



Dominican International School
台北市私立道明外僑學校
No. 76, Dazhi Street, Taipei (104042), Taiwan, R.O.C.
10464 臺北市中山區大直街 76 號



COURSE SYLLABUS

School Year	2026-2027
Subject	English Language Arts
Grade Level	Grade 1
Teacher	Elaine de Bruyn
Email	edebruyn@dishs.tp.edu.tw

COURSE DESCRIPTION:

The Grade 1 Language Arts focuses on the foundation of literacy. The course is divided into a variety of topics and themes to help students access their prior knowledge and build on these existing ideas and experiences.

In reading, first grade students will be able to comprehend reading materials at grade level. They will read a variety of literary texts, including different informational texts related to science and social studies. They will develop reading skills by strengthening their phonemic awareness to decode unknown words. In oral reading, they will work on reading fluency by phrasing accurately, reading with an understanding of punctuation, and reading at a good rate with a smooth flow. They will also build strong reading comprehension strategies to analyze texts in more detail, including looking at character development, inferring and predicting, summarizing and drawing conclusions.

In listening, they will be exposed to a variety of literary texts that they need to listen to and answer comprehension questions afterwards.

In speaking, they will practice retelling stories and texts read, heard, or viewed in class, capturing major story events, main ideas, and supporting details.

In writing, students will learn about the appropriate steps of the writing process, developing written work through the prewriting and planning, drafting, proofreading and revising, and publishing the final copy. Throughout this process, attention is given to using appropriate grammar and writing mechanics, including capitalization, punctuation, and spelling. Handwriting skills like consistency of letter formation and spacing will also be taught to ensure the legibility of their writing pieces.

First grade students will also be introduced to basic grammar and language skills to equip them to be better writers. Students learn about basic sentence structures and parts of speech like nouns, pronouns, verbs, adjectives, adverbs, prepositions, prepositional phrases, and subject-verb agreements. They will look closely at different parts of a sentence and learn how to use each part correctly in their writing. They will also learn vocabulary building by adding prefixes and suffixes to base words.

COURSE OBJECTIVES:



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By the end of the semester/school year, (SWAT) Students will be able to:

- Read different literary texts with fluency and comprehension.
- Listen and comprehend spoken texts or stories.
- Retell stories/texts with complete details.
- Produce their own pieces of writing like personal narratives, poems, opinion essays, letters, etc.

PRIMARY TEXTBOOKS AND OTHER RESOURCES:

- Ada, A. F., Beers, K., Campoy, F. I., Carrol, J. A., Clemens, N., Cunningham, A. ... Washington, J. (2020). *Houghton Mifflin Into Reading Grade 1*. Orlando, Florida: Houghton Mifflin Harcourt Publishing Company.
- Houghton Mifflin Into Reading Know It, Show It Grade 1. (2020). Orlando, Florida: Houghton Mifflin Harcourt Publishing Company.
- Houghton Mifflin Into Reading Grammar Practice Workbook Grade 1. (2020). Orlando, Florida: Houghton Mifflin Harcourt Publishing Company.

GRADING SYSTEM/ASSESSMENT:

Students will take quizzes and quarter exams to assess their content knowledge. The assessments will provide students with feedback to determine whether the Common Core standards learning objectives have been met. Students absent from class for a quiz or test will be required to take it some other time.

Every quarter, each student will receive grades based on the following criteria:

- ☐ 30% Classwork, Homework, Class participation
- ☐ 30% Quizzes
- ☐ 30% Quarterly Exams
- ☐ 10% Deportment (behavior in class based on the school's SLOs)

ADDITIONAL INFORMATION:

Please always check Google Classroom for homework and announcements.

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.

First Quarter Tentative Course Content



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Week/Date	Topic/Projects/Assessments
Week 1 Aug 10 – 14 <u>4 days of class</u> Tuesday Morning Assembly Thursday Opening Mass & Assumption of Our Lady 8:00	Back to school activities Beginning of Year Phonics Assessments
Week 2 Aug 17 - 21	Into Reading Module 1 Texts: My First Day Comprehension Skills and Strategies: Ask and Answer Questions, Author's Purpose Phonics: Consonants m,s t,b ; Short a
Week 3 Aug 24 - 28	Into Reading Module 1 Texts: My School Trip Comprehension Skills and Strategies: Author's Purpose, Make Inferences Phonics: Consonants n,d,p,c /k/; Short a
Week 4 Aug 31 - Sep 4	Into Reading Module 1 Texts: Big Dilly's Tale, (I'm Me) Comprehension Skills and Strategies: Ask and Answer Questions Phonics: Consonants r,f,s /z/; Short i
Week 5 Sep 7 - 11	Into Reading Module 2 Texts: Dan Had a Plan Comprehension Skills and Strategies: Retell, Sequence of Events Phonics: Consonants g,k; Review Short a,i Grammar: Common Nouns: People, places, animals, and things Writing: Sequencing <i>Reader's theater selection of script</i>
Week 6 Sep 14 - 18	Into Reading Module 2 Texts: Places in My Neighborhood Comprehension Skills and Strategies: Text Features, Make Connections Phonics: Consonants l,h; Short o; Review Short a, i, o Grammar: Proper Nouns: people, places, animals and things Writing: Sequencing <i>Reader's theater discussion about the story</i>
Week 7 Sep 21 – 25 <u>4 days of class</u> T-W-Th Pre-Exam Days Friday Moon Festival ~ Public Holiday	Into Reading Module 2 Texts: Who Put the Cookies in the Cookie Jar? Comprehension Skills and Strategies: Ask and Answer Questions Phonics: Consonants w, j, y, v; Short u; Review Short i,o,u Grammar: Action verbs Writing: Sequencing <i>Reader's theater discussion about the story</i>
Week 8	Exam Review



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Sep 28 - Oct 2 2 days of class M Confucius' Birthday ~ Public Holiday Th-F 1st Quarter Exams (half day)	Quarter 1 Exam
Week 9 Oct 5 – 9 No classes	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	Topic/Projects/Assessments
Week 1 (10) Oct 12 - 16	Into Reading Module 3 Texts: The Nest Comprehension Skills and Strategies: Ask and Answer Questions, Story Structure Phonics: Consonants qu, x, z; Short e; Review short e, i, o, u Grammar: Adjectives of Size and Shape, Articles Writing: Descriptive paragraph <i>Reader's theater practice focusing on reading all the words correctly</i>
Week 2 (11) Oct 19 - 23	Into Reading Module 3 Texts: Blue Bird and Coyote Comprehension Skills and Strategies: Ask and Answer Questions, Story Structure Phonics: Double Final Consonants; Consonants ck /k/ Grammar: Adjectives: Color and Number Writing: Descriptive paragraph <i>Reader's theater practice focusing on reading all the words correctly</i>
Week 3 (12) Oct 26 – 30 4 days of class M Retrocession Day ~ Public Holiday	Into Reading Module 3 Phonics: Consonant Digraph sh; Review s, sh Grammar: Adjectives: The Senses Writing: Descriptive essay (My Beautiful School) <i>Reader's theater practice focusing on reading sentences with fluency</i>
Week 4 (13) Nov 2 - 6	Into Reading Module 4 Texts: Goal! Comprehension Skills and Strategies: Evaluate details; cite text evidence Phonics: Consonant digraph ch; Review ch, sh Grammar: Complete Sentences Writing: Descriptive essay (My Beautiful School) <i>Reader's theater practice focusing on reading sentences with fluency</i>



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Week 5 (14) Nov 9 - 13	Into Reading Module 4 Texts: Brontorina Comprehension Skills and Strategies: Make and confirm predictions, retell the story Phonics: Consonant Digraphs th, wh; Trigraph -tch Grammar: Sentence parts Writing: Descriptive essay (Wonderful world) <i>Reader's theater practice focusing on reading sentences correctly</i>
Week 6 (15) Nov 16 - 20	Into Reading Module 4 Texts: If You Plant a Seed Comprehension Skills and Strategies: Make Connections Phonics: Initial Blends with s; Review sh, th, st Grammar: Statements and Commands Writing: Personal Narrative <i>Reader's theater practice focusing on reading sentences correctly</i>
Week 7 (16) Nov 23 - 27 T-W-TH Pre-Exam Days	Into Reading Module 5 Texts: The Black Rabbit Comprehension Skills and Strategies: Make inferences, understanding characters Phonics: Initial blends with l; Review st, sl, fl, cl Grammar: Questions and Exclamations Writing: Informational Text (How to make a friend) <i>Reader's theater practice focusing on attentiveness in delivering one's part</i>
Week 8 (17) Nov 30 - Dec 4	Into Reading Module 5 Texts: The Best Season Comprehension Skills and Strategies: Make connections Phonics: Initial blends with r; Compound Words Grammar: Compound Questions and statements Writing: Descriptive writing review <i>Reader's theater practice focusing on attentiveness in delivering one's part</i>
Week 9 (18) Dec 7 - Dec 11 <u>4 days of class</u> M TBD T Foundation Day Mass 9:00, Cutting of the Cake Ceremony, Christmas Fair (Whole day) W TBD Th-F 2nd Quarter exams	Exam Review Quarter 2 Exam
<i>Dec 14 to Jan 1 Christmas Break</i>	

Third Quarter Tentative Course Content

Week/Date	Topic/Projects/Assessments
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Week 1 (19) Jan 4 - Jan 8 4 days of class M Record Day for teachers F New Year Mass at 8:00	Into Reading Module 5 Texts: What Are You Waiting For? Comprehension Skills and Strategies: Make and confirm predictions Phonics: Final Blends; Inflection -ed Grammar: Kinds of Sentences <i>Reader's theater practice focusing on delivering lines with correct intonation</i>
Week 2 (20) Jan 11 - Jan 15	Into Reading Module 6 Comprehension Skills and Strategies: Make and confirm predictions; elements of drama Phonics: Long e, i, o (CV); Possessives with 's Grammar: Subjects and Verbs Writing: Personal Narrative 321 Planner <i>Reader's theater practice (practice performances)</i>
Week 3 (21) Jan 18 - Jan 22	Into Reading Module 6 Texts: The Contest Comprehension Skills and Strategies: Ideas and Support, Evaluate Phonics: Long a (VCe); Soft c Grammar: Action Verbs Writing: Personal Narrative My Holiday Break <i>Reader's theater practice (practice performances)</i>
Week 4 (22) Jan 25 - Jan 29	Into Reading Module 6 Texts: Hooray for Holidays Comprehension Skills and Strategies: Create mental images; Story Structure Phonics: Long i, o (VCe); Silent Letters kn, wr Grammar: Prepositions and Prepositional Phrases Writing: Personal Narrative My Holiday Break <i>Reader's theater practice (video recording)</i>
Week 5 (23) Feb 1 - Feb 5 3 days of class M CNY activities 8 th period TH-F CNY holiday	Into Reading Module 7 Texts: Sam & Dave Dig a Hole Comprehension Skills and Strategies: Make inferences; Point of View Phonics: Long u, e (VCe); Soft g (g, dge) Grammar: Verbs and Time Writing: Poem (Acrostic) <i>Reader's theater (video recording)</i>
February 4 to 12 Chinese New Year Holiday	
Week 6 (24) Feb 15 - Feb 19	Into Reading Module 7 Texts: Handmade Comprehension Skills and Strategies: Text Organization Phonics: Long e (ea, ee); Short e (ea) Grammar: The Verb Be Writing: Personal Narrative (writing) <i>Reader's theater (video recording)</i>
Week 7 (25) Feb 22 - Feb 26	IOWA Assessments Into Reading Module 7 Phonics: Long a (ai, ay); Contractions with 'm, 's, n't,, 'll Grammar: Names of Months, Days and Holidays <i>Reader's theater (winning group practice)</i>



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Week 8 (26) Mar 1 - Mar 5 <u>4 days of class</u> M Memorial Day ~ Public Holiday T-W-TH Pre-Exam Days	Into Reading Module 8 Texts: Interrupting Chicken Comprehension Skills and Strategies: Make connections, create mental images Phonics: Long o (oa, ow); Long o, i (oe,,ie), Long i (igh, y) Grammar: Future Tense Writing: Personal Narrative (final copy) <i>Reader's theater</i>
Week 9 (27) Mar 8 - Mar 12	Into Reading Module 8 Texts: The Grasshopper and the Ants Comprehension Skills and Strategies: Make inferences Phonics: r-Controlled Vowel ar; Two Syllable Words (VCCV) Grammar: Subject Pronouns, Object Pronouns <i>Readers Theater</i>
Week 10 (28) Mar 15 - Mar 19	Into Reading Module 9 Texts: So You Want to Grow a Taco? Comprehension Skills and Strategies: Make inferences, Ask and Answer Questions Phonics: r-Controlled Vowels or, ore; Two-Syllable Words r-Controlled Vowels ar, or Grammar: The Pronouns I and Me, Possessive Pronouns <i>Readers Theater Final rehearsals</i>
Week 11 (29) Mar 22- Mar 26 <u>1 day of class</u> T-W 3 rd quarter exams TH-F Easter break	Exam Review Quarter 3 Exam
March 25 to April 2 Easter & Spring Break	

Fourth Quarter Tentative Course Content

Week/Date	Topic/Projects/Assessments
Week 1 (30) Apr 5 - Apr 9 <u>3 days of class</u> M Tomb Sweeping Day T Children's Day	Into Reading Module 9 Phonics: r-Controlled Vowels er, ir, ur; Two Syllable Words (VCCV pattern) Grammar: Indefinite Pronouns Writing: Procedural Writing (Favorite food project) <i>Reader's theater (winning group practice)</i>
Week 2 (31) Apr 12 - Apr 16 F Readers Theater competition	Into Reading Module 9 Texts: The Talking Vegetables Comprehension Skills and Strategies: Story Structure; retell Phonics: Final blends ng, nk; Inflection -ing Grammar: Contractions Writing: Procedural Writing (Favorite food project) <i>Reader's theater (Final competition)</i>



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Week 3 (32) Apr 19 - Apr 23	Into Reading Module 10 Texts: Young Frank Architect Comprehension Skills and Strategies: Retell Phonics: Vowel pattern oo; Consonant +le, Vowel Patterns (oo, ou, ew. ue, u) Grammar: Adverbs Writing: Procedural Writing (Favorite food project)
Week 4 (33) Apr 26 - Apr 30 <u>4 days of class</u> T-W-TH Pre-Exam Days F Labor Day - holiday	Into Reading Module 11 Texts: Sky Color Comprehension Skills and Strategies: Make Inferences Phonics: Diphthongs ow, ou; Diphthongs oy, oi Grammar: Adjectives that compare Writing: Procedural Writing (Favorite food project)
Week 5 (34) May 3 - May 7	Into Reading Module 12 Texts: Joaquin's Zoo, Comprehension Skills and Strategies: Make Connections Phonics: Vowel patterns (aw, au, al); Inflections Grammar: Spelling Writing: Procedural Writing (Favorite food project presentations)
Week 6 (35) May 10 - May 14 <u>2 days of class</u> W-TH 4th Quarter exams F Record Day for teachers	Review Quarter 4 exams
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
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