

Britannica Online School Edition

Language Arts Learning Materials and Teacher Resources

Britannica Online School Edition includes over ninety Teacher Resources and Learning Materials for the Language Arts curriculum. The materials include a wide range of interactive lessons, games, and presentations, manipulatives, and worksheets that support elementary, middle school, and high school classrooms. You can find these materials online at www.school.eb.com under Language Arts Learning Materials.

Grades K-5 Language Arts Interactive Lessons

- Barnum Means Big - Brief history of the Greatest Show on Earth and the man who created it.
- Coyote and the Money Tree - Native American folktale about the wily coyote and his get-rich-quick scheme.
- Diamonds - Learn about these precious stones. Covers their history, their sources, and their many uses in our lives.
- Do Me a Flavor - Flavor is a science in commercial food production. Why is a lemon sour? How do you make that flavor? Learn about it in this article.
- Food for Space - How do astronauts eat in outer space? Scientists develop special foods and packaging to deal with weightlessness. Find out about it in this article.
- Harry and the Parents' Day Party - What does it mean to be different? Harry and his mother find out at the Parents' Day party at school.
- Jack the Railroad Baboon - Can a baboon become a signalman on the railroad? Read about one who did!
- Let's Go Bats - Bats are not always what we imagine them to be. Get the facts!
- Levi's: The Original Story - Personal history on Levi Strauss, the creator of jeans.
- Moifaa - Story about a New Zealand racehorse that was lost at sea on its way to England but made it to the race on time.
- Moxon's Machine - Science-fiction story about an inventor and his invention that gets out of control.
- Neighbors - Encounter between white settlers and Native Americans during the period of westward expansion: friends or enemies?
- Sir Gawain and the Green Knight - Sir Gawain, one of King Arthur's bravest knights, goes on an adventure to fulfill a promise.
- Smile! It's the Zoo Photographer - Peek into the daily life of a zoo photographer and the problems she faces photographing animals in the zoo.
- The Day of the Golden Eagle - On his 12th birthday, Lee went fishing by himself for the first time. Find out what happened on that special day.
- The Locked Room - Game challenging players to figure out how someone without a key got into a locked room.
- The Mystery of Easter Island - The huge statues on Easter Island evoke curiosity and wonder. What do they mean? Where did they come from?
- The Poet and the Melody - Taiwanese tale about a young student learning the old ways.
- Where Does English Come From? - Article on the history of the English language.

Grades K-5 Language Arts Reading Exercises

- Capital Letter Match! - Find matching capital letters.
- Color Match! - Match objects with their correct color.
- Dictionary - Identify correct alphabetical order.
- Fun with Nouns - Decide if the given word should be categorized as a person, place, or thing.
- Identical Words - Find matching pairs of identical words.
- It's the Same! - Match words with similar meanings (synonyms).
- Let's Get Together! - Sort objects into correct categories.
- Let's Go for a Ride! - Match objects with the correct mode of transportation (car, plane, or train).
- Let's Rhyme - Find pairs of rhyming words.
- Letter Match! - Match uppercase and lowercase letters.
- Number Search - Match written numbers with the correct numeral.
- Opposites Attract - Match words with their opposite meanings.
- Opposites, Opposites - Identify words with opposite meanings.
- Sounds the Same, Looks Different - Match homonyms, which are words that sound alike but have different meanings.

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- Spell It! - Fill in the missing first letter of each word.
- The Gods Have It! - Identify the correct country of origin for the names of ancient Gods.
- The More We Get Together... - Match related objects.
- Time to Rhyme - Match rhyming words.
- We Belong Together - Identify the correct category for a given object.
- What's Next? - Choose letters in the correct alphabetical order.
- Word Match! - Find pairs of matching words.
- Yesterday, Today, and Tomorrow - Sort phrases into the categories of past, present, or future tense. The tenses are identified through the terms yesterday, today, and tomorrow.

Grades K-5 Language Arts Writing Exercises

- Fun with Plurals - Match single tense words with regular or irregular plural endings.
- Say When! - Match verbs with the correct time period (now or everyday).
- The Time Is Right - Match verbs with the correct time period (now, tomorrow, or yesterday).
- Time Match! - Match a verb's present and past tense.
- We're Here! - Match word combinations with the correct contractions.
- Yesterday, Today, and Tomorrow - Sort phrases into the categories of past, present, or future tense. The tenses are identified through the terms yesterday, today, and tomorrow.

Grades 6-12 Language Arts Study Guides

American Literature

- Faulkner: As I Lay Dying - Information on the plot, setting, and theme of As I Lay Dying.
- Fitzgerald: The Great Gatsby - Information on F. Scott Fitzgerald and The Great Gatsby, including sections on the historical setting of the novel and its plot, characters, and themes.
- Galarza: Barrio Boy - Character, setting, theme, and historical background are discussed in this Study Guide on Barrio Boy.
- Hawthorne: The Scarlet Letter - Discussion of Hawthorne's novel and its interweaving of plot and the psychological and moral development of its main characters.
- Hemingway: The Old Man and the Sea - Discussion of the plot, characters, and themes in this novel. Includes information about Ernest Hemingway's life, work, and literary prizes.
- Miller: Death of a Salesman - Presentation on the play's plot, character, setting, and theme.
- Morrison: Beloved - Discussion of the novel and its themes, including slavery's effects on motherhood.
- Salinger: Catcher in the Rye - Discussion of the novel's theme, plot, setting, and characters.
- Steinbeck: Of Mice and Men - Information on this novel, including sections on the play and movie based on the novel.
- Tan: The Joy Luck Club - Discussion of the novel's plot, setting, theme, and characters. Includes biographical information on the author.
- Villareal: Pocho - This Study Guide presents discussions on Villareal's novel of cultural identify crisis among Mexican immigrants in the U.S.; it includes sections on plot, setting, theme, and characters.
- Walker: The Color Purple - Discussion of the novel's plot, theme, setting, and characters. Includes biographical information on Alice Walker.
- Williams: The Glass Menagerie - Information on the play's plot, characters, and setting. Includes a discussion on the themes of freedom and oppression and frailty and endurance.
- Wright: Black Boy - Discussion of the plot, character, theme, and setting of this novel. Includes biographical information on the author.

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English Literature

- Blake and the Poetry of Revolution - Discussion of William Blake's poetry and its many layers of meaning.
- Bronte, Charlotte: Jane Eyre - Discussion of the social, literary, and psychological aspects of the novel.
- Conrad: Heart of Darkness - Examination of the novel's style and psychological depth. Examines conflicts between society and the individual.
- Dickens: Oliver Twist - Explanation of Dickens's views on the welfare of the poor and their place in the body of his work.
- Donne: Selected Poetry - Information on Donne's life and some general aspects of metaphysical poetry. Provides a discussion on selected Donne poems.
- Eliot: Selected Poetry - Introduction to the poetry of T.S. Eliot.
- Golding: Lord of the Flies - Discussion of this novel.
- Huxley: Brave New World - Discussion of this novel portraying the threat posed by science and technology to individual liberty.
- Joyce: Portrait of the Artist as a Young Man - Review of the themes and structure of this novel.
- Orwell: Animal Farm - Orwell's allegory of Stalinism is discussed from literary and social perspectives in this Study Guide.
- Shakespeare and His World - Introduction to William Shakespeare and his plays.
- Shakespeare: A Midsummer Night's Dream - Summary of the themes, characters, key interpretations, and setting of this play.
- Shakespeare: Hamlet - Discussion of the intellectual and theological backgrounds of this revenge tragedy. Provides information on the language and themes.
- Shakespeare: King Lear - Discussion of the play's setting, structure, and language. Also examines the complexity of King Lear and natural order and identity and justice.
- Shakespeare: Macbeth - Examination of the characters, plot, and setting of this play.
- Shakespeare: Romeo and Juliet - Information on language and interpretations of this play.

Literary Genres

- Irony, Parody, and Satire - Introduction to the techniques of irony, parody, and satire, used by writers to evoke emotion and deeper levels of thinking in readers.
- Novels and Short Stories - Information on setting, character, plot, and theme in novels and short stories. Provides help in searching for material to write essays about fiction.
- Plays: An Overview - Explanation of many of the elements of play performance and dramatic literature. Focuses on how to read a play, technical aspects (sets, lighting, costume, and stage directions), and the relationships between the performers and audience (or the reader).
- Poetry of World War I - The poetry written by Britons during World War I, a war different from its predecessors that inspired a new form of poetry, is discussed in this Study Guide.

Writing

- Essay Organization - Explanation of the steps necessary to write a clear and cohesive essay, including topic selection, outlining, and preparing the final draft.
- Letter Writing - Tips on writing letters for a variety of purposes. Covers job applications, letters to the editor, letters asking for information, and personal letters.
- Nouns and Pronouns - This Study Guide discusses usage of nouns and pronouns, including common and proper nouns, plural and collective nouns, personal and indefinite pronouns, and pronoun agreement.
- Paragraph Organization - Discussion of the creation of logical and cohesive paragraphs, including topic sentences, paragraph unity, coherence, and transitions.
- Persuasive Writing - Introduction to the four main types of persuasion: logic and evidence, appeal to authority, appeal to shared beliefs or identity, and appeal to emotion.
- Punctuation: Quotation Marks, Apostrophes and Italics - Common punctuation problems.
- Punctuation: Sentence Flow and Meaning - Explanation of how punctuation clarifies sentence meaning.
- Purpose and Audience - Explanation for determining why we write and to whom, in a variety of settings and styles.
- Spelling Rules - Study guide on spelling rules, including plurals, prefixes and suffixes, and contractions.

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Grades 6-12 Language Arts Web Site Activities

- Dialect in Literature
- Evaluating Content on the Internet
- Heroic Plots
- Opinion-Editorial Writing in Newspapers
- Protagonists and Antagonists
- Your Favorite Author

Schools may duplicate as needed.

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