

English Language Arts / English as an Additional Language - Grade 4



Dominican International School

Course Syllabus

School Year 2026–27



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Course Description : Course Objectives

The English Language Arts curriculum includes objectives that support students' development in the skills of writing, listening and oral language. Students will learn the fundamentals of English in the areas of: sentence structure, parts of speech, pronouns and contractions. Students will learn how to construct grammatically correct sentences and will apply Language Arts skills in writing various projects.

Fourth Grade English Language Arts aims at establishing good reading habits while developing comprehension strategies and vocabulary. The students will be introduced to narrative analysis appropriate to their level when reading fiction and non-fiction books confidently, fluently and independently. These skills are developed through direct instruction and guided practice. Through daily classroom experiences, the children will write fluently and effectively and they will use speech responsibly to inform, entertain, and influence others.

They will be able to listen for a sustained period of time and for a variety of purposes. Pupils will use a wide range of vocabulary and complex sentence structures to clearly express and explain their thoughts, needs, feelings, opinions and ideas.

COURSE OBJECTIVES:

1. To use or apply reading strategies such as summarizing, inferring, predicting, monitoring, questioning, and phonics/decoding in either independent or peer reading
2. To identify story structure
3. To describe characters, setting, and plot of a story
4. To summarize the journey of the character in the story
5. To infer and explain the author's point of view
6. To decode longer words
7. To use context clues in understanding words with multiple meanings
8. To write a personal narrative
9. To summarize text
10. To distinguish facts and opinions
11. To recognize and explain the meaning of idioms
12. To demonstrate understanding of figurative language in context
13. To acquire and use vocabulary
14. To understand the correct use of punctuation
15. To listen to and understand fluent reading
16. To complete writing tasks in accordance with the conventions of Standard English

PRIMARY TEXTBOOKS AND OTHER RESOURCES:

Textbooks: Main Text: Houghton Mifflin *Into Reading G4* ISBN 978-0-358-17667-1
Houghton Mifflin *Into Reading G4 Writer's Notebook* ISBN 978-1-328-47012-6
Houghton Mifflin *Into Reading G4 Grammar Practice Workbook* ISBN 978-0-358-24501-8
Houghton Mifflin *Into Reading G4 Know It, Show It* ISBN 978-1-328-45325-9

Useful links:

1. Our school website: <http://www.dishs.tp.edu.tw/>
2. Raz-kids: <https://www.kidsa-z.com/ng/>
3. CommonLit: <https://www.commonlit.org/user/login>
4. Publishers website: https://trunity.org/users/sign_in
5. Merriam-Webster Online Dictionary & Thesaurus: <http://www.m-w.com/home.htm>
6. Reading exercises: www.englishforeveryone.org

GRADING SYSTEM/ASSESSMENT:

The quarterly grade will be awarded for all student work based on the following criteria:

- 1) **Class participation, Seatwork, Homework** (30% of quarterly grade)
- 2) **Projects, Quizzes, and Tests** (30% of quarterly grade)
- 3) **Quarter Exam/Project** (30% of quarterly grade)
- 4) **Department Marks** (10% of quarterly grade)

ADDITIONAL INFORMATION:

ACADEMIC DISHONESTY:

Academic Dishonesty means employing a method or technique or engaging in conduct in an academic endeavor that contravenes the standards of ethical integrity expected at DIS.

Academic dishonesty includes but is not limited to the following:

- Purposely incorporating the ideas, words of sentences, paragraphs, or parts thereof without appropriate acknowledgment and representing the product as one's work;
- Representing another's intellectual work, such as photographs, paintings, drawings, sculpture, research, or the like, as one's own, including failure to attribute content to an AI.
- Employing a tutor, using Artificial Intelligence without acknowledgment, getting a parent to write a paper or do an assignment, and paying for an essay to be written by someone else and presented as the student's work.
- Committing any act that a reasonable person would conclude, when informed of the evidence, to be a dishonest means of obtaining or attempting to obtain credit for academic work.

Any act of academic dishonesty will result in an automatic zero on the entire assignment/learning task.

WEEKLY SCHEDULE

First Quarter Tentative Course Content

Week & Date	Topics / Projects / Assessments
Week 1 Aug 10 - 14	Monday Class Preparation ~ Student Holiday Tuesday Morning Assembly Friday Opening Mass & Assumption of Our Lady 8:00 HMH- Into Reading Module 1 pp. 10-93 (What Makes Us Who We Are) Orientation- Routines and Procedures Reading- The Story of You, Flora and Ulysses: The Illuminated Adventure Writing- Module 1- Personal Narrative 1.1-1.10
Week 2 Aug 17 - 21	HMH- Into Reading Module 1 pp. 10-93 (What Makes Us Who We Are) Reading- Flora and Ulysses: The Illuminated Adventures, Yes! We Are Latinos Writing- Module 1- Personal Narrative 1.1-1.10 Grammar- Topic 1 Sentences- pp. 1-6
Week 3 Aug 24 - 28	HMH- Into Reading Module 1 pp. 10-93 (What Makes Us Who We Are) Reading- Yes! We are Latinos, The Year of the Rat, Writing- Module 1- Personal Narrative 1.1-1.10 Grammar- Topic 1 Sentences- pp. 7-13
Week 4 Aug 31 - Sep 4	HMH- Into Reading Module 1 pp. 10-93 (What Makes Us Who We Are) Reader's Theater & A-Z Reading Reading- Kitoto the Mighty Writing- Module 1- Personal Narrative 1.1-1.10 Grammar- Topic 1 Sentences- pp. 14-20
Week 5 Sep 7 - 11	HMH- Into Reading Module 2 (Come to Your Senses) Reader's Theater & A-Z Reading Reading- What are the Five Senses? Writing- Module 2- Description of an Animal 2.1-2.11
Week 6 Sep 14 - 18	HMH- Into Reading Module 2 (Come to Your Senses) Reader's Theater & A-Z Reading Reading- The Science Behind Sight, Animal Senses Writing- Module 2- Description of an Animal 2.1-2.11 Grammar- Topic 2 Proper Nouns- pp. 21-26
Week 7 Sep 21 - 25	T-W-Th Pre-Exam Days Friday Moon Festival ~ Public Holiday HMH- Into Reading Module 2 (Come to Your Senses) Reader's Theater & A-Z Reading Reading- Blind Ambition, The Game of Silence

	Writing- Module 2- Description of an Animal 2.1-2.11 Grammar- Topic 2 Possessive Nouns- pp. 27-33
Week 8 Sep 28 - Oct 2	Monday Confucius' Birthday ~ Public Holiday Thursday Major Exams Day 1 Friday Major Exams Day 2 HMH- Into Reading Module 2 (Come to Your Senses) Reader's Theater & A-Z Reading Writing- Module 2- Description of an Animal 2.1-2.11 Review and Assessment Exam and/or Project Preparations First Quarter Exams (Half days)
Week 9 Oct 5 - 9	Monday Record Day ~ Student Holiday T-W-Th Teachers Conference ~ Student Holiday Friday Double 10 Day ~ Public Holiday

Second Quarter Tentative Course Content

Week & Date	Topics / Projects / Assessments
Week 1 (10) Oct 12 - 16	HMH- Into Reading M3W1L1 – L2 pp. 164-229 (Rise to the Occasion) Reading- Never Give up, Rent Jazz Party Writing- Module 3- Opinion Essay 3.1-3.11 Grammar- Topic 2 Nouns and Pronouns- pp. 34-40
Week 2 (11) Oct 19 - 23	HMH- Into Reading Module 3 pp. 164-229 (Rise to the Occasion) Reader's Theater & A-Z Reading Reading- Rent Jazz Party, Hurricanes (A Force of Nature), Writing- Module 3- Opinion Essay 3.1-3.11 Grammar- Topic 2 Nouns and Pronouns- pp. 41-45
Week 3 (12) Oct 26 - 30	Monday Retrocession Day ~ Public Holiday HMH- Into Reading Module 3 pp. 164-229 (Rise to the Occasion) Reader's Theater & A-Z Reading Reading- Hurricanes (A Force of Nature), Catch Me If You Can Writing- Module 3- Opinion Essay 3.1-3.11 Grammar- Topic 2 Nouns and Pronouns- pp. 46-50
Week 4 (13) Nov 2 - 6	HMH- Into Reading Module 3 pp. 164-229 (Rise to the Occasion) Reader's Theater & A-Z Reading Reading- Catch Me If You Can, My Diary from Here to There Writing- Module 3- Opinion Essay 3.1-3.11 Grammar- Topic 3- Verbs pp. 51-55

Week 5 (14) Nov 9 - 13	HMH- Into Reading Module 4 pp. 237--302 (Heroic Feats) Reader's Theater & A-Z Reading Reading- Who's a Hero, Prince Charming Misplaced His Bride Writing- Module 4- Writing a Story/Play 4.1-4.9 Grammar- Topic 3- Verb Tenses pp. 56-60
Week 6 (15) Nov 16 - 20	HMH- Into Reading Module 4 pp. 237--302 (Heroic Feats) Reader's Theater & A-Z Reading Reading- Smokejumpers to the Rescue! Writing- Module 4- Writing a Story/Play 4.1-4.9
Week 7 (16) Nov 23 - 27	T-W-Th Pre-Exam Days HMH- Into Reading Module 4 pp. 237--302 (Heroic Feats) Reader's Theater & A-Z Reading Reading- Perseus and the Fall of Medusa, Writing- Module 4- Writing a Story/Play 4.1-4.9 Grammar- Topic 3- Verb Tenses pp. 61-65
Week 8 (17) Nov 30 - Dec 4	HMH- Into Reading Module 4 pp. 237--302 (Heroic Feats) Reader's Theater & A-Z Reading Reading- St. Augustine: A Story of America Writing- Module 4- Writing a Story/Play 4.1-4.9 Grammar- Topic 3- Auxiliaries pp. 66-70
Week 9 (18) Dec 7 - Dec 11	Monday TBD Tuesday Foundation Day Mass 9:00, Cutting of the Cake Ceremony, Christmas Fair, (Whole day) Wednesday TBD Thursday Major Final Exams half day Friday Major Final Exams half day HMH- Into Reading Module 4 pp. 237--302 (Heroic Feats) Reader's Theater & A-Z Reading Reading- St. Augustine: A Story of America Writing- Module 5- Expository Essay 5.1-5.10
Dec 14 to Jan 1 Christmas Break	

Third Quarter Tentative Course Content

Week & Date	Topics / Projects / Assessments
Week 1 (19) Jan 4 - Jan 8	Monday Record Day ~ Student Holiday Friday New Year Mass at 8:00 HMH- Into Reading Module 5 pp. 211—370 (Art Everywhere) Reader's Theater & A-Z Reading

	Reading- Why Art Centers Matter, The Beatles Were Fab Writing- Module 5- Expository Essay 5.1-5.10 Grammar- Topic 3 Irregular Verbs- pp. 71-75
Week 2 (20) Jan 11 - Jan 15	HMH- Into Reading Module 5 pp. 211—370 (Art Everywhere) Reader's Theater & A-Z Reading Reading- The Beatles Were Fab, How Can Photos Take Us Back in Time? Writing- Module 5- Expository Essay 5.1-5.10 Grammar- Topic 3 Participles- pp. 76-80
Week 3 (21) Jan 18 - Jan 22	HMH- Into Reading Module 5 pp. 211—370 (Art Everywhere) Reader's Theater & A-Z Reading Reading- How Can Photos Take Us Back in Time? Let's Dance Around the World Writing- Module 5- Expository Essay 5.1-5.10 Grammar- Topic 3 Participles- pp. 81-85
Week 4 (22) Jan 25 - Jan 29	HMH- Into Reading Module 5 pp. 211—370 (Art Everywhere) Reader's Theater & A-Z Reading Reading- The Art Of Poetry Writing- Module 5- Expository Essay 5.1-5.10 Grammar- Topic 4 Adverbs- pp. 86-90
Week 5 (23) Feb 1 - Feb 5	Thursday Little New Year's Eve ~ Public Holiday Friday Lunar New Year ~ Public Holiday HMH- Into Reading Module 6 pp. 14—73 (Models of Nature) Reader's Theater & A-Z Reading Reading- Seven Natural Wonders, Mariana Trench Writing- Module 6- Formal Letter 6.1-6.10 Grammar- Topic 4 Relative Pronouns and Adverbs- pp. 91-95
<i>February 8 to 12 Chinese New Year Holiday</i>	
Week 6 (24) Feb 15 - Feb 19	HMH- Into Reading Module 6 pp. 14—73 (Models of Nature) Reader's Theater & A-Z Reading Reading- Weird and Wondrous Rocks, Writing- Module 6- Formal Letter 6.1-6.10 Grammar- Topic 4 Adjectives- pp. 96-100
Week 7 (25) Feb 22 - Feb 26	22-26 IOWA Assessments HMH- Into Reading Module 6 pp. 14—73 (Models of Nature) Reader's Theater & A-Z Reading Reading- Nature's Wonders: Poetry About Our Amazing Earth Writing- Module 6- Formal Letter 6.1-6.10 Grammar- Topic 4 Comparisons- pp. 101-105

Week 8 (26) Mar 1 - Mar 5	Monday Memorial Day ~ Public Holiday T-W-Th Pre-Exam Days HMH- Into Reading Module 6 pp. 14—73 (Models of Nature) Reader's Theater & A-Z Reading Reading- Grand Canyon: A Trail Through Time Writing- Module 6- Formal Letter 6.1-6.10 Grammar- Topic 4 Prepositions- pp. 106-110
Week 9 (27) Mar 8 - Mar 12	HMH- Into Reading Module 7 pp. 74-145 (Tricksters and Tall Tales) Reader's Theater & A-Z Reading Reading- A Tale of Traditional Tales, Thunder Rose Writing- Module 7- Imaginative Story 7.1-7.10 Grammar- Topic 5 Negatives- pp. 111-115
Week 10 (28) Mar 15 - Mar 19	HMH- Into Reading Module 7 pp. 74-145 (Tricksters and Tall Tales) Reader's Theater & A-Z Reading Reading- In the Days of King Adobe Grammar- Topic 6 Quotations- pp. 116-120
Week 11 (29) Mar 22- Mar 26	Tuesday Major Final Exams half day Wednesday Major Final Exams half day Thurs - Fri Easter Break (Spring Break) ~ Public Holiday Exam and/or Project Preparations Review Third Quarter Exams (Half days)
March 25 to April 2 Easter & Spring Break	

Fourth Quarter Tentative Course Content

Week & Date	Topics / Projects / Assessments
Week 1 (30) Apr 5 - Apr 9	Monday Tomb Sweeping Day ~ Public Holiday Tuesday Children's Day ~ Public Holiday HMH- Into Reading Module 7 pp.74-145 (Tricksters and Tall Tales) Reader's Theater & A-Z Reading Reading- A Pair Of Tricksters, Writing- Module 7- Imaginative Story 7.1-7.10 Grammar- Topic 6 Punctuation- pp. 121-125
Week 2 (31) Apr 12 - Apr 16	HMH- Into Reading Module 7 pp. 74-145 (Tricksters and Tall Tales) Reader's Theater & A-Z Reading Reading- Then Suns: A Chinese Legend Writing- Module 7- Imaginative Story 7.1-7.10 Grammar- Topic 6 Commas- pp. 126-13

Week 3 (32) Apr 19 - Apr 23	19 - 23 AP Mock Exams HMH- Into Reading Module 8 pp. 146-197 (Food for Thought) Reader's Theater & A-Z Reading Reading- To Your Health, Eco-Friendly Food Writing- Module 8- Opinion Essay 8.1-8.9 Grammar- Topic 6 Proper Mechanics- pp. 131-135
Week 4 (33) Apr 26 - Apr 30	T-W-Th Pre-Exam Days Friday Labor Day ~ Public Holiday HMH- Into Reading Module 8 pp. 146-197 (Food for Thought) Reader's Theater & A-Z Reading Reading – Eco-Friendly Food, Kids Rock Nutrition in the Kitchen Grammar- Topic 7 Frequently Confused Words- pp. 136-140
Week 5 (34) May 3 - May 7	3 - 7 Final Exams (K, Gr. 5, 8, & 12 Only) 3 - 14 AP Exams HMH- Into Reading Module 8 pp. 146-197 (Food for Thought) Reader's Theater & A-Z Reading Reading- Bug Bites Grammar- Topic 7 Abbreviations- pp. 141-145
Week 6 (35) May 10 - May 14	3 - 14 AP Exams Wednesday Major Final Exams Undergraduates half day Thursday Major Final Exams Undergraduates half day Friday Record Day ~ Student Holiday HMH- Into Reading Module 8 pp. 146-197 (Food for Thought) Reader's Theater & A-Z Reading Reading- Now You're Cooking Grammar- Topic 7 Spelling- pp. 146-150 Exam and/or Project Preparations Fourth Quarter Exams (Half days)
Week 7 (36) May 17 - May 21	Monday Gr. 12 Recollection (Morning) Monday Baccalaureate Mass (Afternoon, Schoolwide) Wednesday House Sports Day Thursday High School Field Trip Friday House Culminating Activity All Week Student Clearance Days & Special Events Review/ Ancillary Activities / Graduations/Recognitions
Week 8 (37) May 24 - May 28	Monday Middle & High School Sports Day Monday LS Field Trip Tuesday Kindergarten Graduation/Gr. 5 Promotion Wednesday Gr. 8 Graduation and Gr. 12 Graduation Thursday Pre-Kindergarten & Gr. 1 - 4, 6 & 7, 9-11 Recognition

	Friday Last Day of School for Students Review/ Ancillary Activities / Graduations/Recognitions
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