

This course focuses on the development of your reading, writing, speaking, and listening skills. In order to be successful in this course, you should do the following:

1. **Be prepared and organized.** Make sure that your duotang is neat and up to date. Bring all necessary materials to class.
2. **Attend classes regularly and be on time.**
3. **Use class time wisely.** Use the time given in class to complete your work. Avoid distractions.
4. **Ask for help.** Questions are learning opportunities.
5. **Be responsible.** If you are away, find out what you missed.
6. **Be positive.** Celebrate your accomplishments!

Assignment Weighting: Different tasks will receive different weight when determining your overall mark.

Weight of 1: early, small, and short tasks such as OSSLT prep., quizzes, and worksheets

Weight of 2: later, repeated (things you've practiced), and medium tasks such as character sketch paragraphs, reading journals, mini-presentations, ad designs, and reading strategies tests

Weight of 3: long writing tasks such as stories, monologues, scripts, news reports, and essays

Units of Study and Assessment:

Units of Study	Tasks/Skills Focus	Timeline
70% Term: Knowledge/Understanding=17.5, Thinking=17.5, Communication=17.5, Application=17.5		
1. Reading Strategies and Writing Skills	-reading strategies quizzes -writing compound and complex sentences; using the conditional tense; subordinate clauses -hamburger paragraph	1.5 weeks
2. Short Stories <i>OSSLT Preparation**</i>	-vocabulary building -identifying directly vs. indirectly stated information** -summary** -literary devices -analyzing narrative text -reading comprehension tests -response journal: questions, predictions, inferences, and connections	3 weeks
3. A Difference of Opinion Argumentative Essay News Story	-market your city plan -series of paragraphs expressing an opinion** -discussion/debating skills: listening and speaking -reading the news: skimming, scanning, main idea, context clues -news story conventions and novel study preparation: reading and responding to news stories on homelessness -writing a news report**	3.5 weeks
4. Novel Study and Film <i>Sketches</i>	-character analysis -conflict, themes, and symbols -response journal -writing monologues and dialogue -comparison and contrast: film -film vocabulary and deconstruction	4 weeks
5. Advertising and Media: The Music Industry	-ad strategies and design -news story OR series of paragraphs expressing an opinion** (reinforcement) -analyzing the music industry -analyzing song lyrics -note-taking and research skills	3 weeks
30% Summative Assessment		
6. The Celebrity Biography	-research – 10% -power point – 10% -news story – 10%	3 weeks