

English/Language Arts II is a two-semester course aligned to the 2020 Minnesota K–12 Academic Standards in English Language Arts (ELA). The course focuses on the writing process and three writing applications guide the curriculum: persuasive, expository, and narrative writing. Each lesson culminates in a written assignment that lets students demonstrate their developing skill in one of these applications. Each lesson includes at least one anchor text in the form of essays, articles, stories, poems, and speeches that are presented as models for students to emulate as they practice their own writing. The curriculum also continues to develop students' reading, listening, and speaking skills. Readings include poems, stories, speeches, plays, as well as a variety of informational texts. The readings represent a wide variety of purposes and cultural perspectives, ranging from the Indian epic *The Ramayana* to accounts of Hurricane Katrina told through different media. Audio and video presentations enhance students' awareness and command of rhetorical techniques and increase their understanding of writing for different audiences.

The materials needed for this course include the following texts (either in physical or digital formats):

The Crucible by Arthur Miller
Fast Food Nation by Eric Schlosser

Length: Two Semesters

Unit 1: The Written Word

- Persuasive Prose
- Narrative Prose
- Wrap Up: The Written Word

Unit 2: The Story

- Plot
- Character
- Description
- Wrap Up: The Story

Unit 3: Literary Criticism

- Theme
- Poetry and Figurative Language
- Context
- Wrap Up: Literary Criticism

Unit 4: The Research Paper

- Finding Support
- Using Sources

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- Revision
 - Wrap Up: The Research Paper

Unit 5: Semester Wrap-Up

- Semester Wrap-Up

Unit 6: Practical Documents

- Organization
- Formal Letters
- Wrap Up: Practical Documents

Unit 7: Persuasive Texts

- Tone
- The Medium
- Purpose
- Wrap Up: Persuasive Texts

Unit 8: The Speech

- Speech Analysis
- Speechwriting
- Moving an Audience
- Wrap Up: The Speech

Unit 9: Researched Argumentation

- Claims, Reasons, and Evidence
- Counter-Arguments
- Revision, Proofreading, and Peer Evaluation
- Wrap Up: Researched Argumentation

Unit 10: Semester Wrap-Up

- Semester Wrap-Up