



Basic English 12A: Full Course Summary

Note: If this course is intended to be a Credit Recovery course, the following assumptions apply:

- This course is a core course at the “Basic” level in Connections Academy’s system, which titles courses as Basic, Standard, Honors, or Advanced Placement (AP).
- The student has previously taken this or a similar course but did not achieve a passing grade based on his/her school’s grading scale.
- This course will be modified by the teacher in order to skip over areas in which the student shows understanding of the material, leaving more time to focus on gaps in the student’s knowledge or understanding.
- Because Credit Recovery courses will be shortened and/or modified based on individual student needs, these courses are generally **not** appropriate for students who have **not** previously taken this or a similar course, nor for students wishing to accelerate their high school studies.

If a student wishes to take this course for the first time he/she will be expected to cover all material in the course without the above-noted modifications. Students must discuss this option with the NaCA Admission and Support Representative prior to enrolling in the course for the first time.

Course Summary

This is the first of two courses that comprise Basic English 12. In this course, the student will take an in-depth look at early British literature from 449 to 1798 and will examine literary forms including the epic, drama, and the essay. The student will also read longer selections of literature that are representative of the historical setting, including Shakespeare’s *Macbeth*. The Basic English course focuses on helping the student master key concepts while reading, writing, and analyzing texts. The readability of the online content and the support for the reading selections in this course have been modified to ensure that the course content is accessible for students of differing ability levels and meets the needs of diverse learners. Vocabulary development and mastery of critical grammar and communication skills prepare the student for real-world applications of daily writing in their lives.

Prerequisites: English 9, 10, and 11

Unit 1: Old English and Medieval Period: Legend to History

In this unit, you will read the earliest works of English literature. More than a millennium old, many of these works were passed down orally for centuries before they were written down. Anglo-Saxon literature includes lyric poems that expressed emotion. You will also read the earliest epic poem of the English language, *Beowulf*, which presents the adventures of a hero who is larger than life. Additionally, you will read literary works composed during the medieval era. These include Chaucer’s narrative poem *The Canterbury Tales*, which presents various figures of medieval English society and the tales they tell while traveling on a long journey. You will also read *Sir Gawain and the Green Knight*, a narrative poem based on the legends of King Arthur and his court. Finally, you will use the writing process to compose responses to literature.

Lessons

1. Literary and Historical Context: Unit Introduction
2. Lyric Poetry: The Exeter Book
3. Lyric Poetry: The Exeter Book
4. Epic Poetry: *Beowulf*
5. Epic Poetry: *Beowulf*
6. Epic Poetry: *Beowulf*

7. Anglo-Saxon Poetry: Review and Quiz
8. Writing Workshop: The Epic Hero
9. A History of the English Church and People
10. The Canterbury Tales: The Prologue
11. The Canterbury Tales: The Prologue
12. The Canterbury Tales: The Prologue
13. The Canterbury Tales: The Prologue
14. The Canterbury Tales: The Pardoner's Tale
15. The Canterbury Tales: The Pardoner's Tale
16. The Canterbury Tales: Review and Quiz
17. Writing Workshop: The Canterbury Tales
18. Medieval Romance: Sir Gawain and the Green Knight
19. Medieval Romance: Sir Gawain and the Green Knight
20. Medieval Romance: Sir Gawain and the Green Knight
21. Old English and Medieval Period: Unit Review
22. Old English and Medieval Period: Unit Test

Unit 2: Celebrating Humanity: 1485–1625

In this unit, you will read English literature of the Renaissance, an exciting period of rapid social and technological change. The first portion of this unit focuses on Renaissance poetry. Featured poets include Edmund Spenser, Philip Sidney, Christopher Marlowe, Sir Walter Raleigh, and William Shakespeare. These poets used various forms, including the pastoral poem and variations on the sonnet, to address universal themes, such as the nature of love and the inevitability of growing old. Next you will read *Macbeth*, one of Shakespeare's best-known tragedies. This dark and powerful drama presents the tale of a man whose arrogance and ambition lead him to ruin. Finally you will further develop your writing skills by writing an analysis of a sonnet and an essay exploring the characters and themes of *Macbeth*.

Lessons

1. Unit Introduction
2. The Sonnet: Spenser and Sidney
3. Pastoral Poetry: Marlowe
4. Pastoral Poetry: Raleigh
5. Shakespeare: Sonnets
6. Shakespeare: Sonnets
7. Shakespeare: Sonnets
8. Writing Workshop: Analysis of a Sonnet's Imagery
9. Renaissance Poetry: Review and Quiz
10. *Macbeth*: Introduction
11. *Macbeth*: Act I
12. *Macbeth*: Act I
13. *Macbeth*: Act II
14. *Macbeth*: Act II
15. *Macbeth*: Act III
16. *Macbeth*: Act III
17. Writing Workshop: *Macbeth* and Lady *Macbeth* (Pt. 1)
18. *Macbeth*: Act IV
19. *Macbeth*: Act IV
20. *Macbeth*: Act V
21. *Macbeth*: Act V

22. Writing Workshop: Macbeth and Lady Macbeth (Pt. 2)
23. Unit Review
24. Celebrating Humanity: 1485–1625 Unit Test

Unit 3: A Turbulent Time: 1625–1798

In this unit, you will read English literature of the 1600s and 1700s. The first portion of this unit focuses on poetry. Featured poets include John Donne, Andrew Marvell, Robert Herrick, John Suckling, and John Milton. In different ways, each of these poets explored the theme of how a person should make the most of his or her limited time on earth. Next you will read an excerpt from Milton's epic poem *Paradise Lost*, which draws on the Biblical story of Adam and Eve's fall from grace. You will read Samuel Pepys' and Daniel Defoe's prose accounts of crises that affected London in the 1660s. Additional works by authors of the early 1700s, including Jonathan Swift and Alexander Pope, use different forms of satire—fiction, poetry, and essays—to criticize the flaws of human nature and human society.

Lessons

1. Introduction: Restoration and Enlightenment
2. Metaphysical Poetry: Donne
3. The Cavalier Poets: Marvell
4. The Cavalier Poets: Herrick and Suckling
5. Sonnets: Milton
6. Seventeenth-Century Poetry: Review and Quiz
7. Writing Workshop: Poetry Analysis
8. Milton: *Paradise Lost*
9. Milton: *Paradise Lost*
10. Milton: *Paradise Lost*
11. Diaries and Journals: Pepys
12. Diaries and Journals: Defoe
13. Satire in Fiction: Swift
14. Satire in Poetry: Pope
15. The Satirical Essay: Swift
16. Restoration and Enlightenment: Review and Quiz
17. Writing Workshop: Reflective Essay
18. Semester Review
19. Semester Exam

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