

# 6th Grade American Online School

## ENGLISH LANGUAGE ARTS CURRICULUM

### Language, Literature, and Literacy for Thoughtful Communication

Version May/2025

## 1. Introduction

### The Role of English Language Arts Education in 6th Grade

In 6th grade, students develop into reflective readers, confident writers, and active communicators. The curriculum balances technical language instruction—grammar, phonics, vocabulary—with creative and analytical reading and writing experiences. Through reading comprehension strategies, collaborative book discussions, and writing projects, students deepen their understanding of literature and language as tools for connection, expression, and thought.

By the end of this course, students will:

- ✓ Analyze fiction and nonfiction texts using comprehension strategies.
- ✓ Write narrative, explanatory, and opinion-based texts.
- ✓ Apply grammar and spelling conventions in writing and speech.
- ✓ Expand academic and domain-specific vocabulary.
- ✓ Participate in collaborative discussions and share insights from texts.
- ✓ Use phonics and word study to decode unfamiliar vocabulary.

## 2. Core Competence Areas

### ELA.1 Reading Comprehension and Literary Analysis

#### Learning Outcomes

By the end of this course, students will be able to:

- ✓ Identify key ideas and details in literary and informational texts.
- ✓ Summarize, infer, and analyze author's purpose and perspective.
- ✓ Compare themes, characters, and settings across texts.

#### Competencies

##### ELA.1.A.1 – Understanding text structures and comprehension strategies.

- Use annotation, questioning, and visualization to monitor comprehension.
- Recognize cause-effect, problem-solution, and sequence structures.

##### ELA.1.A.2 – Analyzing literary elements and style.

- Discuss theme, point of view, figurative language, and dialogue.
- Compare characters' journeys across cultures and genres.

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### ELA.2 Writing Process and Text Composition

#### Learning Outcomes

By the end of this unit, students will be able to:

- ✓ Compose clear and structured texts in multiple genres.
- ✓ Use evidence and reasoning to support claims.
- ✓ Revise, edit, and refine their work based on feedback.

#### Competencies

##### ELA.2.A.1 – Writing for various purposes and audiences.

- Draft personal narratives, informational essays, and opinion pieces.
- Incorporate sensory details, strong verbs, and varied sentence types.

### **ELA.2.A.2 – Refining the writing process.**

- Plan using outlines and graphic organizers.
  - Use checklists, peer editing, and self-assessment to revise
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## **ELA.3 Grammar, Sentence Structure, and Conventions**

### **Learning Outcomes**

By the end of this unit, students will be able to:

- ✓ **Demonstrate understanding of grammar, usage, and mechanics.**
- ✓ **Apply rules in both structured exercises and authentic writing.**
- ✓ **Edit texts for clarity, consistency, and correctness.**

### **Competencies**

#### **ELA.3.A.1 – Mastering foundational grammar and syntax.**

- Identify parts of speech, subjects, predicates, and clauses.
- Use commas, semicolons, and colons correctly in writing.

#### **ELA.3.A.2 – Editing and proofreading for correctness.**

- Correct sentence fragments, run-ons, and agreement errors.
  - Apply grammar knowledge to published and peer-reviewed texts.
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## **ELA.4 Vocabulary Development and Word Study**

### **Learning Outcomes**

By the end of this unit, students will be able to:

- ✓ **Use context clues, roots, and affixes to determine word meanings.**
- ✓ **Apply new vocabulary in writing and conversation.**
- ✓ **Differentiate among connotation, denotation, and word nuance.**

## Competencies

### **ELA.4.A.1 – Building academic and domain-specific vocabulary.**

- Study word roots, prefixes, suffixes, and morphology patterns.
- Maintain vocabulary notebooks and apply words in original sentences

### **ELA.4.A.2 – Understanding shades of meaning.**

- Use precise language in descriptive writing and debates.
  - Analyze author word choice in poetry and prose.
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## **ELA.5 Phonics, Spelling, and Word Recognition**

### **Learning Outcomes**

By the end of this unit, students will be able to:

- ✓ **Decode multisyllabic and irregular words using phonetic strategies.**
- ✓ **Apply spelling conventions and patterns across genres.**
- ✓ **Recognize syllable types and spelling rules in unfamiliar words.**

### **Competencies**

#### **ELA.5.A.1 – Developing decoding and word recognition strategies.**

- Use syllabication, chunking, and phoneme-grapheme mapping.
- Practice spelling patterns like CVCe, consonant blends, and vowel teams.

#### **ELA.5.A.2 – Strengthening fluency and accuracy.**

- Participate in timed reads, spelling bees, and reading aloud activities.
  - Reflect on spelling strategies in journals and digital platforms.
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## **ELA.6 Books and Shared Discoveries**

### **Learning Outcomes**

By the end of this unit, students will be able to:

- ✓ **Participate in literature circles and guided book clubs.**
- ✓ **Share insights through speaking and writing.**
- ✓ **Connect books to personal experiences and larger themes.**

### **Competencies**

#### **ELA.6.A.1 – Deepening reading through discussion.**

- Annotate texts and prepare discussion questions and reflections.
- Present “book talks” and recommendation summaries.

#### **ELA.6.A.2 – Creating and sharing literary responses.**

- Respond to books using multimedia tools (slides, videos, blogs).
- Develop creative projects: theme posters, alternate endings, character letters.

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## **3. Assessment and Evaluation**

### **Formative Assessments – Process Monitoring**

- ✓ **Reading logs and and comprehension checks.**
- ✓ **Grammar practice with sentence correction tasks.**
- ✓ **Vocabulary journals and mini-quizzes.**

### **Summative Assessments – Performance Tasks**

- ✓ **Unit essays (narrative, informative, opinion).**
- ✓ **Literature circle discussion notes.**
- ✓ **Grammar and vocabulary review assessments.**

### **Authentic Assessment – Integrated Expression**

- ✓ **Book commercial video or podcast.**
- ✓ **Digital magazine page with written contributions.**
- ✓ **Annotated mentor text analysis and comparison.**

## 4. Instructional Strategies for Online Learning

### Gradual Release and Scaffolded Literacy Instruction

- ✓ Use “I Do, We Do, You Do” for writing, grammar, and reading strategies.
- ✓ Provide sentence stems, graphic organizers, and peer support.

### Reader-Writer Workshop Model

- ✓ Daily independent reading and journaling time.
- ✓ Writing mini-lessons followed by revision time and conferencing.

### Multimodal and Multicultural Learning

- ✓ Offer diverse texts across genres, voices, and formats.
- ✓ Connect ELA themes with global perspectives and student experiences.

### Inclusive and Responsive Learning Environment

- ✓ Create a safe space for self-expression, mistakes, and growth.
- ✓ Celebrate writing and reading milestones through publishing and sharing.