



***Department of Teaching & Learning***  
***Parent/Student Course Information***

***Core English Grade 10***  
***(LA1140- One Credit, A/B)***  
***(LAC140 - One Credit, 4x4)***  
***(NLA140- One Credit, 4x4 CR)***

*Counselors are available to assist parents and students with course selections and career planning. Parents may arrange to meet with the counselor by calling the school's guidance department.*

**COURSE DESCRIPTION**

The English 10 course focuses on developing students' critical and analytical language skills. Throughout the year, the students examine literary works from a variety of eras and cultures to identify universal themes, to recognize cultural archetypes, to identify the author's point of view, and to analyze a literary selection from several critical perspectives. The students analyze a variety of poems for the use of rhyme, rhythm, and sound. They also learn to paraphrase the poems and to analyze the poet's use of figurative language. In addition, students respond to literature by examining four universal questions: "Who am I?" "Who are we?" "Why do we struggle?" and "How do we grow?"

Students compose in a variety of forms with emphasis on persuasion and analysis while showing relationships among claims, reasons, and evidence from reliable sources. All steps in the writing process are practiced and correct use of grammar, usage, and mechanics is emphasized. Student's writing and performance based assessments are stored throughout the year, and during the final unit, students select pieces for their writing portfolio. The contents of the portfolio illustrate how each student has grown and improved as a writer throughout the year.

Students will continue to build research skills by presenting information gathered from diverse sources. They will also use multimodal tools to create presentations both independently and in small groups.

Additionally, students will participate in an online learning experience focusing on SAT preparation via Khan Academy. During this online experience, the focus will be on enhancing literacy abilities via writing and reading practice.

**PREREQUISITE**

Successful completion of English 9

**OPTIONS FOR NEXT COURSE**

Enrollment for the next English course should be based on student performance, teacher recommendation, and parent input. Available courses include: English, Grade 11, Honors English, Grade 11, and AP English: Language and Composition, Grade 11.

**REQUIRED STUDENT TEXTBOOK**

*Actively Learn*, digital resource

## **SUPPLEMENTARY MATERIALS**

The teacher may choose supplementary materials to extend and enrich the students' knowledge of course standards. These materials may be drawn from: supplementary novels, visual media, primary source documents, simulations, computer programs and other online educational resources.

## **10<sup>TH</sup> GRADE VIRGINIA STANDARDS OF LEARNING ENGLISH LANGUAGE ARTS**

Visit the Virginia Department of Education website to access the English 10 Standards of Learning  
<https://www.doe.virginia.gov/teaching-learning-assessment/k-12-standards-instruction/english-reading-literacy/standards-of-learning>

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Produced by the Department of Teaching and Learning. For further information, please call (757) 263-1070.

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*Alternative formats of this publication which may include taped, Braille, or large print materials, are available upon request for individuals with disabilities. Call or write Virginia Beach City Public Schools, 2512 George Mason Drive, P.O. Box 6038, Virginia Beach, VA 23456-0038.*

*Telephone 263-1070 (voice); fax 263-1424; 263-1240 (TDD) or email her at [Erin.Mullins@vbschools.com](mailto:Erin.Mullins@vbschools.com).*

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