

Basic Composition and Literature

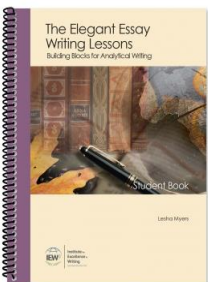
Teacher: Angie Sayre

Tuition: \$160/year (\$80 due at registration; \$80 due on the first day of classes)

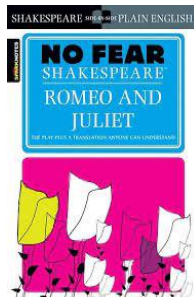
Course Description: This basic course for 9th and 10th graders focuses on helping students overcome their fear of writing as they learn the fundamental skills required for effective writing in a variety of contexts. This introductory composition class is geared for the student with a rudimentary understanding of how to write a solid paragraph but little or no experience writing longer essays. Students will write descriptive, persuasive, expository, and narrative essays and learn step-by-step how to write an MLA-formatted research essay using at least three sources. Class instruction will include reinforcement of grammar rules and the introduction of basic editing skills. Students will become comfortable writing coherent essays with focused thesis statements and ample supporting evidence. The literature component will require at-home reading during the week and thoughtful responses to assigned prompts; class time will involve occasional quizzes and class discussion. An online grading system will allow parents to monitor their student's progress.

Requirements and Expectations: Students must have reliable access to the internet and a printer. Assignments will not be handwritten, so keyboarding skills are essential. Students can expect to spend three to four hours per week outside of class to complete assignments.

Textbooks:



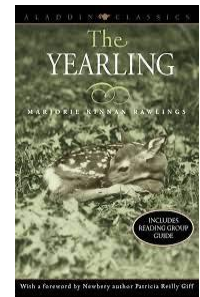
*The Elegant Essay
Building Blocks for
Analytical Writing*
[Student Book only]
Author: Lesha Myers
ISBN: 978-0-9779860-19
Third Edition, 2011



*No Fear Shakespeare:
Romeo and Juliet*
Publisher: SparkNotes
ISBN: 978-1-58663-
845-0
Published: 2003



*The Best Christmas
Pageant Ever*
Author: Barbara Robinson
ISBN: 978-0-06-440275-0
(Check ISBN carefully;
some versions are plays
or picture books.)



The Yearling
Author: Marjorie
Kinan-Rawlings
ISBN: 978-
0689846236
Published: 2001

Notes: These are consumable texts. I will require students to write in their books, so please do not expect your student to pass these on to other students. If you obtain used copies, make sure the pages are free from marking and writing.

Disclaimer: Some texts may contain violence, adult situations, or profanity. The goal is always to point to goodness, truth, and beauty within the story, never to glorify unsavory portions. If you have concerns, you may want to preview the book ahead of time, or feel free to reach out to me.

Credit: This class will satisfy both the composition and literature requirement for one high school English credit.