



**LANGUAGE ARTS: COMPOSITION
FORM IB
2023-2024 SYLLABUS**

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PURPOSE OF LANGUAGE ARTS COMPOSITION:

Form 1B Language Arts Composition aims at providing a foundation in penmanship, spelling, grammar, and writing. Throughout the Bible we are reminded of God's presence and use in the written and spoken word. At the Tower of Babel, God confused the speech of prideful people so that they would not understand each other. However, later at Pentecost, the Holy Spirit showed God's delight of language in all people to bring order, peace, and love throughout His Kingdom. Our God values words, and so should we.

In Form I, students are developing relationships with words and learning the process of transferring thoughts into written sentences. This process requires practice in utilizing memory to hold onto these thoughts, knowledge of how to form these thoughts into complete sentences, and the penmanship and spelling ability to legibly and accurately transfer these thoughts onto paper. The first part of this class will utilize copywork and dictation to develop the skill of correct and beautiful letter formation. 1B students will learn spelling rules as they think to spell, improving accurate word formation. Knowing the rules of the English Language are an essential step to moving toward expressing original ideas. The three previous processes along with syntactic instruction and practice will equip students with the fundamentals on their journey to writing with enjoyment, confidence, and intelligence.

OBJECTIVES:

- Develop legible, beautiful handwriting.
- Compose original sentences, first orally, and then written before moving into 3-point paragraphs, descriptive paragraphs, and letter writing.
- Strengthen understanding of the rules of spelling to cultivate accurate word formation and confidence in spontaneous reading.
- Develop beginning skills in grammar, capitalization, and punctuation.

- Recognition of nouns, verbs, adverbs, adjectives, and prepositions and other grammatical elements in sentence structure.
- Work toward an increased understanding and skillset of order for the students themselves (binder neatness, attention to work detail, personal item stowage etc) and the world around them (alphabetization, state abbreviations, books and library organization, etc).
- Train the student's ability in written observation and contemplation through journal writing.

CURRICULUM:

Grammar/Composition/Vocabulary:

- *Shurley English Homeschooling Edition, Level 2* by Brenda Shurley
- *Shurley English Homeschooling Edition, Level 2 Workbook* by Brenda Shurley

Penmanship:

- Print copywork of vocabulary words and poetry using *Handwriting Without Tears* letter formation guidelines.

Spelling:

- *Wise Guide to Spelling* by Wanda Sanseri.

HOMEWORK:

Homework on work-at-home days is a vital part of this program to enforce skills taught in class. It will consist of the following elements: grammar jingle practice, journal writing, vocabulary exercises, analyzing sentences, spelling practice, and writing assignments. Students will use one notebook with three divisions for journal entries, spelling words, and vocabulary definitions. A hard copy of a dictionary or thesaurus is best for students looking up vocabulary words. For the first half of the year students will learn vocabulary primarily through in class and at home verbal instruction and application. In the second semester, the intent is for students to start looking up and copying definitions in their notebook.

ASSESSMENTS:

- Routine: Students will be evaluated throughout the semester based on journal checks, classroom participation, spelling quizzes, sentence analyzing, and take-home work. Assigned work should be turned in when due to ensure maximum benefit for the student.
- Exam week: At the end of each semester, students will take exams for 2 days in class on content and skills covered during the semester. Form IB students will receive assistance in any parts of the exam that require writing, with the discretion of the instructor. These exams will be used at the end of the semester parent/teacher conferences to help evaluate and assess the overall development and growth of students.