STUDYWALKS · COURSE SYLLABUS

English 10 — High School Course

English 10 is the second year of high school English. It reads world literature, much of it in translation: Gilgamesh and Genesis, Sophocles' Antigone, stories from Russia, France, India and Japan, and poems from China, Persia and India. It then reads Shakespeare's Julius Caesar with its funeral speeches, satire from Swift, Voltaire and Twain, Mary Shelley's Frankenstein, the poetry of the First World War and Ibsen's A Doll's House. Alongside, it teaches rhetoric, the evaluation of arguments, the extended argument, research and citation, speech and debate, and style. The course quotes only public-domain texts and translations; the student reads the full texts alongside it. Eight essays from the Writing Pack, a research paper among them, are assigned and graded by the parent.

CREDIT LABEL	HOURS GOAL	STUDYWALKS LEARNING HOURS	SUGGESTED OFFLINE HOURS
1.0 credit	**120 h**	**31.5 h**	**88.5 h**
high school, with the study plan	the 1.0-credit convention	measured runtime plus assessment time	full texts, the journal and essays

31.5 h StudyWalks (8.6 h of lessons, 13.9 h of lectures, 9.1 h of quizzes and exams) + **88.5 h** suggested offline study = **120 h**. 596 lessons in 27 units.

High school credit is granted by the homeschool parent under the state's rules. StudyWalks supplies the record: hours, scores and this syllabus. The credit label is a suggestion; the parent makes the final call.

Essays. Essays are assigned and graded by the parent. The Writing Pack holds the course's eight prompts, a research paper among them, with the analytic rubric for prompts 1 to 7, the research rubric and checkpoint sheet for the research paper, annotated model answers, a grading sheet and a writing record. The exams are multiple choice and have no essay; StudyWalks never scores an essay.

Prompts, rubrics and model answers: studywalks.com/homeschool/packs/writing/#english-10

A note for parents: English 10 reads standard works of world literature that many tenth graders meet, and several of them deal with death, suicide, violence, war and injustice. The lessons name these events plainly, once, with no detail beyond the text's own. In Sophocles' Antigone, Antigone dies in her tomb, and Haemon and Eurydice take their own lives. In Shakespeare's Julius Caesar, Caesar is assassinated, a mob kills an innocent poet, and Brutus and Cassius take their own lives after their defeat. Mary Shelley's Frankenstein includes the murder of a child, a wrongful execution and later murders. The war poets write about battlefield deaths and, in Wilfred Owen, a gas attack. Jonathan Swift's A Modest Proposal pretends, as satire, to propose that the children of the Irish poor be sold as food; every lesson that quotes it says first that its target is the cruelty of the policies, never the children. Voltaire's Candide is read in chapters 1–6 and 30 only, which hold war, an earthquake, an execution and a whipping; the later chapters include sexual violence and are not assigned or summarized. In Ibsen's A Doll's House, Nora thinks of ending her life and does not, and the play ends with her leaving her husband and children. The speeches include Sojourner Truth, who was born enslaved, the 1858 Lincoln–Douglas debates over slavery, in which both men made racist statements that the course names but never quotes, and Chief Joseph's surrender. The Gilgamesh and Genesis flood stories tell of the destruction of nearly all life, and the short stories include a murder, a stabbing and a gate loft where unclaimed bodies are left. No text is cut beyond the Candide selection. You may want to read these units alongside your student.

Course contents

Unit	Title and lecture topics	Lessons	Lecture
1	**Getting Started: How English 10 Works; Reading Complex Texts** How the course works · Questions and answers · Connections, dilemmas and tests · Reading "The Bet" · Records and discussion · Start to finish	20	27 min
2	**Words II: Etymology, Allusion, Figures of Speech and Nuance** Word histories · Allusions · Figures and contradictions · Precise words · All the word tools	22	29 min
3	**Reading World Literature: Culture, Translation and the Oldest Stories** Reading across cultures · Gilgamesh · Two floods · Genesis, modern versions and theme · The oldest stories together	22	29 min
4	**Greek Tragedy I: The Athenian Theater and Antigone** The Athenian theater · The sisters and the king · Ode and burial · The quarrel · Structure and annotation · The first half together	23	31 min
5	**Greek Tragedy II: Law, Conscience and the Tragic Hero** Warnings and reversal · The ending · Aristotle's terms · Law and conscience · Thoreau and King · Planning Prompt 1	22	30 min
6	**Style and Syntax: Phrases, Clauses and Sentence Variety for Effect** Syntax as a choice · Phrases that pack detail · Clauses that carry logic · Cumulative sentences · Suspense and pace · Syntax in Shelley and Swift · Syntax for effect together	23	38 min (2 parts)
7	**World Short Fiction I: Nineteenth-Century Realism** Realism and translation · "The Necklace" · "The Cloak" · Tolstoy and Chekhov · Comparing the stories · Realism together	23	31 min

Unit	Title and lecture topics	Lessons	Lecture
8	**World Short Fiction II: Modern Stories Across Cultures** Modern fiction and Tagore · "The Cabuliwallah" · "Rashomon" · Narrators, and three writers described · Comparing across cultures · Modern stories together	22	29 min
9	**Writing Comparative Literary Analysis** What to compare · The thesis and the plan · Building the paragraphs · Openings and endings · Drafting the frame · Testing and revising · Finishing the essay · Writing Prompt 2	23	37 min (2 parts)
10	**World Poetry in Translation** Translating poetry · Li Bai in two Englishes · Persian poetry · Tagore and Basho · Form and the translator · Writing Prompt 3	23	30 min
11	**Julius Caesar I: Shakespeare's Rome, Acts 1 and 2** The play and its sources · Act 1: crowd, crown and storm · Act 2: the orchard and the dream · Honor · Acts 1 and 2 together	22	29 min
12	**Julius Caesar II: Acts 3 to 5, the Funeral Speeches and Plutarch** The killing and the speeches · The quarrel, the ghost and Plutarch · Philippi and the source · Tragedy, honor and the close reading · The speech and its source together	23	29 min
13	**Rhetoric I: The Rhetorical Situation, Appeals and Devices** The rhetorical situation · The appeals · The devices · Rhetoric together	23	29 min
14	**Rhetoric II: Speeches and Documents Across Time** Athens · Calls to arms and warnings · Rights and surrender · Purposes and Prompt 4	22	30 min
15	**Satire and Irony as Argument** Irony and satire · Swift's A Modest Proposal · Voltaire's Candide · Twain's "The War Prayer" · Comparing satire, and writing one · Satire together	21	28 min
16	**Usage and Style: Concision, Voice, Register and Style Manuals** Concision and strong verbs · Voice and register · Usage · Style manuals · Revising for style	23	30 min
17	**The Novel I: Frankenstein, the Letters and Volume I** The novel's origins · Walton's letters · Victor's rise · The creation · Loss, the subtitle and patterns · The first volume together	23	29 min
18	**The Novel II: Frankenstein, Volumes II and III, and Its Sources** The creature speaks · Milton's Paradise Lost · The mate and the ruin · Reading the ending and the sources · Responsibility and Prompt 5	23	29 min
19	**Poetry of War and the Modern World** The war's first poems · Sassoon and Owen · Voices and images of the modern world · Tone and form	22	28 min
20	**Modern Drama: A Doll's House** Ibsen's stage and world · Act 1 · Act 2 · Act 3 begins · Nora's choice · Translation and reception · Symbols and the metaphor · Arguing about the ending	23	36 min (2 parts)
21	**Evaluating Arguments: Reasoning, Evidence and Fallacies in Depth** The forms of reasoning · Warrants and evidence · Fallacies · More fallacies · Listening and model arguments · Rebuilding and evaluating together	23	35 min (2 parts)
22	**Writing Arguments II: The Extended Argument and Synthesis** The question and the claim · Sources in conversation · The plan and the opening · Body and opposition · The counterclaim section · Guiding and closing · Revising and editing · Finishing and Prompt 7	23	36 min (2 parts)

Unit	Title and lecture topics	Lessons	Lecture
23	**Research I: Inquiry, Searching and Evaluating Sources** The question · The search · Primary sources · Testing sources · Judging sources · Keeping records · The proposal and the whole unit	23	35 min (2 parts)
24	**Research II: Synthesis, Citation and the Research Paper** Citing sources · Using sources honestly · Planning and drafting · Revising the paper · Format and citations · Sharing the research · Finishing and Prompt 8	23	36 min (2 parts)
25	**Speech and Debate** The persuasive speech · Delivery · Debate and its models · Tools of the debater · Cases and evaluation · Speech and debate together	21	29 min
26	**Media and Interpretation: One Subject in Two Media** Media and painting · Ovid and the comparison · Frankenstein as a film · Sources in different media · Writing across media	20	29 min
27	**Capstone: Reading and Writing Across World Literature** The final exam · Looking back · Practicing the skills · Practicing under time · Across world literature	15	24 min

Assessment and grading

- **Unit quizzes.** 27 quizzes, 10 questions each, checked as the student goes, each answer with the lesson to review. Untimed; retakes are unlimited.
- **Mid exam.** 50 questions on units 1–14, drawn fresh each time and scored at the end with a breakdown by content area. Untimed; retakes are unlimited.
- **Final exam.** 60 questions, 90 minutes, on the whole course. Scored 20–80; 50 passes (40 of 60 correct, about 67%). Retakes are unlimited with a 24-hour wait, each a fresh draw.

Suggested course-grade worksheet

Part	Weight	Score
Essays from the Writing Pack, the research paper counting as two (parent-graded with the rubrics)	40%	
Final exam (percent correct)	25%	
Mid exam (best score)	10%	
Unit quizzes (average of best scores)	10%	
Reading journal, speech or debate (parent's judgment)	15%	

Suggested letter scale

Letter	Composite
A	90–100
B	80–89
C	70–79
D	60–69
F	below 60

Suggested; the parent sets every weight and the grade, and enters one letter on the family dashboard. Essays are graded with the Writing Pack rubrics; the exams have no essay. A passing final is the completion standard for the course record.

Study plan

The 88.5 offline hours are spread over the units in proportion to each unit's StudyWalks time. For each unit: read the unit's full public-domain texts (the course quotes them; Antigone, Julius Caesar, Frankenstein, A Doll's House, the stories, poems and speeches are free online), keep a reading journal with one page of notes per text, write the unit's assignment from the Writing Pack when the unit names one, and redo quiz misses. Log the time as you go.

Unit	Title	StudyWalks	Offline, suggested	Unit total
1	Getting Started: How English 10 Works; Reading Complex Texts	44 min	2 h 55 min	3 h 39 min
2	Words II: Etymology, Allusion, Figures of Speech and Nuance	48 min	3 h 10 min	3 h 58 min
3	Reading World Literature: Culture, Translation and the Oldest Stories	48 min	3 h 10 min	3 h 58 min
4	Greek Tragedy I: The Athenian Theater and Antigone	51 min	3 h 20 min	4 h 11 min
5	Greek Tragedy II: Law, Conscience and the Tragic Hero	49 min	3 h 15 min	4 h 4 min
6	Style and Syntax: Phrases, Clauses and Sentence Variety for Effect	58 min	3 h 50 min	4 h 48 min
7	World Short Fiction I: Nineteenth-Century Realism	50 min	3 h 20 min	4 h 10 min
8	World Short Fiction II: Modern Stories Across Cultures	48 min	3 h 10 min	3 h 58 min
9	Writing Comparative Literary Analysis	57 min	3 h 45 min	4 h 42 min
10	World Poetry in Translation	50 min	3 h 20 min	4 h 10 min
11	Julius Caesar I: Shakespeare's Rome, Acts 1 and 2	48 min	3 h 10 min	3 h 58 min
12	Julius Caesar II: Acts 3 to 5, the Funeral Speeches and Plutarch	49 min	3 h 15 min	4 h 4 min
13	Rhetoric I: The Rhetorical Situation, Appeals and Devices	49 min	3 h 15 min	4 h 4 min
14	Rhetoric II: Speeches and Documents Across Time	49 min	3 h 15 min	4 h 4 min
15	Satire and Irony as Argument	46 min	3 h	3 h 46 min
16	Usage and Style: Concision, Voice, Register and Style Manuals	50 min	3 h 15 min	4 h 5 min
17	The Novel I: Frankenstein, the Letters and Volume I	49 min	3 h 15 min	4 h 4 min
18	The Novel II: Frankenstein, Volumes II and III, and Its Sources	49 min	3 h 15 min	4 h 4 min
19	Poetry of War and the Modern World	47 min	3 h 5 min	3 h 52 min
20	Modern Drama: A Doll's House	55 min	3 h 35 min	4 h 30 min
Lessons and lectures		**22 h 25 min**	**88 h 30 min**	**110 h 55 min**
Quizzes, mid exam and final (stated time)		**9 h 6 min**	**—**	**9 h 6 min**

Unit	Title	StudyWalks	Offline, suggested	Unit total
21	Evaluating Arguments: Reasoning, Evidence and Fallacies in Depth	55 min	3 h 35 min	4 h 30 min
22	Writing Arguments II: The Extended Argument and Synthesis	56 min	3 h 40 min	4 h 36 min
23	Research I: Inquiry, Searching and Evaluating Sources	55 min	3 h 35 min	4 h 30 min
24	Research II: Synthesis, Citation and the Research Paper	55 min	3 h 35 min	4 h 30 min
25	Speech and Debate	47 min	3 h 5 min	3 h 52 min
26	Media and Interpretation: One Subject in Two Media	46 min	3 h	3 h 46 min
27	Capstone: Reading and Writing Across World Literature	37 min	2 h 25 min	3 h 2 min
Lessons and lectures		**22 h 25 min**	**88 h 30 min**	**110 h 55 min**
Quizzes, mid exam and final (stated time)		**9 h 6 min**	**—**	**9 h 6 min**

Unit times are the unit's lecture runtime plus its lessons at the course's measured average lesson length; totals can differ from the learning hours by rounding.

Sources

- **Anchor:** Odell Education. *High School Literacy Program*, Grade 10, digital student edition, hosted by Open Up Resources. Skills, terms and the order of the course informed by this program; nothing is reproduced, and the texts its units assign belong to their owners. The Odell Education and Open Up Resources names and logos are not covered by its licence. CC BY 4.0
- **Anchor:** Getty, Kwon and others, editors. *Compact Anthology of World Literature*, Parts 1–6. University System of Georgia, University of North Georgia Press (the editors' introductions, for facts only). CC BY-SA 4.0
- **Anchor:** Tanya Long Bennett. *Writing and Literature: Composition as Inquiry, Learning, Thinking, and Communication*. University of North Georgia Press. CC BY-SA 4.0
- **Witness:** Robinson and Getty, editors. *British Literature I* and *II*. University of North Georgia Press. CC BY-SA 4.0
- **Witness:** Abbott, McDorman, Timmerman and Lamberton. *Public Speaking and Democratic Participation: Speech, Deliberation, and Analysis in the Civic Realm*, 2nd edition. PALNI Open Press. CC BY 4.0
- **Witness:** *Writing Guide with Handbook*. OpenStax, Rice University; Excelsior University Online Writing Lab; BCcampus *Composition and Literature*; Lumen Learning *Writing Skills Lab* (facts only). CC BY-NC-SA 4.0 and others, by source
- **Witness:** *Encyclopaedia Britannica*, 11th edition (1911), and other works first published before 1931, via Wikisource and Project Gutenberg, for corroborating facts. Public domain in the US
- **Witness:** Nobel Prize biographies; Poetry Foundation poet pages and glossary (facts only).
- **Witness:** Wikipedia, for corroborating facts the other sources do not cover. CC BY-SA 4.0
- **Primary texts:** Project Gutenberg, Wikisource and the Internet Archive, for works first published before 1931, in translations themselves first published before 1931 (Storr's Antigone, Sharp's A Doll's House, Koteliansky and Murry's Chekhov, Pound's and Waley's Li Bai, FitzGerald's Khayyam and others); the National Archives and the Senate for U.S. government documents. Public domain in the US

This StudyWalks final is an end-of-course exam built from the English 10 course, whose scope is modeled on the grades 9–10 English language arts standards of the Common Core State Standards. Scores are StudyWalks scores on a 20–80 scale. The exam has no essay: essays are assigned and graded by the parent with the course rubrics. The course and exam have not been reviewed, certified or endorsed by any state, standards body or testing organization, and passing does not award credit: high school credit is granted by the homeschool parent.

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