



# Essential English 1

Students practice with reading comprehension, writing for purpose, vocabulary development, and opportunities to develop speaking and listening skills. During this course, students read three novels paired with short stories, plays, poems and non-fiction text to enrich students' understanding of topics, symbols and themes of the novels. In particular, we will explore the themes of Individual, Familial and Social Identities and study how identity is formed through individual choices and choices impacted by our family and society.

After completing this course, students will develop writing and verbal skills needed for test-taking, academic work, and future professional careers. Students will practice critical thinking of texts, writing short informal responses as well as longer formal structured essays. In addition, students will develop skills for informal conversations and writing with their classmates and instructors.

## Course Information

- ✓ 100% Online
- ✓ High School Credit
- ✓ UCSB Credit
- ✓ UCSB Certificate
- ✓ Taught by Experienced College Professor

**UNIT 1****LITERARY DEVICES / IDENTITY**

Jimmy Santiago Baca's "I am Offering this Poem"  
John Moffit's "To Look at Anything"

**UNIT 2****SETTING**

Daniel Keyes' Flowers for Algernon  
Writing on setting

**UNIT 3****NARRATION**

Understanding the first-person  
Writing in the first-person

**UNIT 4****THEMES**

Understanding and identifying themes  
Writing on theme

**UNIT 5****SYMBOLISM**

Understanding and identifying symbolism  
Writing on symbolism

**UNIT 6****GROWTH & DECLINE**

Individual identity  
Writing on Charlie's development

**UNIT 7****PERSONAL IDENTITY & FAMILY**

Barbara Kingsolver's "Naming Myself"  
Introduction to William Shakespeare's Romeo and Juliet

**UNIT 8****ROMEO & JULIET ACT 1**

Introduce PIE paragraphs  
Paragraph development: Topic Sentences

**UNIT 9****ROMEO & JULIET ACT 3 + 4**

Paragraph development: Topic Sentences  
Paragraph development: Building Evidence

**UNIT 10****ROMEO & JULIET ACT 5**

Paragraph development: Analysis and Explanation  
Introduction to Sandra Cisneros' The House on Mango Street

**UNIT 11****THE HOUSE ON MANGO STREET**

Paragraph development: Summary, Paraphrase and Quotes  
Paragraph development: Clinchers

**UNIT 12****"THE FIRST JOB" TO "FOUR SKINNY TREES"**

Paragraph development: Summary, Paraphrase and Quotes  
Paragraph development: Clinchers

**UNIT 13****PERSONAL IDENTITY & SOCIETY**

Lois Lowry's The Giver  
Introduce Triple-Entry Journaling

**UNIT 14****THE GIVER**

PIE paragraph on Jonas' characteristics  
Essay development: Opinion versus Evidence

**UNIT 15****PIE PARAGRAPH**

Jonas' character development  
Essay development: Thesis workshop

**UNIT 16****ESSAY DEVELOPMENT: OPENERS**

PIE paragraph on Jonas' growth  
Essay development: Closers

**UNIT 17****ROBERT FROST'S "THE ROAD NOT TAKEN"**

Essay development  
Peer Reviews

**UNIT 18****ESSAY DEVELOPMENT**

Essay revisions  
Concluding Thoughts & Self-reflections