variety
- Media: Television Studies
- Writing Practice
- Essays: Compare-and-Contrast Wrap-Up

Unit 18: Essays: Persuasive Writing

- Composition: Persuasive Writing Essays
- Grammar: Modifiers
- Style: Figurative Language
- Media: Media and Identity
- Writing Practice
- Essays: Persuasive Writing Wrap-Up

Unit 19: Essays: Writing about Literature

- Composition: Writing Essays about Literature
- Grammar: Run-Ons and Fragments
- Style: Denotative and Connotative Language
- Media: New Media
- Writing Practice
- Essays: Writing about Literature Wrap-Up

Unit 20: Writing in the Workplace

- Composition: Letters and Memos
- Grammar: Mechanics
- Style: Tone, Formality, and Informality
- Media: Media in the Classroom
- Writing Practice
- Writing in the Workplace Wrap-Up

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