

PROHUMAN CURRICULUM - GRADE 4

OVERVIEW OF UNITS:

Unit 1	September	Optimism
Unit 2	October	Grit
Unit 3	November	Gratitude
Unit 4	December	Curiosity
Unit 5	January	Courage
Unit 6	February	Compassion
Unit 7	March	Fairness
Unit 8	April	Understanding
Unit 9	May	Humanity

UNIT 1: OPTIMISM

LESSON 3: WRITING AN INFORMATIVE TEXT ABOUT OPTIMISM

SUMMARY:

The Prohuman Grade 4 curriculum is aligned to two sets of standards: [Common Core State Standards for English Language Arts](#) and [Character and Social Emotional Development \(CSED\) National Guidelines](#). The full collection of units introduces all nine of the prohuman character strengths: optimism, grit, gratitude, curiosity, courage, compassion, fairness, understanding, and humanity.

Unit 1, Lesson 3, “Writing an Informative Text about Optimism,” reinforces the vocabulary word optimism. Students will write an informative text about a nonfiction text. This informative text will examine a topic and convey ideas and information clearly.

SUGGESTED TIME: 20 minutes

RELATED SUBJECT: English Language Arts

LEARNING OUTCOMES:

- Demonstrate understanding of the word optimism
- Introduce a topic and group related information together
- Develop the topic with facts, definitions, and details
- Use linking words and phrases (e.g., *also*, *another*, *and*, *more*, *but*) to connect ideas within categories of information
- Provide a concluding statement or section
- Demonstrate understanding of standard English sentence structure and grammar

REQUIRED MATERIALS:

- Prohuman Grade 4 Unit 1 Worksheet 3: Writing an Informative Text about Optimism

VOCABULARY:

Optimism: I have hope and believe my actions will help things turn out well.

ELA COMMON CORE STANDARDS MET

CCSS.ELA-LITERACY.W.4.2	Write informative/explanatory texts to examine a topic and convey ideas and information clearly.	✓
CCSS.ELA-LITERACY.W.4.2.A	Introduce a topic clearly and group related information in paragraphs and sections; include formatting (e.g., headings), illustrations, and multimedia when useful to aiding comprehension.	✓
CCSS.ELA-LITERACY.W.4.2.B	Develop the topic with facts, definitions, concrete details, quotations, or other information and examples related to the topic.	✓

CCSS.ELA-LITERACY.W.4.2.C	Link ideas within categories of information using words and phrases (e.g., <i>another</i> , <i>for example</i> , <i>also</i> , <i>because</i>).	✓
CCSS.ELA-LITERACY.W.4.2.D	Use precise language and domain-specific vocabulary to inform about or explain the topic.	✓
CCSS.ELA-LITERACY.W.4.2.E	Provide a concluding statement or section related to the information or explanation presented.	✓
CCSS.ELA-LITERACY.SL.4.1	Engage effectively in a range of collaborative discussions (one-on-one, in groups, and teacher-led) with diverse partners on <i>grade 4 topics and texts</i> , building on others' ideas and expressing their own clearly.	✓
CCSS.ELA-LITERACY.SL.4.1.B	Follow agreed-upon rules for discussions and carry out assigned roles.	✓
CCSS.ELA-LITERACY.SL.4.1.C	Pose and respond to specific questions to clarify or follow up on information, and make comments that contribute to the discussion and link to the remarks of others.	✓
CCSS.ELA-LITERACY.SL.4.1.D	Review the key ideas expressed and explain their own ideas and understanding in light of the discussion.	✓
CCSS.ELA-LITERACY.L.4.1	Demonstrate command of the conventions of standard English grammar and usage when writing or speaking.	✓
CCSS.ELA-LITERACY.L.4.1.F	Produce complete sentences, recognizing and correcting inappropriate fragments and run-ons.	✓

CCSS.ELA-LITERACY.L.4.2	Demonstrate command of the conventions of standard English capitalization, punctuation, and spelling when writing.	✓
CCSS.ELA-LITERACY.L.4.2.A	Use correct capitalization.	✓
CCSS.ELA-LITERACY.L.4.2.D	Spell grade-appropriate words correctly, consulting references as needed.	✓
CCSS.ELA-LITERACY.L.4.3	Use knowledge of language and its conventions when writing, speaking, reading, or listening.	✓
CCSS.ELA-LITERACY.L.4.3.A	Choose words and phrases to convey ideas precisely.	✓

CHARACTER AND SOCIAL EMOTIONAL (CSED) NATIONAL STANDARDS MET

Intellectual Character B4	Demonstrate the ability to analyze data, facts, and information	✓
Civic Character A4	Explain why it is important for everyone to serve and contribute to their family, school, community, nation, globally	✓
Civic Character B6	Describe how a role model volunteers and contributes to the common good	✓

LESSON PROCEDURE

Today we will write an informative text about Leyzer Zamenhof, whom we learned about in the previous lesson from the book [*Doctor Esperanto and the Language of Hope*](#) by Mara Rockliff.

- 1.) Write informative text on the board. The informative texts we write should do six things:
 - First, the informative text should introduce a topic clearly.
 - Second, it should group related information in paragraphs.
 - Third, it should develop the topic with facts, definitions, concrete details, quotations, or other information and examples related to the topic.
 - Fourth, it should link ideas within categories of information using words and phrases (e.g., another, for example, also, because).
 - Fifth, it should have clear language to inform about or explain the topic.
 - Sixth and finally, it should provide a concluding statement or section.

NOTE: Collect and keep the worksheet on the following page for the next day's lesson in which students will share their stories with a partner.

GRADE 4 UNIT 1 WORKSHEET 3: WRITING AN INFORMATIVE TEXT ABOUT OPTIMISM

Optimism: I have hope and believe my actions will help things turn out well.

ACTIVITY:

Write an informative text about Leyzer Zamenhof, whom we learned about in the previous lesson from the book [*Doctor Esperanto and the Language of Hope*](#) by Mara Rockliff. Your informative text should be about what he did and how he showed optimism.