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## English 12A (Advanced Composition)

### Course Description

English 12A (Advanced Composition) is an upper-level, advanced composition course in which students learn to write in many styles. Students apply the major steps of the writing process: prewriting, drafting, peer review, and revision. Students identify audiences, generate topics, organize information, use effective writing techniques, and edit and hone their writing. Students learn to critique the work of others, and build a portfolio of their best work.

### Overview

#### Unit 1 – Exploring Yourself

- Lesson 1: Introducing Yourself
- Lesson 2: Exploring an Enjoyable Experience
- Lesson 3: Exploring People You Know
- Lesson 4: Exploring Problems and Ways to Solve Them

#### Unit 2 – Exploration Choices

- Lesson 1: Dealing with a Local Issue
- Lesson 2: The People and Places of Home
- Lesson 3: An Event That Changed My Thinking
- Lesson 4: Skills I'll Need on the Job
- Lesson 5: An Application Essay for College
- Lesson 6: The Ways Others See Us

### Objectives

Students completing this course will be able to demonstrate the following skills:

- Develop confidence as writers who can make valuable contributions to literature.
- Explore techniques for generating topics for papers and for warming up to write, including making lists and charts, clustering, and free writing.
- Develop and practice their skills in observation and in thinking critically about their experiences and observations.
- Learn ways to identify their audiences and to write with those audiences in mind.
- Develop focus and direction in their papers.
- Explore several forms of writing through which to express their ideas.
- Explore and incorporate types of evidence and support and incorporate these in their writing.
- Develop techniques to use in generating details for supporting and illustrating their main points.
- Explore different ways of writing parts of papers, and learn approaches to editing, revising, and redrafting papers in the development process.
- Develop a sense of group membership, using the Internet to communicate with other students and with the instructor.
- Share their writing and receive feedback from their peers, using the Internet.
- Give helpful and appropriate feedback on the writing of their peers.

## Activities and Assessments

- **1 Online Discussion Group Activity** – In the first lesson, students participate in an introductory group discussion. The teacher evaluates the students' contributions to the discussion and provides grading and feedback.
- **10 Writing Assignments** – Throughout the course, students journal their ideas and observations and do prewriting activities. In each of the ten lessons in the course, students complete a writing assignment. In the nine exploration writing assignments, students then participate in peer review of their own and other students' papers. After receiving student feedback, students revise their papers and submit them to the teacher for grading and feedback.
- **4 Revisions** – At the end of each unit of the course, students are asked to more extensively revise two of the papers they have written. The teacher grades these revisions and provides feedback.
- **1 Final Portfolio** – At the end of the course, students create a final portfolio. They select two of their revised essays and revise them one last time for the portfolio. In addition, students compile for the portfolio six prewriting assignments and four peer reviews, and write a final letter reflecting on the evolution of their writing over the course.