English 4: Florida College Prep provides a fourth-year English curriculum focusing on developing the mastery of skills identified as critical to postsecondary readiness in reading and writing. This full-year course aligns to Florida's Postsecondary Readiness Competencies in reading and writing and targets students required to complete additional instruction based on their performance on the Postsecondary Education Readiness Test (PERT). Course topics include vocabulary acquisition and use; use of academic and domain-specific words; reading for key ideas and details; reading non-fiction; persuasive, informative and narrative writing; and research.

Robust scaffolding in the form of process guides and graphic organizers helps reluctant writers to internalize strategies and develop composition skills. Select activities target text-handling skills and promote improved performance on commonly assessed literary analysis and response standards. Study sheets support engagement with direct instruction and develop note-taking and study skills.

This course is built to Florida Postsecondary Readiness Competencies.

Length: Two Semesters

Unit 1: Vocabulary: Learning and Using New Words

- Introduction to Vocabulary Building
- Introduction to Context Clues and Word Skipping
- More Using Context
- Connotation
- Idioms and Other Figurative Language
- Using a Thesaurus
- Vocabulary: Learning and Using New Words Wrap-Up

Unit 2: Vocabulary: Learning Academic and Domain Words

- Introduction to Word Roots
- Introduction to Prefixes
- Introduction to Suffixes
- Latin Roots: Part I
- Latin Roots: Part II
- Greek Roots: Part I
- Greek Roots: Part II
- Technical Vocabulary
- Vocabulary: Learning Academic and Domain Words Wrap-Up

Unit 3: Reading: Non-Fiction

- Reading as a Process
- Gaining and Retaining Information

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- Introduction to Strategies for Reading Newspapers
- Introduction to Reading Essays
- Introduction to Charts and Graphs
- Introduction to Reading School Texts
- Introduction to Discovering Meaning Through Design
- Introduction to Evaluating Sources of Visual Media
- Introduction to Comparing Media
- Introduction to Culture in Media
- Reading Non-Fiction Wrap-Up

Unit 4: Reading: Key Ideas and Details

- Main Idea
- Connections Across Texts
- Ralph Waldo Emerson and Self-Reliance
- Reading: Key Ideas and Details Wrap-Up

Unit 5: Reading: Text Structure

- Types of Nonfiction
- Personal Essays and Letters
- Biographies and Interviews
- Opinion and Editorial Essays
- Reading: Text Structure Wrap-Up

Unit 6: Reading: Integrating Knowledge and Ideas

- Introduction to the Art of Persuasion
- Historical Speeches
- Introduction: Historical and Literary Context
- The Declaration of Independence
- Constitutions
- Reading: Integrating Knowledge and Ideas Wrap-Up

Unit 7: Semester I Exam

- Semester I Exam

Unit 8: Language Arts Skills: Mechanics

- Introduction to Spelling Strategies
- Homophones and Homographs
- Grammar: Mechanics
- Punctuation
- Run-on Sentences and Capitalization
- Sentence Fragments
- Language Arts Skills: Mechanics Wrap-Up

Unit 9: Language Arts Skills: Grammar and Usage

- Grammar: Parts of Speech
- Grammar: Parts of Sentences

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- Grammar: Verbs
- Grammar: Verb Tense
- Grammar Review
- Grammar: Pronouns
- Grammar: Unclear Pronouns
- Grammar: Adjectives and Adverbs
- Grammar: Modifiers
- Grammar: Clauses
- Grammar: Parallel Structure
- Language Arts Skills: Grammar and Usage Wrap-Up

Unit 10: Writing: Essentials

- Purpose and Audience
- Essay Essentials
- Style: Making Language More Exact
- Style: Concision and Precision
- Style: Parallelism in Sentence Style
- Style: Appropriate Language
- Style: Sentence Emphasis and Variety
- Style: Figurative Language
- Style: Denotative and Connotative Language
- Style: Tone, Formality, and Informality
- Writing: Essentials Wrap-Up

Unit 11: Writing: Narrative

- Get Excited about Writing!
- Who Are You Anyway? Developing a Character
- Who's on First? Establishing a Point of View
- Stable and Shifting Vantage Points
- Writing: Narrative Wrap-Up

Unit 12: Writing: Informative and Explanatory Text

- Composition: Example and Illustration Paragraphs
- Composition: Process and Cause-and-Effect Paragraphs
- Writing Practice
- Composition: Description and Classification/Division Paragraphs
- Writing Practice
- Composition: Writing About a Process
- Composition: Compare-and-Contrast Essays
- Writing Practice
- Writing: Informative and Explanatory Text Wrap-Up

Unit 13: Writing: Persuasive

- Composition: Persuasive Writing Essays
- Writing Practice

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- Opinions and Speeches
- Writing: Persuasive Wrap-Up

Unit 14: Writing: Other Types

- Composition: Writing Essays about Literature
- Writing Practice
- Composition: Letters and Memos
- Writing Practice
- Biographies and Interviews
- Technical Writing
- Writing: Other Types Wrap-Up

Unit 15: Writing: Research

- Introduction: Research Essay
- The Research Process, Part I
- The Research Process, Part II
- Writing: Research Wrap-Up

Unit 16: Semester II Exam

- Semester II Exam

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